



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Boulogne-Billancourt – 15 August 2021

## Second Record-Breaking Austria Weekend for Michelin

- Brad Binder (Red Bull KTM Factory Racing) wins on MICHELIN Power Slicks in the wet
- Lukas Tulovich (Tech 3 E-Racing) takes the MotoE™ race victory
- 1'22.643 all-time circuit lap record for Jorge Martin (Pramac Racing)
- New MotoE race lap record of 1'35.161 for Eric Granado (One Energy Racing)

Brad Binder emerged victorious in an exciting and dramatic rain-affected flag-to-flag MotoGP™ race in the Bitci Motorrad Grand Prix von Österreich at the Red Bull Ring. Taking second and third places on the podium after pitting for rain tyres, were Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team) and Jorge Martin respectively.

With the threatened rainstorms not materialising until a heavy shower five laps from the end of the race, all riders started on MICHELIN Power Slicks. However, while most other riders pitted to change to bikes fitted with MICHELIN Power Rain tyres, Binder stayed out on his slicks and nursed his bike home to an incredible win.

In a shortened five-lap FIM Enel MotoE™ World Cup race, the single specification Michelin slicks showed their versatility and consistent performance by helping to produce a close and exciting race in which Lukas Tulovich (Tech 3 E-Racing) took the spoils, crossing the line ahead of second placed Eric Granado, and Dominique Aegerter (Dynavolt Intact GP) in third.

Friday morning got off to a flying start in MotoGP FP1, with Johann Zarco (Pramac Racing) breaking the all-time circuit lap record on-board his Medium front and Soft rear MICHELIN Power Slick-shod Ducati, eclipsing the record set last weekend at the MICHELIN® Grand Prix of Styria by his team-mate Jorge Martin.

In Saturday's Q2 session the track temperature increased to more than 40° Centigrade which gave the slick tyres a real test, but their performance shone through with Fabio Quartararo (Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP) initially breaking Zarco's all-time lap record with his Hard front/Soft rear slick combination, but this was then bettered almost immediately by Jorge Martin who set a 1'22.643 lap using Medium front and Soft rear slicks.



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Michelin's new for 2021 MotoE tyre range, with an increased level of sustainable materials, proved once again that having more environmentally friendly tyres does not mean having to reduce performance. The proportion of sustainable materials used to make the rear slicks for the 2021 MotoE series is 40 per cent, while the figure for the front tyres stands at 33 per cent.

Speaking after the races, Piero Taramasso, Michelin Two-Wheel Motorsport Manager, said: "It's been a while since we saw our slick and rain tyres together on the same podium, and we were quite satisfied overall with the results from this weekend, particularly taking into account the very difficult weather conditions during the race. Proof of the good performance of our 2021 allocation can be seen by the fact that the top eight positions in Q2 this weekend were faster than the best pole time set here in Austria last year.

"Despite having to withdraw our asymmetric Hard front tyre from the original MotoGP allocation, the replacement symmetric option proved its versatility and consistent grip by working well for many riders and teams, not only for the race, but also for qualifying."

Michelin, the leading mobility company, is dedicated to enhancing its clients' mobility, sustainably; designing and distributing the most suitable tires, services and solutions for its clients' needs; providing digital services, maps and guides to help enrich trips and travels and make them unique experiences; and developing high-technology materials that serve a variety of industries. Headquartered in Clermont-Ferrand, France, Michelin is present in 170 countries, has 123,600 employees and operates 71 tire production facilities which together produced around 170 million tires in 2020. ([www.michelin.com](http://www.michelin.com))

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