

# Design GT3 sports cars from Audi Sport for the 100th anniversary of Spa

- Four expressive theme cars and five private Audi R8 LMS race cars in Belgium
- 24-hour race as sporting highlight with 60 GT3 race cars
- A total of 21 race cars from Audi Sport customer racing at Spa

Neuburg a. d. Donau, July 27, 2021 – Audi Sport customer racing will be showcasing four one-off designs at the Spa 24 Hours from July 29 to August 1. The individual designs of the Audi R8 LMS pay homage to a major anniversary on the famous Ardennes circuit whose racing history began in 1921.

"It's an honor for us to congratulate this awesome track on its racing anniversary," says Chris Reinke, Head of Audi Sport customer racing. "We are doing this for the first time with four race cars exclusively dedicated to the design. They all cite references to Belgium and to various artistic and design traditions of the country." Common to all four cars is the stylized number 100 for Spa's racing century. This number overlays the red rhombus of Audi Sport on the race car roof. The design of this area symbolizes the gift in the style of a banderole.

Audi Sport Team Attempto, which missed last year's victory by only 4.6 seconds, is fielding the number 66 R8 LMS in Belgium's national colors this year. Black, yellow and red dominate the bodywork of the race car driven by Mattia Drudi, Dennis Marschall and Christopher Mies. This is complemented by a green hue. Graffiti-like spray patterns and flowing gradients give the car its unmistakable character. The surface of number 25 of Audi Sport Team Saintéloc contrasts with this: It is strictly geometric. The car from the 2017 winning team, this time driven by Christopher Haase, Patric Niederhauser and Markus Winkelhock, takes up the design ideas of Victor Servranckx. With his abstract works, the Belgian was a major graphic artist in his country in the first half of the 20th century. The red, yellow, green and blue patterns represent Servranckx's formal language. The constructivist logo of the Spa race track on the doors of the R8 LMS fits perfectly into this design.

Audi Sport Team WRT, winner of the 24-hour race in 2011 and 2014, is bringing two more expressive themed cars to the grid. The GT3 sports car driven by Kelvin van der Linde, Dries Vanthoor and Charles Weerts represents the "Art nouveau" era. It coincides with the turn of the 19th to the 20th century. The pattern on the R8 LMS of number 32 picks up design elements of the fashion of the time. It originated in textile centers such as Antwerp, Belgium, among others. Audi Sport combines this design with lines depicting the course of the Spa circuit. The sister car of Robin Frijns, Dennis Lind and Nico Müller represents a theme that has inspired many people from childhood: the red and yellow patterns of number 37 reflect the lush and sweeping color and drawing style of comic strips. Great figures such as Tintin, Gaston or the ever-popular racing driver Michel Vaillant stand for various comic styles from Belgium that achieved fame around the globe.

# Audi Medialnfo



On a sporting level, Audi Sport customer racing is again setting itself ambitious goals. A total of 60 sports cars from nine manufacturers will be competing against each other in the world's biggest GT3 race. Audi was first represented by private teams at Spa in 2009 and 2010, and since 2011 the power of Audi Sport customer racing has been behind the program. For the brand, the race is already about the fifth victory after 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2017. No other manufacturer has been that successful in this period. This season, the race again counts towards two championships: It is the opener of the Intercontinental GT Challenge, which is held on the three continents of Europe, America and Africa this year. Spa is also the third of five rounds of the Fanatec GT World Challenge Europe Powered by AWS Endurance Cup. In the overall standings of this GT World Challenge Europe, the two Audi Sport drivers Dries Vanthoor and Charles Weerts are currently leading. Team WRT is first in the team classification. In addition to the four Audi Sport race cars, five private R8 LMS cars complete the brand's line-up: Saintéloc Racing and Team WRT each field two additional GT3 race cars, Attempto Racing an additional R8 LMS. Former Audi DTM drivers like Jamie Green and Adrien Tambay share the cockpits with privateers.

In addition to the nine GT3 race cars in the 24-hour race, Audi expects eight R8 LMS GT4 cars in the GT4 European Series at Spa. At the halfway point of the season, the customer teams Saintéloc Racing and Fullmotorsport are leading their categories there with the production-based race cars. In addition, four Audi RS 3 LMS cars will be competing in the TCR Europe. Defending champion Comtoyou Racing is currently second in the team standings. In the touring car series, Dutchman Tom Coronel with the Audi RS 3 LMS is in a promising fourth position in the drivers' standings, level on points with third place. Nicolas Baert leads the Junior classification.

Fans can follow the 73rd edition of the Spa 24 Hours from Saturday, July 31, 4:30 p.m. on the organizer's livestream. Audi Sport customer racing comprehensively accompanies the event on its social media channels during race week from July 27.

### The Audi Sport teams at the Spa 24 Hours

## Audi Sport Team Saintéloc

#25 Christopher Haase/Patric Niederhauser/Markus Winkelhock (D/CH/D)

## **Audi Sport Team WRT**

#32 Kelvin van der Linde/Dries Vanthoor/Charles Weerts (ZA/B/B) #37 Robin Frijns/Dennis Lind/Nico Müller (NL/DK/CH)

## **Audi Sport Team Attempto**

#66 Mattia Drudi/Dennis Marschall/Christopher Mies (I/D/D)

#### Saintéloc Racing

#26 Jamie Green/Finlay Hutchison/Adrien Tambay (GB/GB/F)

## Audi Medialnfo



#27 Alexandre Cougnaud/Lucas Légeret/Aurélien Panis/Louis Prette (F/F/F/F)

#### **Team WRT**

#30 Franco Colapinto/Benjamin Goethe/James Pull (RA/DK/GB) #31 Frank Bird/Valdemar Eriksen/Ryuichiro Tomita (GB/DK/J)

#### **Attempto Racing**

#99 Alex Aka/Max Hofer/Fabien Lavergne (D/A/F)

Communications
Audi Sport customer racing

Eva-Maria Becker Tel: +49 841 89-33922

E-mail: eva-maria.becker@audi.de www.audi-mediacenter.com/en



The Audi Group, with its brands Audi, Ducati and Lamborghini, is one of the most successful manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles in the premium segment. It is present in more than 100 markets worldwide and produces at 19 locations in 12 countries. 100 percent subsidiaries of AUDI AG include Audi Sport GmbH (Neckarsulm, Germany), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy), and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna/Italy).

In 2020, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.693 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 7,430 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 48,042 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2020 fiscal year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €50.0 billion and an operating profit before special items of €2.7 billion. At present, 87,000 people work for the company all over the world, 60,000 of them in Germany. With new models, innovative mobility offerings and other attractive services, Audi is becoming a provider of sustainable, individual premium mobility.