



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Portimao (Portugal), March 24, 2024

Grande Prémio Tissot de Portugal **MICHELIN Power Slick MotoGP™ and MotoE™ tyres:** **consistent performance in changing conditions**

- The 2024 MICHELIN Power Slick MotoGP tyres give riders confidence on a dirty and slippery track thanks to their new rubber compounds.
- The new MICHELIN Power Slick MotoE tyres, featuring the exclusive 'Race to Vision' tread design, offer increased performance and contain more than 50% sustainable materials (49% front and 53% rear).
- In MotoGP, the race lap record was set by Enea Bastianini (Ducati Lenovo Team) on the 21st lap of 25. The duration of the Grand Prix was improved by more than 7 seconds compared to 2023. Miguel Oliveira (Trackhouse Racing/Aprilia) reached a new circuit speed record of 252.9 km/h on the pit straight.

Built in a hilly natural environment, the Autódromo Internacional do Algarve is 4.6 km long with 15 turns (nine right-handers and six left). This weekend, nearly 175,000 spectators attended, including more than 72,500 on Sunday alone. The many fans were able to enjoy the spectacle offered by MotoGP, and also the silent performance of the electric Ducatis in the MotoE World Championship, with both classes running on their new Michelin tyres.

In Portimão, temperatures were close to those observed last year at the same time, but the heavy rain that fell during Thursday was loaded with sand, which then ended up on the surface of the track. The 22 MotoGP riders then spent most of the first practice session (Friday morning) cleaning the line on a damp circuit. Thanks to the confidence provided by their tyres, the riders in the premier class of motorcycle racing were then able to work calmly on the settings of their machines.

Throughout the sessions, Michelin's partners were able to test all the available rubber compounds, which was a good opportunity to confirm that the tyres brought to Portugal by the French manufacturer offered a wide spectrum of performance, regardless of the changing conditions of the asphalt. This characteristic was dominant throughout the weekend, with the consistency of performance allowing the riders at the front to battle with the same intensity from the start to the finish line.

"Given the poor weather conditions at the start of the event, grip was low and the riders had some difficulties finding the right set-up during the first practice session," says **Piero Taramasso**, Michelin two-wheel competition manager.



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"But we quickly saw the times improve and the strategies refined. As we had selected versatile tyre options, some riders made different choices during the Sprint race, particularly at the front. This is proof that the new rubber compounds in our tyres allow our partners to try different solutions depending on the conditions and the number of race laps. For the Grand Prix, it was the length of the race which dictated the tyre selection, with the Hard option perfect for the front, and the very versatile Medium compound offering equally good performance at the rear. Despite less favourable track conditions than last year, we saw lap times falling and records were broken. Our tyres not only provided the right performance at the right time, but also throughout the whole race, since the record for the fastest lap was improved with just 4 laps remaining - after 21 laps of racing at a sustained pace."

In Portugal, Michelin brought three front options with a symmetrical tread - Soft, Medium and Hard, and two choices for the rear - Soft and Medium. Given the configuration of the circuit, the Soft rear tyre was asymmetrical, with the right shoulder harder than the left.

Maverick Viñales (Aprilia Racing) won the 12-lap Sprint race on Saturday afternoon ahead of Marc Márquez (Gresini Racing) and Jorge Martin (Prima Pramac Racing).

The following day, the 25-lap Grand Prix was won by Jorge Martin, ahead of Enea Bastianini. Third place went to the young 19-year-old rider Pedro Acosta (Red Bull GASGAS Tech3) who is participating in his first season in MotoGP, and who took his first podium with Michelin in Portugal.

During the weekend, three new records were established. The best race lap, by Enea Bastianini in 1'38.685; the duration of the Grand Prix, lowered by more than seven seconds to 41'18.138; and the maximum circuit speed record, set by Miguel Oliveira, at 352.9 km/h.

The next round of the MotoGP World Championship will be the Red Bull Grand Prix of the Americas, taking place in Austin (Texas, United States) from 12 to 14 April 2024.

FIM Enel MotoE™ World Championship

In this innovative championship, featuring electric motorcycles manufactured by Ducati and equipped with Michelin tyres, it was both the start of the season and also the first time that the series raced at the Portimão circuit, where official tests were held in February.



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It was also the debut of the new MICHELIN Power Slick range dedicated to MotoE - ultra-technological tyres which contain 49% renewable and recycled materials at the front and 53% at the rear (compared to 34% and 52% in 2023 respectively). In addition, the rear tyre put on a show before even rolling. The design of its tread, which features ephemeral velvet-like patterns called 'Race to Vision', was immediately noticeable. Designed to fade during the first laps of the circuit, these patterns are reminiscent of the Concept VISION presented in 2017, which is the illustration of Michelin's sustainable development vision in the field of tyres, by 2050.

On the demanding Portuguese track, these new tyres were able to demonstrate their impressive performance, allowing the electric Ducatis to establish excellent benchmark times. *"The riders were very quickly at ease with our new tyres, which provide all the key performance characteristics of a racing motorcycle tyre, and meet the technical requirements of an electric two-wheeler,"* says **Piero Taramasso**. *"With this new range, whose rubber compound composition now exceeds an average of 50% sustainable materials, we have launched the 2024 MotoE season in the most beautiful way."*

The first of the weekend's two races was won by Nicolas Spinelli (Tech3 E-Racing), ahead of Hector Garzo (Dynavolt Intact GP MotoE) and Mattia Casadei (LCR E-Team). The latter then won the second race of the day ahead of Hector Garzo, second again. The third step of the podium was this time occupied by Oscar Gutierrez (Axxis-MSI).

Driven by its pioneering spirit, Michelin has been the sole supplier of the FIM Enel MotoE World Championship since its creation in 2019. This championship constitutes a true accelerator of sustainable innovation for the Michelin Group, which enables it to develop and validate technological innovations in demanding conditions. The experience acquired in MotoE, as well as the 'smart data' collected during races, are the basis of Michelin's present and future know-how in terms of tyres designed for electric two-wheelers.

The next round of the MotoE World Championship will take place during the Michelin Grand Prix de France, from 10 to 12 May 2024.

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.



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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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