



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Paris (France), September 4, 2024

## ***Gran Premio Red Bull di San Marino e della Riviera di Rimini*** **Michelin increases front tyre stiffness for the Misano** **World Circuit Marco Simoncelli**

- The 13th round of the 2024 MotoGP™ World Championship takes place this weekend at the Misano circuit (Italy), a venue well known, and appreciated, by Michelin Motorsport and the race teams.
- In order to meet the increasing performance of the bikes, Michelin has increased the hardness of the three front tyre rubber compounds. While for the rear, the 2023 specifications will be used.
- Grand finale of the FIM ENEL MotoE™ World Championship, with electric motorcycles equipped with Michelin tyres incorporating 53% sustainable materials at the rear, and 49% at the front. The 15th and 16th rounds will decide who will be the 2024 World Champion.

The Misano circuit, which was built in 1969, has hosted motorcycle races since 1972, which totals 52 years. A very rich history punctuated by a few breaks, notably when a modernisation program was undertaken in 1993. For its part, MotoGP has organised a Grand Prix at Misano every year since 2007, when the direction of the circuit was changed from anticlockwise to clockwise. The Misano World Circuit Marco Simoncelli is also the scene of a large number of private tests, which explains why Michelin and its partners know the layout so well.

The venue is also appreciated for its geographical location close to the sea, and for its pleasant, although potentially changeable weather, and not forgetting the fervor of the many fans during Grand Prix weekends. This in-depth knowledge of the circuit, as well as the analysis of data collected here over time, set Michelin engineers on the trail of a necessary evolution in terms of rubber compounds.

*"We had been thinking about making these changes since last year, and the data recorded since the start of the 2024 season convinced us to take the plunge and select harder rubber compounds for the front," says **Piero Taramasso**, Michelin's two-wheel racing manager. "The tyres we brought here last season were perfectly adapted, and we broke all the records. However, given the level of performance of the 2024 bikes and the number of times that they have recently been improved, we realise that our partners now have slightly different tyre needs, especially at the front. That's why we made this decision, in order to offer riders even more consistent performance, as well as better feel. Misano is a fairly flat, rather technical track, which is demanding on the tyres because it alternates between slow and fast corners."*



## MOTORSPORT

*"Some sectors, such as the hairpin at Tramonto, or Curvone which is a long very high speed right-hander, generate significant stress on the tyres. We know that the combination of harder rubber compounds at the front, along with a rear tyre compound that perfectly transmits the power to the track, will create the optimum tyre cocktail to perform well."*

For the Gran Premio Red Bull di San Marino e della Riviera di Rimini, Michelin Motorsport will provide its partners with three symmetrical front tyres (Soft, Medium and Hard). While at the rear, riders will be able to choose between Soft or Medium compounds. As in 2023, the latter will be asymmetric, with a reinforced right shoulder. This choice is intended to respond to the configuration of the circuit, which has ten right-hand turns and six left-handers, over a length of 4.226 km.

In case of rain, Michelin will offer its MICHELIN Power Rain range in Soft and Medium compounds for the front and rear, the latter also being reinforced on the right side like the MICHELIN Power slicks.

### **Records to beat**

Jorge Martin (Prima Pramac Racing) holds the all time circuit lap record of 1'30.390, set last year in qualifying.

The Spanish rider won the Sprint race that weekend, as well as the Grand Prix, reducing the race time to 41'33.421 in the process.

The race lap record of 1'30.791 also dates back to 2023, and was set by Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team).

These are all benchmarks that the riders will be keen to improve again this year!

The race weekend will begin on Friday morning, 6 September with a first practice session from 10:45 to 11:30. Then a second session, scheduled for the afternoon from 15:00 to 16:00, will allow the 10 fastest riders to directly access the second phase of qualifying (Q2). After a final free practice session on Saturday morning from 10:10 to 10:40, Q1 will allow two additional riders to progress to Q2 in order to determine, at the end of Q2, the starting grid for the weekend. The start of the Sprint race (13 laps) will be at 15:00 on Saturday, and the start of the Grand Prix (27 laps) is scheduled for Sunday 8 September at 14:00.



## MOTORSPORT

### **Grand finale of the FIM ENEL MotoE World Championship with the last two rounds of the season**

On the Misano circuit, the 18 riders (two per team) of the electric motorcycles developed by Ducati, and fitted with Michelin tyres, will do battle for the last time this season. This will be the 8th race weekend for this championship, which has witnessed constantly improving performance, and these two final rounds (15th and 16th) will determine the World Champion for the 2024 season.

Focused on environmental protection, 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 design of the rear tyre is also present, with tread that features ephemeral patterns with a velvet appearance, which fade away 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, as well as to its mass production tyres in the coming years

The entire MotoE program will take place between Friday (practices, qualifying), and Saturday, when the two 8-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 AI-based connected solutions for professional fleets to recommending outstanding restaurants and hotels curated by the MICHELIN Guide. ([www.michelin.com](http://www.michelin.com))



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