



Press Information

13 June 1999

Post Race Summary Quotes:

Audi Sport UK (R8C)

Richard Lloyd (Team Principal): "Delighted to have been part of the Audi début at Le Mans. There was a degree of inevitability about our project because it began late. The performance of the R8C when they ran trouble-free confirmed our faith in the project. The whole team have done an immense job – I'm very proud of what we achieved in the circumstances and we look forward to having another go!"

John Wickham (Team Director): "Considering the difficulties we suffered during the qualifying sessions no-one should be surprised we had a difficult race. We had more transmission failures than we expected – we changed gearboxes four times. All the drivers did a fantastic job and when the car was right it was quick."

Stéphane Ortelli: "From the outset of this project, I've been very excited. I'm happy the car showed it's true potential but disappointed the transmission let us down but at least we know where more progress needs to be made."

Stefan Johansson: "A disappointing result but it wasn't for the lack of trying, everyone involved has done a brilliant job. It's a shame it didn't pay off but hopefully we can return next year far stronger."

Christian Abt: "I'm proud that I made my Le Mans début with Audi and the team should be proud of what has been achieved."

Andy Wallace: "We did as much as we possibly could. If the last gearbox had not broken on the circuit we would have bolted another on and probably have made it to the end of the race. The car was very new but I believe that we can be proud of what has been achieved."

Perry McCarthy: "You can summarise the whole week by the word character. This week has tested the character of the team and all the people in it. We have faced up to every situation and just worked, and worked, and worked – I have been immensely impressed."

James Weaver: "Not the end result we wanted but Audi has done a superb job here on their maiden appearance with the R8R. If we'd completed more testing miles, a top-10 finish for the Coupé would have been achievable – no question."

