



2014 FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC)
6 Hours of Bahrain

Michelin's tyres for the 2014 6 Hours of Bahrain

The challenge for tyres at Sakhir International Circuit

The tyres that Michelin has taken to the Sakhir International Circuit for the 6 Hours of Bahrain face a challenging cocktail of ground temperatures of up to 40°C and a treacherous coating of sand on the surface of the technically-demanding 5.412km track.

Like many of today's modern circuits, Bahrain's showpiece was designed in 2002 by Hermann Tilke who also penned the layouts at Sepang, Malaysia, and Shanghai, China. The philosophy favoured by the German architect places the emphasis on a combination of short straights and slow turns, which means that Sakhir features a high number of heavy braking zones and frequent hard acceleration which are always a punishing test of tyres.

Surface conditions tend to evolve considerably as the layer of sand deposited by the desert breeze before the start is gradually cleared as more and more rubber is laid on the ground. The teams are consequently likely to run hard compound tyres for the early part of the race before switching to softer alternatives during the evening. The result could consequently depend on responsive tyre strategies by ensuring that the teams' respective cars are equipped with the ideal solution at the right time.

MICHELIN tyres for the 2014 6 Hours of Bahrain (2,400 tyres)

LM P1 (front and rear: 31/71-18)

- Slicks: choice between 'soft high temperature' and 'medium high temperature' compounds
- MICHELIN Hybrid (damp and drying conditions)
- Wet and Full Wet

LM P2 (front slicks: 30/65-18 / front wets: 29/65-18 / rear: 31/71-18)

- Slicks: choice between 'medium' and 'medium plus' compounds
- Wet weather tyres: choice between 'drying track' tyres and Full Wets

LM GTE Pro (front: 30/68-18 / rear: 31/71-18)

- Slicks: choice between medium and hard compounds (Porsche Team Manthey: choice between medium and 'medium high temperature' compounds)
- Wet weather tyres: choice between 'drying track' tyres and Full Wets

LM GTE AM (front: 30/68-18 / rear: 31/71-18)

- Slicks... Ferrari and Aston Martin: choice between medium and hard compounds / Porsche: choice between medium and 'high temperature medium' compounds
- Wet weather tyres: choice between 'drying track' tyres and Full Wets