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Communications Motorsport

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Miguel Molina shines for Audi in Hungary

- Second place for the Spaniard in the DTM race at the Hungaroring
- Six Audi RS 5 DTM cars in the top ten
- Audi defends lead in the manufacturers' standings

Ingolstadt/Budapest, June 1, 2014 – 33,000 spectators, including a large number of employees of the Audi plant Győr, experienced a spectacular DTM weekend at the Hungaroring near Budapest and another strong showing by the Audi RS 5 DTM. Miguel Molina, on finishing the race as the runner-up, managed to clinch the best result in his DTM career so far. With six cars in the top ten Audi defended its lead in the manufacturers' standings. The fastest lap in the race went to the RS 5 DTM as well.

The man of the day from Audi's perspective was Miguel Molina in the Audi Sport Audi RS 5 DTM of Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline. The Spaniard, through no fault of his own, had been relegated to the rear-most position on the grid in the first DTM races. At the Hungaroring, Molina, as the best Audi driver, started the race from position three and finished in second place after 41 thrilling laps, despite having dropped to eighth place at the start.

On the first lap, Molina recovered four positions. On lap 13, the Audi driver overtook the BMW of António Felix da Costa and immediately before his mandatory pit stop on lap 19 the BMW of ex-Formula 1 driver Timo Glock. Afterwards, 'Magic' Molina was the only driver in the field who was able to keep the pace of the subsequent winner Marco Wittmann.

"I'm very happy about this second place after all the misfortune I suffered in the first two races," said the Spaniard. "I'd like to thank Audi Sport and Team Abt very much for giving me such a fantastic car. Unfortunately, the start wasn't so great or else an even better result might have been possible. That I still managed to advance to second place is great and shows how strong the RS 5 DTM is."

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An impressive race was also driven by his team-mate Edoardo Mortara. The Italian, like Molina, had started on the softer option tires and, from position twelve on the grid, quickly advanced to fourth place. Following his change to standard tires, he fought a spectacular duel with Timo Glock which Mortara was able to decide in his favor. Only three laps before the end of the race, the Audi driver lost third place to Bruno Spengler who was one of the drivers to make up position by position on option tires in the second half of the race.

The same strategy was used by Adrien Tambay (Playboy Audi RS 5 DTM), Jamie Green (Hoffmann Group Audi RS 5 DTM/Audi Sport Team Rosberg) and Mattias Ekström (Red Bull Audi RS 5 DTM), who in a spectacular final stage captured positions five, seven and nine. In contrast, title defender Mike Rockenfeller (Schaeffler Audi RS 5 DTM/Audi Sport Team Phoenix), running on the hard standard tires, dropped from sixth to tenth place on the last four laps.

Nico Müller in the Audi Financial Services Audi RS 5 DTM just barely missed scoring his first points in the DTM. The young Swiss posted the fastest lap of the race by a large margin and was running in eighth place before being 'turned around' by Timo Glock on the last lap and dropping to twelfth place.

Timo Scheider was hit by a BMW just shortly after the start and had to park his AUTO TEST Audi RS 5 DTM on lap eleven with a damaged rear suspension.

"I promised the employees of our plant in Györ a thrilling and action-packed race – and I think we kept our word," said Dieter Gass, Head of DTM at Audi Sport. "There were some hot battles fought on track and we can definitely live with positions two, four and five, considering the qualifying session that was less than perfect for us. I'm particularly happy for Miguel (Molina), who shook off the misfortune from the first two races and deservingly clinched second place. He was the only one today who could have posed a danger to Marco Wittmann. Now we're traveling to our home round in Nuremberg as the front runners – and are aiming to clinch our first victory of the season there."

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The Audi Group delivered approximately 1,575,500 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2013. As one of the most successful models, the Audi A3 has been awarded the title of "World Car of the Year 2014" by an international jury of journalists (combined fuel consumption in l/100 km: 7.1 - 3.2; combined CO_2 emissions in g/km: 165 – 85). In 2013, the company reported revenue of €49.9 billion and an operating profit of €5.03 billion. The company 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 (China) and Jakarta (Indonesia). Since the end of 2013, the brand with the Four Rings has also been producing cars in Foshan (China). In 2015, Audi will start production in São José dos Pinhais (Brazil), followed by 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 Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy), the sports motorcycle manufacturer. The company currently employs more than 73,500 people worldwide, of which more than 52,500 in Germany. Total investment of around €22 billion is planned from 2014 to 2018 – 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.