

Communications Motorsport

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Olé, olé: Audi driver Molina clinches first pole

- **22-year-old Spaniard shines in DTM qualifying at Oschersleben**
- **Three Audi A4 DTM cars on the two front rows**
- **Leader of the standings Martin Tomczyk on grid position 14**

Ingolstadt/Oschersleben, 17 September 2011 – Olé, olé: The Spaniard Miguel Molina stole the show from the established stars in qualifying for the DTM race at the Motorsport Arena Oschersleben by clinching his first pole position in the most popular international touring car racing series. With three A4 DTM cars on the two front rows of the grid Audi achieved an impressive qualifying result.

The youngster from Audi Sport Team Abt Junior, who has been suffering a string of misfortune and unable to score points so far this year, managed to continually improve on Saturday afternoon. After eleventh, fifth and second place in the first three qualifying segments Molina, who at the age of 22 is the youngest Audi factory driver, secured the top spot on the grid in Q4 with a lead of one thousandth of a second over Bruno Spengler.

“Achieving a pole position in the DTM is simply fantastic,” jubilated the Spaniard. “Particularly after a season that has been so unfortunate for me up to now. I want to thank Audi and my team for the fantastic car but also my family who is supporting me.”

Two of his team-mates, Oliver Jarvis and Mattias Ekström (both from Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline), are starting from the second row on Sunday. Directly behind them Timo Scheider is following as another driver from Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline, who missed Q4 only by 67 thousandths of a second.

Edoardo Mortara (Audi Sport Team Rosberg) managed the leap into Q3 as well. However, the best rookie in the 2011 DTM did not manage a perfect lap in the third segment. The Italian will start into the race from position eight, Mike Rockenfeller



and Filipe Albuquerque, who achieved the fastest time in both free practice sessions, will start from positions ten and eleven.

For Martin Tomczyk qualifying turned out to be a disappointment. For the first time this year the leader of the standings from Audi Sport Team Phoenix was eliminated in the first qualifying section and will only be starting from position 14. "My car was slipping way too much," said the driver from Rosenheim, Bavaria, who is living in Switzerland. "We need to analyze the reason for this because this has never happened before this year. I have my work cut out for me tomorrow. But in the DTM anything is possible."

Tomczyk's team-mate Rahel Frey will tackle the race on Sunday starting at 2 p.m. (from 1:45 p.m., local time, live on "Das Erste") from grid position 16.

"It was an extremely thrilling qualifying," commented Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich. "I'm very happy for Miguel (Molina) and Oliver (Jarvis), who have had a difficult season so far. Today both of them showed their true potential. Naturally, it's a shame that Martin (Tomczyk) is starting so far from the rear here of all places. But it shows how incredibly close the competition is in the DTM this year."

- End -

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.