



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Paris (France), June 26, 2024

## **Motul TT Assen**

### **The versatility of the MICHELIN Power Slick will be the key to a successful race weekend**

- The TT Circuit Assen will host the eighth round of the FIM MotoGP™ World Championship. Nicknamed the 'Cathedral of Speed' it is a demanding circuit for tyres, and can experience variable weather conditions.
- A slightly revised Hard rubber compound for the front, to respond to the increased performance of the 2024 motorcycles.
- 9th and 10th rounds of the FIM ENEL MotoE™ World Championship, with electric motorcycles equipped with new generation tyres, whose composition is geared towards environmental protection.

The European leg of the MotoGP tour continues with the traditional TT Assen round. Located in the north of the Netherlands, close to the North Sea beaches, this circuit is the oldest on the calendar. MotoGP has taken place here every year since 1949 (except in 2020 due to the pandemic), the year the championship was created.

At 4.542 km long, the circuit is made up of 18 turns (12 right-handers and 6 left), with corners that follow one another at very high speed and which create significant stress on the tyres. To perform in complete safety and offer consistently good feel, riders need tyres that are versatile and perform well over time. This is exactly the package prepared by the Michelin Motorsport teams, who have carefully selected tyres that are adapted to all types of weather and riding styles.

*"The surface is not very abrasive but the track is very fast, especially in the sequences of the second part," explains **Piero Taramasso**, manager of Michelin two-wheel competition. "Based on the data we recorded over the last few years (the asphalt was redone in 2020), we have decided to revise the Hard front rubber compound. The Soft and Medium compounds will be the same as last year, but the Hard will be a little harder - a little more rigid. We are also responding to the fact that the motorcycles are a little more aggressive on their front tyres. The fronts will all be symmetrical, but the two rear compounds (Soft and Medium) will be reinforced on the right side, to compensate for the greater number of turns in this direction."*



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Michelin engineers also took into consideration the geographical location of the circuit, with its possible variations in temperature, precipitation and wind. In the event of rain, Michelin will make the MICHELIN Power Rain range available to its partners in Soft and Medium rubber compounds, which will be symmetrical at the front and asymmetrical at the rear.

At the Motul TT Assen, on-track activities will begin on Friday 28 June with a 45-minute free practice session, followed by a one-hour session which will allow the 10 fastest riders to progress directly into the second phase of qualifying (Q2). After the free practice session on Saturday morning, Q1 will allow the two fastest riders to also progress to Q2 with a view to determining, at the end of Q2, the starting grid for the entire weekend. The Sprint race will take place on Saturday at 3:00 p.m., and the start of the Grand Prix will be on Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

As always, everyone will be keen to try to beat the lap record. In 2023, Marco Bezzecchi (Mooney VR46 Racing Team) set a new benchmark lap in 1'31.472 (while achieving pole position).

### **Fifth weekend of the FIM ENEL MotoE™ World Championship**

The FIM ENEL MotoE World Championship begins the second part of its season. Eight races have already taken place, and the two rounds which will take place this weekend in Assen are eagerly awaited by the riders. The latter benefit from high performance electric motorcycles, and lap times are regularly improved, in part due to the presence of new Michelin tyres specific to this series.

Supplied by Ducati, the electric motorcycles are equipped with Michelin tyres incorporating 49% renewable and recycled materials at the front, and 53% at the rear (compared to 34% and 52% respectively in 2023). They demonstrate the innovative nature of these rubber compounds which are focussed on environmental protection, without sacrificing performance.

There is also a new design of rear tyre, whose tread features ephemeral patterns with a velvet appearance, which disappear during the first laps.

Michelin considers this championship as a real research and development laboratory, and intends to apply all or part of the technologies tested in MotoE to its MotoGP tyres, and also to those of its mass production tyres in the coming years.



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The 18 MotoE racers will take part in two races on the Assen track, with a duration of 7 laps each. The two races will take place during the day on Saturday, one before and the other after the MotoGP Sprint race. The day before, the riders will take part in two practice sessions, in addition to two qualifying sessions.

### **About Michelin**

Michelin is building a world-leading manufacturer of life-changing composites and experiences. Pioneering engineered materials for more than 130 years, Michelin is uniquely positioned to make decisive contributions to human progress and to a more sustainable world.

Drawing on its deep know-how in polymer composites, Michelin is constantly innovating to manufacture high-quality tires and components for critical applications in demanding fields as varied as mobility, construction, aeronautics, low-carbon energies, and healthcare.

The care placed in its products and deep customer knowledge inspire Michelin to offer the finest experiences. This spans from providing data- and AIbased connected solutions for professional fleets to recommending outstanding restaurants and hotels curated by the MICHELIN Guide.

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