



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Spa-Francorchamps (Belgium), May 10, 2025

TotalEnergies 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps **A world-class show and consistently performing Michelin tires at the Belgian classic**

- The 3rd round of the FIA World Endurance Championship (FIA WEC), held at the Spa-Francorchamps circuit, showcased the versatility of Michelin tires.
- With over 50% of the asphalt resurfaced—particularly in the fastest corners—the Michelin tires helped Hypercar drivers achieve unprecedented lap times.
- The Medium compound, with its wide operating temperature window, was the star of the race, well supported by the Soft compound.

After the opening two rounds in Qatar in late February and Imola (Italy) in mid-April, the competitors in the FIA World Endurance Championship returned to a familiar venue: the Spa-Francorchamps circuit. This weekend in the Belgian Ardennes had all the right ingredients for an exceptional motorsport event: a large crowd of enthusiastic fans, dry and sunny weather, well-prepared teams, and Hypercar prototypes equipped with Michelin tires—a recipe for success.

Measuring 7.004 km and featuring 19 corners, the “Ardennes Rollercoaster” is constantly evolving. It was partially resurfaced in 2022 and modified to enhance safety. In June 2024, more than half the track received a new surface, with a finer-grained asphalt that’s less abrasive than the previous one. Offering more grip in the fastest corners, the lap times were significantly improved—thanks in part to Michelin’s Endurance tire range.

During the race, the high pace also reflected the consistent performance of the MICHELIN Pilot Sport Endurance Medium compound, the main choice of Michelin’s Hypercar partners. But the Soft compound also had its role: some teams used it throughout the race, further demonstrating the versatility of the French manufacturer’s endurance range.

*“We witnessed a fantastic race, with intense battles where the consistency of our tire performance was a key factor,” said **Pierre Alves**, Endurance Program Manager at Michelin Motorsport. “Our partners’ strong understanding of our tires allowed for well-managed strategies that kept fans on the edge of their seats until the finish. Once again, the versatility of our compounds made the difference, particularly with this new asphalt that presents greater thermal management challenges.”*



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"Additionally, we observed that the lower end of the performance window has expanded, with the Medium compound performing optimally from 15°C track temperatures, compared to 22–23°C in Imola, where the asphalt grain is coarser. At Spa-Francorchamps—with its 8 fast corners, slower sections, and long straights that cool the tires—it was crucial to choose the right compound and manage the warm-up phase to extend the performance peak. The spectacle we saw this Saturday bodes well for the rest of the championship, as all eyes now turn toward the 24 Hours of Le Mans."

The 2025 edition of the 6 Hours of Spa was won by the #51 Ferrari 499P (Ferrari AF Corse) driven by Alessandro Pier Guidi, James Calado, and Antonio Giovinazzi. The trio finished ahead of the sister car, the #50 Ferrari 499P driven by Nicklas Nielsen, Antonio Fuoco, and Miguel Molina. Third place went to the #36 Alpine A424 (Alpine Endurance Team) with Mick Schumacher, Frédéric Makowiecki, and Jules Gounon. All of these Hypercars, like every car in the category, were equipped with Michelin tires.

For the 2025 6 Hours of Spa, each Hypercar was allocated 12 tires for practice, and 18 for qualifying and the race. All teams used MICHELIN Pilot Sport Endurance tires in sizes 29/71-18 at the front and 34/71-18 at the rear (with a wider tread at the rear), whether slicks or rain tires—though the latter were not needed this year.

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport Soft and Medium compounds, specifically developed for the performance and endurance demands of the Hypercar category, were again easy to identify. The Soft tire featured white sidewalls, while the Medium compound had yellow sidewalls.

The next round of the FIA World Endurance Championship is the most anticipated of the year: the 24 Hours of Le Mans. The test day is scheduled for June 8, with the race taking place on June 15 and 16.

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.



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