

Communications Motorsport

Jürgen Pippig

Telephone: +49 (0)841 89 34200

E-mail: motorsport-media@audi.de

www.audi-motorsport.info

Timo Scheider clinches grid position three for Audi

- **Best Audi driver at Brands Hatch for the third consecutive time**
- **Five Audi A4 DTM cars on the first five rows of the grid**
- **Varied starting order promises suspense**

Ingolstadt/Brands Hatch, September 4, 2010 – Title defender Timo Scheider as the best Audi driver will start from position three at the DTM's UK round at Brands Hatch (Sunday starting at 1:45 p.m. – German time – live on "Das Erste") All five Audi A4 DTM cars from Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline will go into the race from the first five rows.

For the third consecutive time Scheider was the quickest Audi driver on the 1.929-kilometer circuit which is the shortest one in the DTM. "I was aiming for the two front rows, and that's where I am," said the 31-year-old after qualifying on the demanding track on the outskirts of London where he clinched the pole position in 2008 and second place on the grid in 2009. "On new tires my Audi A4 was very good, but not completely perfect in the last segment. I'll give everything tomorrow to make the best of what is another good qualifying result."

Scheider's team colleagues Mattias Ekström, Oliver Jarvis, Miguel Molina and Martin Tomczyk achieved grid positions six, seven, eight and ten. Ekström had a minor modification made to his Audi A4 DTM between the second and third qualifying segments which didn't produce the desired result, though. "I didn't manage to get the front tires to work properly in Q3," commented the Swede.

"Unfortunately, with Timo (Scheider) we've just got one driver in the top four on the grid and we know how difficult overtaking is at Brands Hatch," said Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich. "But on a positive note, we've had a very good race simulation here in free practice, particularly with Timo. So we should be in a good position for the race which, with 98 laps, is extremely long. The strategy, too, is very important on this short circuit."



The starting order for the seventh DTM race of the year promises particularly high suspense: seven of the nine rows are shared by an Audi A4 DTM and a Mercedes C-Class, respectively. DTM rookie Miguel Molina will again start into the race as the best driver of a 2008-specification vehicle. Molina immediately handled the difficult Brands Hatch circuit well and secured eighth place on the grid.

Alexandre Prémat and Mike Rockenfeller will start from positions eleven and 13 for Audi Sport Team Phoenix and Katherine Legge (Audi Sport Team Rosberg) again won the ladies' duel against Susie Stoddart, just barely missing the leap into the second qualifying segment at her home round by one thousandth of a second. Her team colleague Markus Winkelhock had to settle for grid position 18.

The Audi Group sold around 950,000 cars of the Audi brand in 2009. The Company posted revenue of €29.8 billion and an operating profit of €1.6 billion. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Cangchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). Aurangabad in India saw the start of CKD production of the Audi A6 at the end of 2007 and of the Audi A4 in early October 2008. Production of the new Audi A1 has been running at the Brussels plant since May 2010. 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 58,000 people worldwide, including 45,500 in Germany. Between 2010 and 2012 the Audi Group is planning to invest around €5.5 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.