Monza (Italy), November 8, 2026

6 Hours of Monza
Michelin Pilot Sport Endurance Soft Tires Shine at Monza with Outstanding Consistency and Longevity

- The final round of the 2026 FIA World Endurance Championship (FIA WEC) took place at Monza in cool weather conditions, with track temperatures remaining close to 20°C throughout the race. The Michelin Pilot Sport Endurance Soft tires were the unanimous choice of all Hypercar teams for the entire event.
- Michelin tires enabled every team to complete double stints, with some extending their tire usage to three stints. The No. 20 BMW M Hybrid V8 notably completed 116 laps, covering 672 kilometers, on the same right-side tires.
- Following a closely fought race that went down to the final moments, the No. 38 Cadillac V-Series.R driven by Sébastien Bourdais, Earl Bamber and Jack Aitken claimed victory ahead of the No. 36 Alpine A424 and the No. 51 Ferrari 499P. The season finale highlighted the consistent performance of the new Michelin Pilot Sport Endurance range, which incorporates 50% renewable and recycled materials.

The 2026 FIA World Endurance Championship (FIA WEC) season came to a close on Sunday, November 8, at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza in Italy. Returning to this iconic circuit for the first time since July 2023, competitors faced significantly different conditions from those encountered during their previous visit. Cool autumn temperatures and a cold, occasionally damp track presented the main challenges of this final round of the season.

Friday's and Saturday's free practice sessions took place in changing conditions, with several rain showers allowing teams to evaluate the different tire specifications in the Michelin Pilot Sport Endurance range. On Saturday afternoon, improving conditions enabled competitors to switch to slick tires for qualifying and Hyperpole. Antonio Fuoco, driving the No. 50 Ferrari 499P, secured the final pole position of the season with a lap time of 1:33.364, confirming the exceptionally high level of performance achieved by the Hypercars on Monza's new asphalt.

On Sunday morning, the 6 Hours of Monza got underway at 11:00 a.m. under overcast skies but without rain. Despite some residual moisture, the track was dry enough for every Hypercar team to start the race on Michelin Pilot Sport Endurance Soft tires.

The sun gradually broke through the clouds in the early afternoon, although this did not lead to any significant increase in track temperature, which remained close to 20°C.

Under these conditions, the Soft compound quickly established itself as the benchmark. In addition to delivering excellent grip on the cold track, it demonstrated remarkable consistency throughout each stint. So much so that no team saw any reason to switch to the Medium compound, which was also available for the season finale.

All Hypercars completed double stints on their tires, while several teams extended their strategies to three stints. The winning No. 38 Cadillac V-Series.R and its closest rival, the No. 36 Alpine A424, took full advantage of this longevity to engage in an exceptionally close battle during the closing stages of the race, maintaining highly competitive lap times despite the considerable distances already covered by their tires.

The No. 20 BMW M Hybrid V8 delivered a particularly impressive performance, completing up to 116 laps on the same right-side tires. On Monza's 5.793-kilometer circuit, this represents nearly 672 kilometers, a remarkable distance for tires subjected to the hard acceleration, heavy braking and extremely high speeds that characterize this track.

The consistency of Michelin's performance was also demonstrated by Sébastien Bourdais in the winning No. 38 Cadillac, who set his fastest lap on the 50th lap with the same set of tires. This provided further evidence of the Michelin Pilot Sport Endurance Soft's ability to maintain its performance over extended distances.

Pierre Alves, Endurance Racing Program Manager, Michelin Motorsport

"This season finale at Monza was particularly interesting from a technical standpoint. We had anticipated cool conditions, but track temperatures remained close to 20°C throughout the race. In this environment, the Soft compound delivered exactly what we expected, both in terms of grip and consistency. Every team was able to complete double stints, while some extended their tire usage to three stints without any significant loss of performance. The 116 laps, representing nearly 672 kilometers, completed by the No. 20 BMW on the same right-side tires perfectly illustrate the potential of our new range. We also witnessed a fantastic battle in the closing stages, with cars maintaining a very strong pace on tires that had already covered considerable distances.

"This is a great way to conclude the first season of our new Michelin Pilot Sport Endurance tires, which incorporate 50% renewable and recycled materials without compromising performance or longevity. Finally, I would like to congratulate the new 2026 FIA World Endurance Drivers' Champions: Sébastien Buemi, Brendon Hartley and Ryō Hirakawa, the driver lineup of the No. 8 Toyota TR010 Hybrid."

After six hours of racing, the No. 38 Cadillac V-Series.R of Cadillac Hertz Team JOTA emerged victorious ahead of the No. 36 Alpine A424 of Alpine Endurance Team and the No. 51 Ferrari 499P of Ferrari AF Corse.

This final round provided Michelin with another opportunity to demonstrate the qualities of its Michelin Pilot Sport Endurance range and bring the 2026 season to a successful conclusion. Introduced this year, this new generation of tires combines performance, consistency and longevity with a high proportion of renewable and recycled materials, reaffirming the role of motorsport as an accelerator of technological innovation.

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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