

Communications Motorsport

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First pole position for Mike Rockenfeller

- **Audi driver on grid position one at DTM race at Brands Hatch**
- **Martin Tomczyk has good starting base as well**
- **Five Audi A4 DTM cars on the first five rows**

Ingolstadt/Brands Hatch, September 3, 2011 – Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline is jubilating at Brands Hatch: At his 48th DTM event (Sunday starting at 2:40 p.m. CEST live on “Das Erste”) Mike Rockenfeller secured the pole position for the first time. Title contender Martin Tomczyk from Audi Sport Team Phoenix in third place achieved an excellent qualifying result as well.

On the track that with a length of 1.929 kilometers is the shortest one of the year Rockenfeller was in a class of his own in the crucial fourth qualifying segment (Q4): The 2010 Le Mans winner relegated ex-champion Gary Paffett to second place by 0.198 seconds – a world of difference at Brands Hatch.

Mike Rockenfeller was the only driver to qualify for the shoot-out for the top four grid positions with only one timed lap in Q3. “Consequently, I had the best tires in Q4,” said the Zandvoort winner. “I’m very happy about my first pole position in the DTM and am really looking forward to tomorrow’s race that with its 98 laps will be extremely tough.”

Martin Tomczyk secured position three on the grid and thus a good starting base in the duel with leader of the standings Bruno Spengler, who was moved back from sixth to eighth place on the grid after a violation of the regulations. Tomczyk missed the front row by only nine thousandths of a second after having made a tiny mistake in the first turn, the famous “Paddock Hill Bend”. “I had a bit too much understeer,” reported the runner-up in the standings. “Still, it’s been a great day for me. Especially at Brands Hatch position three is a great starting base.”

Nürburgring winner Mattias Ekström barely missed the top four. The Swede will start into the race on Sunday from position five. With Miguel Molina and Edoardo Mortara (Audi Sport Team Rosberg) on grid positions seven and nine, a total of five

Audi A4 DTM cars will be starting from the first five rows – and all of them in succession on the same side of the track.

Timo Scheider and Oliver Jarvis took grid positions twelve and 14. Rahel Frey achieved 15th place, marking the best qualifying result so far in her still young DTM career. The Swiss had already attracted attention in the morning's free practice by setting fast times. Filipe Albuquerque, who slipped in the "Druids" hairpin and caused the first qualifying segment to be stopped, was not entered on the timesheets and will start from the last position on the grid.

"We've seen a very good overall performance by our teams and drivers today," commented Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich. "If you want to be in front at Brands Hatch you've got to really get everything right. 'Rocky' managed to do that, which makes me particularly happy in view of his heavy accident at Le Mans. Martin's (Tomczyk) performance was very good too."

Audi has won four of the six races held in the 2011 DTM season so far. For the third time this year and for the 61st in total an Audi A4 DTM is on the top grid position. For race day changeable weather has been predicted at Brands Hatch.

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The Audi Group delivered around 1,092,400 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2010. The Company posted revenue of €35.4 billion and an operating profit of €3.3 billion in 2010. In the first half of 2011, the Audi Group sold 652,970 vehicles bearing the four rings worldwide and achieved record figures in terms of revenue (€21.5 billion) and operating profit (€2.5 billion). Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). Aurangabad in India saw the start of CKD production of the Audi A6 at the end of 2007, of the Audi A4 in early October 2008 and of the Audi Q5 in July 2010. Production of the new Audi A1 has been running at the Brussels plant since May 2010. The Audi Q3 has been built in Martorell (Spain) since June 2011. The Company is active in more than 100 markets worldwide. AUDI AG's wholly owned subsidiaries include AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft., Automobili Lamborghini Holding S.p.A. in Sant'Agata Bolognese (Italy) and quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm. Audi currently employs around 60,000 people worldwide, including around 46,600 in Germany. Between 2011 and 2015 the brand with the four rings is planning to invest more than €11 billion, mainly in new products, in order to sustain the Company's technological lead embodied in its "Vorsprung durch Technik" slogan. By 2015, Audi plans to increase the number of models in its portfolio to 42.

Audi has long been fulfilling its social responsibility on many levels – with the aim of making the future worth living for generations to come. The basis for Audi's lasting success is therefore formed by environmental protection, the conservation of resources, international competitiveness and a forward-looking human resources policy. One example of AUDI AG's commitment to environmental issues is the newly established Audi Environmental Foundation. Under the heading of "Audi balanced mobility," the Company is directing its activities toward a major goal – comprehensive CO₂-neutral mobility.