



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Paris (France), September 3, 2025,

Lone Star Le Mans MICHELIN Pilot Sport Endurance tyres put to the test in the Texas heat on a chameleon circuit

- After the 6 Hours of São Paulo (Brazil), the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) remains on the other side of the Atlantic with a 6-hour race in Austin, Texas.
- The Circuit of The Americas was partially resurfaced last year, resulting in a chameleon-like track with changing grip levels.
- The elevation changes and layout of the circuit mean that tyres must withstand high stresses and significant temperature variations, regardless of the weather.

Returning to the Texan circuit in 2024 after a three-year absence, the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) has confirmed that its North American round will take place at the end of the summer (having been held in February in 2020). The heat of Texas (still very intense at this time of year) will therefore be a factor to consider, as will the wide temperature variations that the tyres will have to withstand on what is considered the most 'energetic' circuit of the season. The only hope for relief will be the violent thunderstorms that can occur at the end of the day, cooling the track surface slightly.

Opened in October 2012, the Circuit of The Americas is 5.513 km long and has 20 corners – 9 right and 11 left. Its undulating layout with significant elevation changes (approximately 41 metres between the lowest point and the top of the climb to turn 1), combined with a surface that combines several types of asphalt with varying grain sizes, makes it the most demanding circuit of the season for tyres.

*« After the summer break, the Circuit of the Americas will offer a tough challenge for all competitors in the Hypercar category » said **Pierre Alves**, Michelin Motorsport's Endurance Programme Manager. « The weather conditions will put the cars, drivers and tyres to the test. In 2024, the ground temperature exceeded 50°C, forcing competitors to exploit the full potential of our tyres, both the Medium and Hard compounds. We were pleased to see that the Medium was particularly competitive in these extreme conditions, positioning itself ideally in relation to the Hard. The partial resurfacing of the circuit, carried out just before the 2024 race, also allowed both tyre types to show minimal degradation, particularly in terms of lap times. »*



MOTORSPORT

For the 2025 edition of the Lone Star Le Mans race, competitors in the Hypercar category will benefit from MICHELIN Pilot Sport Endurance tyres with two distinct types of slick compounds:

- **Medium:** a highly versatile compound for dry tracks.
- **Hard:** a specific compound for the highest ground temperatures, expected particularly during the hottest part of the day.

In wet conditions, Michelin's partners will be able to count on specific tyres with a tread pattern designed for rain. Made from 45% renewable and recycled materials, they guarantee optimum grip regardless of the intensity of the rainfall, even when the track starts to dry out. Their performance level enables competitive lap times in changing conditions, while ensuring a smooth transition to slick tyres.

For the entire race weekend, each Michelin partner will have 30 tyres at their disposal: 12 for practice and 18 for qualifying and the race.

The 10 cars that qualify for the Hyperpole will receive four additional tyres, which will then be recovered by Michelin for reuse in private testing.

The programme includes two practice sessions on Friday 5 September, followed by a third on Saturday morning before qualifying. The 6-hour race will start at 1pm on Sunday 7 September.

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.

Headquartered in Clermont-Ferrand, France, Michelin is present in 175 countries and employs 129,800 people.



MOTORSPORT

MICHELIN GROUP MEDIA RELATIONS

+33 1 45 66 22 22

7 days a week

www.michelin.com