

**Communications Motorsport**

Daniel Schuster

Tel: +49 151 42134732

E-mail: [daniel2.schuster@audi.de](mailto:daniel2.schuster@audi.de)

[www.audi-motorsport.info](http://www.audi-motorsport.info)

## **Rally star Ogier in Audi RS 5 DTM**

- **Mattias Ekström and Sébastien Ogier swap cars**
- **FIA World Rally Championship leader catches a whiff of DTM air**
- **Frenchman would like a real test drive in the DTM Audi**

**Ingolstadt/Nürburg, August 16, 2013 – “Fantastic, but much too short!” This was Sébastien Ogier’s (F/29) initial comment after a test drive of the Red Bull Audi RS 5 DTM on the Nürburgring.**

The French rally star, who in the Volkswagen Polo R WRC has a commanding lead in the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) before ADAC Rallye Deutschland next week, was given the opportunity to try out an Audi RS 5 DTM before the DTM race at the Nürburgring (Sunday from 13:15 live on “Das Erste”). With instructions provided by Audi factory driver Mattias Ekström (35) he did five laps on the 3.629-kilometer sprint track of the Nürburgring. “And on used tires, he was running pretty fast,” commented the Swede on looking at the stop watch.

“Naturally, I wasn’t able to go all the way to the limit in such a short time, especially not with respect to braking,” said Ogier. “But the five laps were enough to whet my appetite for more. Now I’d like to do a real test in the Audi RS 5 DTM. The car is fantastic and really enjoyable.”

Before recce for ADAC Rallye Deutschland starts on Monday, Ogier will be watching the DTM race at the Nürburgring from the garage of Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline. “I did that last year as well,” said the Frenchman. “I find the DTM very interesting and always keep myself informed. It’s nice that Audi is so strong this year. And thanks to DRS and option tires the races have become even more thrilling. I could definitely imagine driving in the DTM after the end of my rally career.”

Following Sébastien Ogier’s test drive of the Red Bull Audi RS 5 DTM, Mattias Ekström had the chance to try out the Frenchman’s Volkswagen Polo R WRC. The two-time DTM Champion, who has successfully competed in the FIA World Rally Championship himself on occasion, was allowed to test the rally car on a track next to the Nürburgring. “That, too, was a great experience – and my appetite for more



has been whetted by it as well,” said Ekström after the car swapping.

– End –

In 2012, the Audi Group delivered 1,455,123 cars of the Audi brand to its customers, generated revenue of €48.8 billion and achieved an operating profit of €5.4 billion. The Audi Group is globally present in more than 100 markets and produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Brussels (Belgium), Bratislava (Slovakia), Martorell (Spain), Kaluga (Russia), Aurangabad (India), Changchun (China) and Jakarta (Indonesia). The brand with four rings will produce cars also in Foshan (China) as of late 2013 and in San José Chiapa (Mexico) starting in 2016. AUDI AG's wholly owned subsidiaries include quattro GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and the sports motorcycle manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy). The Group currently employs more than 70,000 people worldwide, including around 50,000 in Germany. Total investment of approximately €11 billion is planned by 2015 – mainly in new products and sustainable technologies. Audi lives up to its corporate responsibility and has strategically established the principle of sustainability for its products and processes. The long-term goal is CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral mobility.