



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Montmeló (Spain), May 26, 2024

Gran Premi Monster Energy de Catalunya New records in MotoGP™ and MotoE™

- The 6th round of the MotoGP FIM World Championship and the 5th & 6th rounds of the FIM ENEL MotoE™ World Championship kept all their promises in terms of spectacle and high-level performances.
- The MICHELIN Power Slick ranges for MotoGP, as well as the tyres specifically developed for the electric motorcycles in MotoE, enabled riders to set several new records.
- In MotoGP Aleix Espargaro (Aprilia Racing) set the all-time circuit lap record of 1'38.190. In MotoE, the new lap benchmark is now held by Nicholas Spinelli (Tech 3 E-Racing) at 1'48.025.

On the 4.627 km Catalan circuit, with its six left and eight right turns, the main challenge of the weekend was the lack of grip. In such cases, riders adapt their riding and the traction control of their motorcycles to limit the amount of rear tyre slippage and restrict its rise in temperature, so that its performance over time is not impacted. On this circuit where everyone had plenty of space to express themselves, it was therefore necessary to show some restraint. To help the riders get the most out of their tyres in such conditions, Michelin's technical teams provided them with much support.

For the 2024 Gran Premi Monster Energy de Catalunya, Michelin's partners had at their disposal three symmetrical compounds of front tyres (Soft, Medium, Hard) and two asymmetrical rears (Soft and Medium) - due to greater number of right turns, the right shoulder of the rear tyres was reinforced. For the Sprint race, all riders selected the Medium compound for the front, and the Soft for the rear. For the Grand Prix, it was once again the Medium that was chosen by everyone for the front, and this time the majority opted for the rear - with four riders opting for the Soft tyres: Marc and Alex Marquez (Gresini Racing), Pedro Acosta (Red Bull GASGAS Tech 3) and Jack Miller (Red Bull KTM).

*"The riders managed our tyres to compensate for the lack of grip, and this was helped by the appropriate set-up of their motorcycle," confirms **Piero Taramasso**, Michelin two-wheel competition manager. "During the first test sessions, our partners tried all the compounds available to them, and they quickly identified the Soft and Medium options as the best for the front. For the rear, the Soft was a source of superior performance in absolute terms, but the Medium tyre offered them more peace of mind over time. However, as we saw in the Grand Prix, the Soft was also a choice that could pay off despite the high track temperature (46°C)."*



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"In addition to Marc Marquez's podium, I noted that Pedro Acosta's new race lap record was set on a Soft tyre, and that he was able to climb up to 13th place after his early fall, attacking until the last corners of the Grand Prix. These facts underline the extraordinary versatility of our tyres, irrespective of their specificities and their normal operating windows. Finally, all the records broken this weekend once again confirm our technological leadership, and the benefits provided by our new rubber compounds."

On Saturday afternoon, the Sprint race (12 laps) was won by Aleix Espargaro (Aprilia Racing), ahead of Marc Marquez (Gresini Racing) and Pedro Acosta (Red Bull GASGAS Tech 3).

On Sunday, the 24 lap Grand Prix saw victory for Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team), ahead of Jorge Martin (Prima Pramac Racing), and Marc Marquez (Gresini Racing).

Alongside the all-time circuit lap record, MotoGP riders recorded two new records this weekend:

- The race lap record, achieved in 1'39.664 by Pedro Acosta (Red Bull GASGAS Tech 3) on the 7th lap of the Grand Prix.
- The duration of the Grand Prix, which has been reduced by more than 10 seconds, to 40'11.726.

Fifth and sixth rounds of the FIM ENEL MotoE™ World Championship

During eight European Grands Prix, electric motorcycles supplied by Ducati compete at the rate of two races per round (a total of 16 races). In Barcelona, it was a matter of covering 7 laps twice, first on Saturday lunchtime, then again less than an hour after the finish of the Sprint race.

During the first of the two races, it was the Catalan rider Oscar Gutierrez (Axxis-MSI) who won in front of his home crowd. He finished ahead of Eric Granado (LCR E-Team) and Kevin Zannoni (Open Bank Aspar Team). On the 5th of the 7 laps, Oscar Gutierrez broke the MotoE circuit lap record, with a time of 1'48"025.

A little later in the day, the second round of MotoE saw victory for Kevin Zannoni (Open Bank Aspar Team), ahead of Oscar Gutierrez (Axxis-MSI) and Alessandro Zaccone (Tech 3 E-Racing).

"Our new tyres are also proving their worth here," continues **Piero Taramasso**.



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"This weekend we were able to note the continued increase in performance of the Ducati electric motorcycles, with new record times and a constantly increasing level of spectacle. We now look forward to seeing our MotoE tyre ranges, whose composition is focused on the preservation of natural resources, on the Mugello circuit next week."

The electric motorcycles in the 2024 FIM Enel MotoE World Championship are all equipped with Michelin tyres containing 53% of renewable and recycled materials at the rear, and 49% at the front (compared to 52% and 34% respectively last year). In addition, the rear tyres are distinguished by a particular tread design, with ephemeral patterns and a velvet appearance, that disappear during the initial laps.

The 7th round of the MotoGP World Championship, as well as the 4th round of the FIM Enel MotoE World Championship, will take place next weekend, from 31 May to 2 June on the Mugello circuit (Italy), at the Gran Premio d'Italia Brembo.

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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