

**2018/2019 FIA World Endurance Championship
Round 3: 6 Hours of Silverstone**

***Michelin's endurance racing tyres are poised to discover
the recently-resurfaced track at Silverstone's double-bill
FIA WEC and ELMS weekend***

After a two-month break since June's Le Mans 24 Hours, 2018/2019 FIA WEC Super Season action resumes this weekend with a visit to Great Britain for the 6 Hours of Silverstone on Sunday, August 19, preceded by the European Le Mans Series' 4 Hours of Silverstone on the Saturday. The double-bill meeting will consequently provide fans of the discipline with an opportunity to watch two exciting races, with the majority of both fields competing on Michelin rubber.

This year's visit sees the French tyre firm face an additional challenge at the famous English circuit because the 5.901-kilometre track has been entirely resurfaced since the last FIA WEC race there. It is the first time in 22 years that the circuit has been given a fresh coating of asphalt from start to finish. The only chance to sample the change ahead of this weekend was a test at the end of July when the exceptionally hot weather wasn't really representative of the conditions traditionally encountered in the region.

The long, fast track features ten right-hand and eight left-hand turns which put tremendous strain on tyres. In keeping with the technical regulations that cover the 2018/2019 FIA WEC, Michelin's partners will use tyres that were developed to cover the entire super-season.

Says **Jérôme Mondain** (manager of Michelin Motorsport's endurance racing programmes): "Silverstone was recently resurfaced, so it's like we are going there for the very first time because we have zero data. Based on experience, wear rates are likely to be low if the conditions stay dry due to the new surface's characteristics, i.e. low macro and high micro roughness. That said, the asphalt promises to heat up in direct sunshine and we could see particularly high ground temperatures which would certainly have an impact on tyre performance. If it rains, the resurfacing probably won't assist draining, so standing water will tend to accumulate and this will lower the aquaplaning threshold."

The allocation for FIA WEC entries at Silverstone comprises 18 tyres in the LM P1, LM P2 and LM GTE Pro classes, but LM GTE Am runners will be able to use up to 26 tyres.

In all four classes, Michelin's partner teams will be able to choose between hard- and medium-compound tyres, In the case of rain, they will be able to fit either Wets or Full Wets, while the LM P1 crews will have the option of selecting the MICHELIN Hybride intermediate slick for drying conditions.

For its FIA WEC partners alone, Michelin will have 3,200 tyres in Silverstone to cover the possible weather conditions and different strategies of its 30 partners.

