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Tissot Grand Prix of The Netherlands
Michelin has prepared a unique tire package for one of the most demanding circuits of the season

- The FIM MotoGP™ World Championship heads to northern Germany for Round 11 of the season at the highly anticipated Sachsenring circuit.
- Michelin will supply dedicated tire specifications for this unique venue, which features ten left-hand corners but only three right-handers. The tread design has been adapted to the layout to ensure consistent performance over race distance.
- It is a relentless challenge for the tires, which are under constant stress with only a short 700-metre straight to recover. Weather conditions will also play a decisive role.

A fixture located in Hohenstein-Ernstthal, in the German state of Saxony, the Sachsenring is the shortest circuit on the MotoGP calendar, measuring just 3.671 km. It is also one of the slowest, featuring 13 corners, ten of which are left-handers. Its dramatic elevation changes create a spectacular challenge for the riders, while placing intense and almost continuous demands on the tires. Throughout the lap, the tires are constantly under load, with only a brief 700-metre straight offering any opportunity to cool down.

In defining the most suitable tire package, Michelin Motorsport's engineers also took into account two key characteristics specific to the Sachsenring, which has hosted MotoGP every year since 1998. As the circuit sees relatively little use during the year, the surface gradually gains grip as rubber is laid down by the bikes during Friday morning's practice sessions. In addition, weather conditions at this time of year are often highly unpredictable, leading to significant temperature fluctuations. In 2025, Friday's warm and dry conditions provided ideal circumstances for machine development and resulted in a new all-time lap record. Saturday, however, was dominated by heavy rain, allowing Michelin to showcase the performance of its MICHELIN Power Rain range before dry weather returned for Sunday's Grand Prix.

Piero Taramasso, Michelin Motorsport Two-Wheel Competition Manager:

"The Sachsenring is undoubtedly one of the most demanding circuits of the season from a tire perspective. Beyond the fact that the riders race in an anti-clockwise direction, it is above all the layout itself that makes this track such a challenge.

Between Turns 4 and 10, the bikes negotiate nothing but left-hand corners. As a result, the right-hand side of the tire has time to cool before entering Turn 11, a long downhill right-hander that suddenly places heavy loads on the tire. It is an extremely delicate section where only tires specifically developed for this type of challenge can deliver the required level of performance. Thanks to the experience we have built up at this circuit, we have selected a tire package that is perfectly suited to its demands. These are exactly the situations where riders need maximum confidence, and we will be there to provide them with the right tire at the right moment."

For the Liqui Moly Grand Prix of Germany, Michelin will supply its partners with three asymmetric MICHELIN Power Slick front tire specifications (Soft, Medium and Hard) and two asymmetric rear specifications (Soft and Medium). This allocation has been designed to cover the full range of track conditions and temperature variations expected throughout the weekend.

Should wet weather arrive, the MICHELIN Power Rain range will be available in Soft and Medium compounds for both the front and rear, using the same casing construction.

It is extremely unusual for both the front and rear tires to feature asymmetric designs. This occurs only four times during the season (at Goiânia in Brazil, Phillip Island in Australia, Sachsenring in Germany and Valencia in Spain), out of a total of 22 Grand Prix weekends. However, given the exceptional demands of the Sachsenring and its corner distribution, reinforcing the right-hand side of both front and rear tires was essential. The right shoulder of each tire also features a softer compound, ensuring consistent performance during the particularly demanding direction changes.

Timing references

The all-time lap record was improved in 2025 and is currently held by Fabio Di Giannantonio (Pertamina Enduro VR46 Racing Team), who set a time of 1'19.071.

All the other benchmark times date back to earlier editions, as heavy rain disrupted Saturday's action during the 2025 Grand Prix.

Jorge Martin holds the race lap record, established in 2024, with a time of 1'20.667.

The fastest Grand Prix race time stands at 40'00.063, also set in 2024.

Pedro Acosta remains the fastest rider ever recorded through the speed trap at the Sachsenring, reaching 306.8 km/h in 2024.

Weekend schedule

The 2026 Liqui Moly Grand Prix of Germany gets underway on Friday 10 July, with a morning Free Practice session followed by an afternoon Practice session, during which the ten fastest riders will secure direct qualification for Q2 on Saturday.

Following Saturday morning's Free Practice 2, Q1 will offer two additional riders the opportunity to progress to Q2, where the final starting grid for the weekend will be decided.

The Tissot Sprint (15 laps) will start at 15:00 on Saturday, while the Grand Prix (30 laps) is scheduled for 14:00 on Sunday.

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 122,600 people.



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