

#31 – 14 AUGUST 2009

BMW DRIVERS GET READY FOR HOME RACES

BMW drivers are getting ready for when the WTCC resumes at Oschersleben in three weeks. The German event will mark the beginning of the championship's final phase and also BMW's home race meeting.

Augusto Farfus, third in the drivers' classification, is visiting Asia: *"I came here on behalf of Formula BMW Pacific and PETRONAS to be involved in a young drivers' development programme. After my return to Europe I will work hard with the team to ensure that we are best prepared for the final races,"* he said.

Test drives, PR appointments and other events equally fill the agenda of Farfus' team-mate at BMW Team Germany, Jörg Müller: *"It's hardly a summer break for me, there is always something happening. The break is more important for the engineers and technicians, as they work on the cars every day in search of more speed."*

Andy Priaulx of BMW Team UK puts his family as top priority during a break. *"Quality time with the family is always my priority. To get several days together without me flying off for a test or race is bliss,"* said Priaulx who will visit the Formula One Belgian Grand Prix at Spa. BMW Team Italy-Spain's Alessandro Zanardi and Sergio Hernández are enjoying deserved holidays, but they will return to the wheel of their BMW 320si cars for a test at Adria at the end of August.



The next WTCC meeting at Oschersleben will mark BMW's home event

LADA SPORT TO RACE THREE NEW CARS

The Russian Bears team that run the LADA factory squad are ready for a complete switch to the Priora car.

The new model was introduced in Porto last month, where James Thompson joined the team to drive the new car alongside two 110 2.0 machines for Jaap van Lagen and Kirill Ladygin. The same happened in Brands Hatch two weeks later. But from the next event in Oschersleben the team will race three Priora cars.

Thompson will be forced to miss Oschersleben due to his commitments in the Australian V8 Supercar championship, which were already in place before he signed for Lada. He will be replaced by team principal Viktor Shapovalov.

After having tested in Zolder last week, the team have another test scheduled at Magny-Cours on August 22, which will focus on the engine.



The LADA Sport team will race three Priora cars from Oschersleben

WTCC DRIVERS KEEP ON RACING DURING SUMMER BREAK

While the championship is having a long summer break, some of the drivers keep on racing in other series.

THOMPSON WINS IN DENMARK

James Thompson extended his lead in the Danish Touring Car Championship winning two out of the three races held last Sunday.

At the wheel of his Hartmann Racing Honda Accord Euro-R, Thompson claimed victory in the first and the third race beating the Chevrolet Lacetti cars of Henrik Lundgaard and Michel Nykjær.

With these results, Thompson has now an 18-point margin over Nykjær, while Lundgaard is 32 points behind him.

CORONEL AND ENGSTLER AT SEPANG

Tom Coronel and Franz Engstler took part last Sunday in the 10th 12 Hour Merdeka Millennium Endurance Race at Sepang, Malaysia.

They both drove Porsche 996 GT3 cars – Lammertink Racing for Coronel, Autoracing Club Bratislava for Engstler – and both retired because of technical failures.

The race was won by dominated by Manabu Orido in a BMW Z4 of the Petronas Syntium Team; Orido drove for Chevrolet in selected races of the 2008 WTCC.

MENU RETURNS TO BUENOS AIRES

For the fifth time in six years, Chevrolet driver Alain Menu will take part this weekend in the Buenos Aires 200 km.

The race counts as the seventh round of the Argentine TC2000 championship and the second round of the Endurance Series.

Menu will share with local ace Guillermo Ortelli a Chevrolet Astra car run by the Chevrolet Elaion team.

During his previous visits to Buenos Aires, Menu always managed to finish on the podium: he claimed victory in 2006, was classified second in 2004 and third in 2005 and 2008.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR OSCHERSLEBEN

Rounds 17 and 18 of the 2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Oschersleben, Germany, 5th and 6th September.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 25th August.

Please remember that media passes issued by National Sporting Authorities and/or any other series will NOT be valid.

The Accreditation form may be downloaded at the websites www.fia.com and www.fiawtcc.com.

- **International Press** must send applications to Fabio Ravaioli
tel +39 06 39729497, fax +39 06 39729470, email: media@fiawtcc.com
- **German Press** must send applications to Marcel Orban
tel: 03949 920525, fax: 03949 920660, email: presse@motorsportarena.com
- **TV and Radio** must send applications to Antonios Argyropoulos
tel +33 1 40938517; email: antonios@eurosport.com

COUNTDOWN: - 23 DAYS



to the 2009 FIA WTCC Race of Germany – 5th / 6th September in Oschersleben