



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Paris (France) – July 7, 2023

6 Hours of Monza 2023

The MICHELIN Endurance ranges enter the Temple of Speed

- Fifth round of the FIA-WEC World Endurance Championship
- Very high average speeds and high stresses on the tyres
- A parabolic curve that serves as a catapult to reach a top speed of almost 330 km/h

Located in the greater suburbs of Milan, the Monza circuit is one of the oldest in the world. It was inaugurated on 15 August 1922, and only the Indianapolis circuit, in the United States, is an older permanent layout. At 5,793 metres long, Monza is very fast and technical, and has four straights where the cars exceed 300 km/h. For the first time in the season, the track offers drivers a banked section, the 'Curva Parabolica', which generates incredible sensations, and which propels the cars onto the pit straight, where they reach maximum speed.

These characteristics create particularly high stresses for tyres, which the Michelin teams know very well. Coming from Clermont-Ferrand, the tyre packages have been prepared with the greatest care for each of the French manufacturer's partners.

*"After a memorable Centenary edition of the 24 Hours of Le Mans, we immediately got to work preparing for the Monza race," said **Pierre Alves**, Michelin's Endurance program manager. "The whole team got together to study the racing conditions, because this circuit is aptly nicknamed the Temple of Speed. With average lap speeds of more than 220 km/h and repeated peaks of nearly 330 km/h, the Hypercar class cars consistently generate loads of 600 kg on their tyres, peaking at 850 kg on the rears. This makes it a particularly difficult challenge, and our teams will be mobilized and very attentive to this data. This kind of racing configuration is an opportunity to demonstrate our strength in terms of advice and assistance to all our partners, in Hypercar and also in GT, both in terms of choice of rubber compounds depending on track temperatures, and the optimum tyre pressures to use. Designing tyres capable of going very fast on very hot asphalt, with strict technical regulations on the number of tyres to be used in the race, requires very broad levels of expertise and an in-depth analytical capacity."*

At Monza, Michelin will make its MICHELIN Pilot Sport **Medium** and **Hard** endurance ranges available to its Hypercar partners in order to meet the climatic and energy conditions, which are related to the abrasiveness of the asphalt of the circuit.



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Visually, these two rubber compounds are distinguished by coloured dots on their sides: **YELLOW** for **Medium** and **RED** for **Hard**. In case of rain, which is always a possibility when it's very hot and if thunderstorms form, a new rain tyre containing 45% sustainable materials will be available. This tyre has already demonstrated its formidable performance during the 24 Hours of Le Mans, bringing consistency and confidence to the drivers.

Drivers in the LM GTE Am category will also have two rubber compounds available (Medium and Hard) for dry surfaces, but also two types of rain tyres: Drying Wet for a reasonably wet or dry track, and Full Wet in the event of heavy or continuous rain.

At Monza, the action will begin on Friday 7 July with two free practice sessions. The next day, a third practice session will be followed by the three qualifying phases to determine the positions on the starting grid, and the race will start at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday 9 July. As a result of Ferrari/AF Corse's victory at the 24 Hours of Le Mans, the Michelin Motorsport teams are expecting exceptional crowds in the Italian Temple of Speed this weekend.

About Michelin

Michelin's ambition is to sustainably improve its customers' mobility. The leader in the mobility sector, Michelin designs, manufactures, and distributes the tires best suited to their requirements and uses as well as services and solutions to improve transport efficacy. Michelin also puts forward offers that allow its customers to enjoy unique moments when traveling. Michelin also develops high-technology equipment intended for multiple fields. Based in Clermont-Ferrand, Michelin is present in 175 countries, employs 132,200 people and operates 67 tire factories that, together, produced approximately 167 million tires in 2022. (www.michelin.com).

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