



**Communications Motorsport**

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## **‘Rocky’ takes DTM lead for Audi**

- **From sixth on the grid to second place at the Lausitzring**
- **First points for Audi newcomer Jamie Green**
- **Amazing recovery by Mattias Ekström**

**Ingolstadt/Klettwitz, June 16, 2013 – Second place, fastest lap, best pit stop and lead in the overall standings: With a strong race at the Lausitzring, Audi driver Mike Rockenfeller took the lead of the DTM standings in front of 65,000 spectators (throughout the weekend).**

From position six on the grid, ‘Rocky’ in the Schaeffler Audi RS 5 DTM of Audi Sport Team Phoenix advanced to finish the race in second place. The 2010 Le Mans winner switched from standard to option tires after just four laps and from that moment was the fastest driver in the field. He overtook Mercedes driver Robert Wickens and subsequently put pressure on the race leader Gary Paffett. After the second pit stop, the Audi driver fully concentrated on bringing home his second place – and thus securing the lead of the standings.

“Thank you to Audi and to Team Phoenix: My car was absolutely fantastic today, especially on option tires,” said Mike Rockenfeller. “On standard tires, it was a bit more difficult, but we had a great strategy and perfect pit stops. In the end, Gary (Paffett) was a bit faster, but we scored important points for the Championship. It was a good race for us. I’m really pleased.”

Jamie Green in the Red Bull Audi RS 5 DTM of Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline finished fifth to clinch his first points since switching to Audi. Green started on option tires and up to the first pit stop on lap 24 was running in third place. His team-mate Mattias Ekström was racing with a completely different strategy. The Swede made his two pit stops within the first eight laps and drove the remaining 44 laps on the softer option tires. These tactics caused the two-time DTM Champion to advance from grid position 18 to eighth place. In an extremely fierce duel on the last lap, Ekström nearly managed to snatch seventh place from title defender Bruno Spengler. Both cars crossed the finish line side by side.



With Edoardo Mortara in the Playboy Audi RS 5 DTM in ninth place, Audi Sport Team Rosberg scored points at the Lausitzring as well. Adrien Tambay (Audi ultra RS 5 DTM) in eleventh place just barely missed a points-finish after being bumped on track by Mercedes driver Roberto Merhi. Miguel Molina (Audi RS 5 DTM/16), Filipe Albuquerque (Audi Financial Services Audi RS 5 DTM/18) and Timo Scheider (AUTO TEST Audi RS 5 DTM/20) were struggling with heavily degrading rear tires in the final phase. Scheider even made a third pit stop because of that.

“We can be pleased with today’s result,” said Dieter Gass, Head of DTM at Audi Sport, summing up the outcome. “Mike (Rockenfeller) drove another really brilliant race today. He made no mistakes and was running with a good strategy. Jamie (Green) scored his first points as an Audi driver. Mattias Ekström managed an amazing recovery. In total, four of our cars finished in the points. In four weeks from now, an Audi driver will be traveling to the Norisring as the leader of the standings. We’re going to work hard on showing a strong performance at our home race too.”

Prior to that, at the Le Mans 24 Hours, Audi will be battling for another victory with three Audi R18 e-tron quattro cars in the world’s most important endurance race.

– End –

The Audi Group delivered 1,455,123 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2012. In 2012, the company posted revenue of €48.8 billion and an operating profit of €5.4 billion. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). The Audi Q7 is built in Bratislava (Slovakia). In November 2012, CKD production of the Audi Q7 was added to the existing Audi A4, A6 and Q5 manufacturing operations in Aurangabad (India). At the Brussels plant, production of the Audi A1 has been running since 2010, while production of the new A1 Sportback began in 2012. 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. (Győr, Hungary), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant’Agata Bolognese, Italy), AUDI BRUSSELS S.A./N.V. (Brussels, Belgium), quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm and the sports motorcycle manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy). Audi currently employs more than 70,000 people worldwide, including around 50,000 in Germany. The brand with the four rings plans to invest a total of around €11 billion by 2015 – mainly in new products and the expansion of production capacities – in order to sustain the company’s technological lead embodied in its “Vorsprung durch Technik” claim. Audi is currently expanding its site in Győr (Hungary) and will start production in Foshan (China) in late 2013 and in San José Chiapa (Mexico) in 2016.

Audi lives up to its corporate responsibility and regards sustainability not only as a basis for financial success, but also as essential to ensure a worthwhile future for the generations to come. The company has therefore strategically established sustainability as a principle for its products and processes. Corporate responsibility includes fuel-efficient products, resource-efficient production processes, a future-oriented and fair personnel policy, effective involvement in society and responsible business operations in general. This gives the motto of “Vorsprung durch Technik” a new dimension that extends far beyond the products. The ultimate goal is CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral mobility.