Portimão (Portugal), November 22, 2026

Repsol Grand Prix of Portugal
Michelin Power Slick tyre ranges accompany Marc Márquez to his 10th World Championship title

- On Sunday, Marc Márquez (Ducati Lenovo Team) became World Champion for the 10th time in his career, securing his sixth title with Michelin and becoming the most successful MotoGP™ racer in history with the French tyre manufacturer.
- Aware of the seasonal weather challenges associated with the Portimão region, Michelin's teams had prepared a tyre allocation suited to the expected conditions, including the possibility of rain. Every tyre option was used on track, providing Michelin's partners with additional confidence.
- Despite highly changeable weather conditions, Marco Bezzecchi (Aprilia Racing) broke the all-time lap record, claiming pole position with a time of 1'37.201 on a track that was still damp in places. The previous record had stood since 2023.

As the 2026 FIM MotoGP World Championship approaches its conclusion, the series has just experienced a highly emotional weekend in the Algarve region of southwestern Portugal. Located near Portimão, the Autódromo Internacional do Algarve witnessed new records and, above all, Marc Márquez (Ducati Lenovo Team) securing his 10th World Championship title. The Spanish champion claimed his eighth MotoGP crown and his sixth with Michelin, making him the most successful motorcycle racer in history with the French tyre manufacturer.

Measuring 4.592 kilometres in its MotoGP configuration, the Portimão circuit features 15 corners, nine right-handers and six left-handers. Its pronounced elevation changes place considerable demands on tyres. Adding to the challenge are the influence of the Atlantic climate, humidity, wind and temperature fluctuations, all of which played a significant role throughout this intense weekend.

During practice, qualifying and the Tissot Sprint, track temperatures were up to 10°C lower than those recorded in 2025. Following light rain that prompted riders to use Michelin Power Rain tyres during Saturday morning's practice session, the racing line gradually dried. Marco Bezzecchi subsequently secured pole position with a lap of 1'37.201, breaking the previous record set by Marc Márquez in 2023.

Achieved in particularly challenging conditions, this performance demonstrates how the stability and versatility of Michelin tyres give riders the confidence to push their limits, even when faced with difficult track conditions.

Piero Taramasso, Michelin Two-Wheel Competition Manager:

"What happened this weekend was truly exceptional. First, because we witnessed Marc Márquez claim his 10th World Championship title, and I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to him. Second, because our tyres delivered outstanding performance from the first corner to the last, despite constantly changing conditions.

On Friday, during practice, we were already approaching the benchmark lap times, even though the track had not yet fully rubbered in. Then, on Saturday, our partners switched from rain tyres to Soft slicks, and the records began to fall. First came the all-time lap record, followed by the Tissot Sprint race-duration record, even as raindrops were falling onto the track.

Sunday was naturally a historic moment for the championship, with a highly charged Grand Prix in which our tyres continued to deliver consistent, top-level performance. All of this confirms that our tyre allocation was particularly well suited to the conditions, even though the race took place two weeks later in the season than last year.

In just a few days, we will be in Valencia for Michelin's final MotoGP Grand Prix, bringing to a close 11 seasons of competition at the highest level. We haven't even left Portugal yet, but emotions are already running high throughout the team."

For the Repsol Grand Prix of Portugal, Michelin's partners had two front tyre options available, featuring Soft and Medium compounds, both with symmetrical tread designs. The Medium corresponded to the Hard compound used in 2025. This tyre was the preferred choice for most riders in both the Tissot Sprint and the Grand Prix.

At the rear, the Soft and Medium compounds were unchanged from 2025. The Soft tyre, featuring an asymmetrical tread design with a reinforced right shoulder incorporating a harder rubber compound to cope with the circuit's greater number of right-hand corners, was selected by every rider for Saturday's Tissot Sprint. The Medium rear tyre, featuring a symmetrical tread design, was the unanimous choice for Sunday's Grand Prix.

On Saturday afternoon, Marco Bezzecchi (Aprilia Racing) won the Tissot Sprint using a Soft front and rear tyre combination, ahead of Raúl Fernández (SuperFile Trackhouse MotoGP Team) and Álex Márquez (BK8 Gresini Racing MotoGP), both of whom had opted for the same combination.

On Sunday, Marco Bezzecchi (Aprilia Racing) also claimed victory in the Grand Prix, finishing ahead of his teammate Jorge Martín and Raúl Fernández (SuperFile Trackhouse MotoGP Team). Every rider on the grid had selected Medium compounds for both the front and rear tyres.

The next and final round of the 2026 FIM MotoGP World Championship will take place in Valencia, Spain. The Motul Grand Prix of Valencia will be held from November 27 to 29 at the Circuit Ricardo Tormo in Cheste.

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.

Follow all our news on

@Michelin

MICHELIN GROUP MEDIA RELATIONS

112, avenue Kléber - 75116 Paris +33 (0) 1 45 66 22 22 | 7 days a week www.michelin.com @Michelin