



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

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Lone Star Le Mans **The MICHELIN Pilot Sport Endurance range ready for the 2024 FIA WEC's highest 'energy-generating' round**

- Hot summer weather and storms are forecast for Texas fixture.
- Varying grip levels following partial resurfacing of the circuit to eliminate bumps.
- A high 'energy-generating' circuit due to its layout and elevation variation which put considerable heat into tyres.

Round 6 of the 2024 FIA World Endurance Championship (FIA WEC) visits Circuit of The Americas which returns to the calendar for the first time since the 2020 Lone Star Le Mans which took place in February.

This is the first time the Texan round has been given a summer slot. As a consequence, high air and track temperatures are to be expected over the weekend, while stormy weather can by no means be ruled out.

The 5.513-kilometre, 20-turn (9 right/11 left) track is notorious for its elevation variations and different asphalt granulometries which combine to make Circuit of The Americas the highest 'energy-generating' venue of the season for tyres.

*"Circuit of The Americas is notoriously hard on tyres as a rule, and the probability of hot or stormy weather at this time of the year is sure to make it tougher still," says **Pierre Alves**, manager of the Michelin Endurance programmes. "We're ready for the challenge, though, thanks to our medium and hard slicks, plus our Wet. Since our test at COTA in July, the track has been partially resurfaced to eliminate its many bumps. This fresh asphalt will certainly increase grip levels, so lap times will be much faster. And that, in turn, means tyres will face even higher thermal constraints. We consider it to be the highest energy-generating circuit of the 2024 FIA WEC calendar, with a first sector that begins with heavy braking for Turn 1 on a gradient of more than 10 percent over 200 metres. Next comes a sequence of nine fast corners followed by another very long straight and more hard braking. In contrast, the last sector is reasonably slow, including a triple right-hander where the 'mechanical grip provided by our tires will play a key role. The three free practice sessions will be essential to establish the operational windows and longevity of our two slick options and help the teams define their race strategies."*



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The Hypercar teams will be able to choose between two types of MICHELIN Pilot Sport Endurance slick:

- **Medium compound:** a particularly versatile tyre for dry conditions and track temperatures up to around 40°C.
- **Hard compound:** conceived for track temperatures in excess of 35°C, notably when the sun is at its highest.

At this time of year, there is also a real possibility of storms sweeping over the Texan circuit. In this case, Michelin's partners will be able to fit the MICHELIN Pilot Sport Endurance rain tyre which features a specifically conceived tread pattern. It contains 45 percent renewable or recycled raw materials and is designed to enable drivers to continue lapping whatever the conditions, from heavy rain to a drying racing line. It is an especially competitive choice in mixed weather, since it dovetails perfectly with the two available types of slick.

Action at Circuit of The Americas is scheduled to kick off with Free Practice 1 at 12:40pm local time on Friday, August 30, followed by a second session at 5:10pm. The next day's Free Practice 3 (11:00am) will be followed by Hypercar qualifying at 3:40pm) and the Hyperpole shoot-out at 4:00pm). Lights-out for the six-hour race itself will be at 1:00pm on Sunday, September 1.

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 AI-based connected solutions for professional fleets to recommending outstanding restaurants and hotels curated by the MICHELIN Guide (www.michelin.com).

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