

PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Paris (France), July 3, 2024

# Liqui Moly Motorrad Grand Prix Deutschland The MICHELIN Power Slicks return to the unique Sachsenring circuit

- One week after the Motul TT Assen in the Netherlands, the MotoGP<sup>™</sup> riders head to the Sachsenring circuit in Germany, for the ninth round of the season.
- With 10 left turns and only 3 right, this asymmetric circuit requires front and rear tyres with a very specific tread.
- The FIM ENEL MotoE<sup>™</sup> World Championship, with the increasing levels of spectacle and performance from its electric motorcycles equipped with new generation tyres, will hold its 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> rounds.

Last year the Sachsenring round was the second of a series of three back to back Grand Prix weekends, between the very fast Autodromo Internazionale del Mugello (Italy), and the historic Assen circuit (Netherlands). This season, the German round takes place a week after Assen, and directly before a month's respite for the riders ahead of the classic British GP at Silverstone.

Located in Hohenstein-Ernstthal in the Saxony region, the Sachsenring circuit is just 3.671 km long. This length makes it the shortest of the season, but along with Phillip Island (Australia), the most difficult for tyres. It is one of the slowest, but its 10 left and 3 right turns, as well as the fact that its longest straight does not exceed 700 metres, generates high stresses and little recovery time for the tyres. It also runs in an anticlockwise direction, which is a fairly rare occurrence during the season.

"The Sachsenring circuit requires a particular technical approach," says **Piero Taramasso**, manager of Michelin two-wheel competition. "The riders go all the way from turn 4 to turn 10 only to the left, which makes the downhill right-hand turn 11 a particularly critical point. Our tyres have been designed to respond to this type of situation and should provide performance and confidence to our partners at all times. In the race it will be important to keep the tyres within their optimum temperature window to stay at the front, and also for the right turns. Furthermore, even if summer is fast approaching, the last few weeks have shown us that weather disruptions are possible. We have been observing large track temperature variations here for several years, and last year we experienced several seasons in three days."



#### MOTORSPORT

"The fact that the race takes place at the beginning of July rather than mid-June, as in 2023, will perhaps allow for milder temperatures at the start of the day, and a less significant contrast with the intense heat generally experienced in the afternoon. For all these reasons, our partners will, as always, have three rubber compounds available (Soft, Medium and Hard) for the front, and will be able to take advantage of our Medium and Soft tyres for the rear. These versatile compounds should satisfy all rider requirements. However, as it only occurs three times in the season (also at Phillip Island and Valencia), both the front and rear tyres will be asymmetrical, with a reinforced left side. We know the Sachsenring track very well, and our 2024 compounds will be important allies for our partners, who will, as always, be keen to try to better the existing records."

In the event of rain, Michelin will have its MICHELIN Power Rain range available to its partners in Soft and Medium compounds for the front and rear, with the same profile as the MICHELIN Power Slick range.

Last year it was Jorge Martin (Ducati/Prima Pramac Racing) who won the Sprint race, ahead of Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati/Lenovo Team), and Jack Miller (Red Bull KTM Factory Team).

The Grand Prix saw another victory for Jorge Martin (Ducati/Prima Pramac Racing), again ahead of Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati/Lenovo Team), but with the other Ducati/Prima Pramac Racing machine of Johann Zarco in third place. The latter setting the best race lap time of 1min21.225 in the process.

During the Sprint, Marco Bezzechi (Ducati/Mooney VR46 Racing Team) pushed the maximum speed record to 305 km/h, compared to the 304.2 km/h set by Jorge Martin in 2022.

For the 2024 edition of the Liqui Moly Motorrad Grand Prix Deutschland, the ontrack action will begin on Friday 5 July, with a practice session in the morning, then a second session in the afternoon which will allow the 10 fastest riders to directly access the second qualifying phase (Q2), the next day. After the free practice session on Saturday morning, Q1 will allow two additional riders to move to Q2 with a view to determining the starting grid for the weekend. The 15-lap Sprint race will take place on Saturday at 3:00 p.m., and the 30-lap Grand Prix at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.



#### MOTORSPORT

## **11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> rounds of the FIM ENEL MotoE<sup>™</sup> World Championship**

Since the start of the season, records have been falling at each race, with the electric motorcycles developed by Ducati and their Michelin tyres regularly running faster than the Moto 3 machines. On the Sachsenring, the 18 riders from 9 teams should once again establish new benchmarks.

Focussed on protecting the environment, the motorcycles in the MotoE World Championship 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). A new look is also present in the design of the rear tyres, whose tread features ephemeral patterns with a velvet appearance which disappear during the first laps.

Michelin considers this championship a real innovation accelerator and wishes to apply all or part of the technologies tested in MotoE to its MotoGP tyres, and also to those of its production tyres in the coming years.

The entire MotoE program will take place between Friday (testing, qualifying) and Saturday, when two 11-lap races will take place before and after the MotoGP Sprint race.

### 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.

MICHELIN GROUP MEDIA RELATIONS +33 1 45 66 22 22 7 days a week

www.michelin.com