



Communications Motorsport
Virginia Brusch
Tel: +49 841 89 41753
E-mail: virginia.brusch@audi.de
www.audi-motorsport.info

Four Audi customer teams in France

- **Season opener of the French GT Championship at L  denon**
- **Six Audi R8 LMS ultra and an R8 LMS pitted against two other marques**
- **New race format for the 2015 season**

Ingolstadt, April 15, 2015 – A new challenge with changed regulations: four Audi customer teams – including the 2014 runners-up – will start the new French GT Championship season at L  denon next weekend (April 18 to 19).

The Audi teams with a total of seven sports cars will be meeting two other marques in France. A modified race format promises additional suspense. The two races per weekend will be extended from 60 to 90 minutes, except for the race weekend at Le Mans featuring three 60-minute races. For the first time, three instead of the previous two drivers have to take the wheel – two driver changes are prescribed per race. The seven events on the calendar include challenging French tracks such as Le Mans, Magny-Cours, Le Castellet and Val de Vienne, plus two foreign races at Spa-Francorchamps (Belgium) and Navarra (Spain).

“France is one of the most important European markets for Audi,” says Romolo Liebchen, Head of Audi Sport customer racing. “Being represented again with such a strong line-up of customer teams in this highly competitive Championship supports our brand.”

The runners-up in the 2014 Championship, Team S  bastien Loeb Racing, are fielding two Audi R8 LMS ultra cars. In 2014, the outfit of the record World Rally Champion competed in the French GT Championship with Audi for the first time and was immediately in contention for the title. Mike Parisy and Henry Hassid, with a gap of just two points, only had to admit defeat in the season finale. Parisy is racing in the 2015 season again. His new team-mates are David Hallyday, a seasoned campaigner, and Philippe Gaillard. Three young drivers, who will be battling to win the new ‘Junior Challenge,’ will be at the wheel of the second Audi R8 LMS ultra. “Last year, we just barely missed the title, so we’re especially motivated for the new season,” says S  bastien Loeb.



The experienced squad of Saintéloc Racing with three Audi R8 LMS ultra cars and Teams Speed Car (one Audi R8 LMS ultra) and Tech Auto by Exclusive Cars (one Audi R8 LMS) complete the line-up of the four rings in France. The Audi customers are independently fielding their 560-hp GT3 race cars but can rely on expert support by Audi Sport customer racing for set-up and maintenance.

The Audi customer teams in the 2015 French GT Championship

Audi R8 LMS ultra #3 (Sébastien Loeb Racing)
Christian Bottemanne (F), Christophe Hamon (F), Lonni Martins (F)

Audi R8 LMS ultra #5 (Sébastien Loeb Racing)
David Hallyday (F), Philippe Gaillard (F), Mike Parisy (F)

Audi R8 LMS ultra #7 (Speed Car)
Laurent Cazenave (F), Claude Degremont (F), Rémy Deguffroy (F)

Audi R8 LMS ultra #22 (Saintéloc Racing)
Gilles Lallement (F), TBA, TBA

Audi R8 LMS ultra #23 (Saintéloc Racing)
Jean-Paul Buffin (F), TBA, TBA

Audi R8 LMS ultra #24 (Saintéloc Racing)
Romain Monti (F), Pierre Sancinena (F), Valentin Simonet (F)

Audi R8 LMS #30 (Tech Auto by Exclusive Cars)
Julien Goujat (F), Florent Petit (F), TBA

Calendar

18-18/04	Lédenon (F)
02-03/05	Le Mans (F)
06-07/06	Spa-Francorchamps (B)
04-05/07	Val de Vienne (F)
29-30/08	Magny-Cours (F)
26-27/09	Navarra (E)
24-25/10	Le Castellet (F)

- End -



In 2014, the Audi Group delivered approximately 1,741,100 cars of the Audi brand to its customers. The company achieved revenue of €53.8 billion and an operating profit of €5.15 billion in 2014. Audi operates globally in more than 100 markets and has production facilities in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Brussels (Belgium), Bratislava (Slovakia), Martorell (Spain), Kaluga (Russia), Aurangabad (India), Changchun and Foshan (China) as well as Jakarta (Indonesia). The brand with the Four Rings will start producing cars in Curitiba (Brazil) this year and in San José Chiapa (Mexico) in 2016. Wholly owned subsidiaries of AUDI AG include quattro GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and sports motorcycle manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy). The company currently employs approximately 80,000 people worldwide, thereof around 58,000 in Germany. Total investment of about €24 billion is planned from 2015 to 2019 – primarily in new products and sustainable technologies. Audi is committed to its corporate responsibility and has anchored the principle of sustainability for its products and processes in its strategy. The long-term goal is CO₂-neutral mobility.