



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Boulogne-Billancourt, France (July 29, 2022)

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV: control in wet and dry conditions, both indoors and out

- The ABB FIA Formula E World Championship to pay its second visit to the ExCeL London exhibition and convention centre in two years
- Driver confidence and efficient performance despite a modest allocation of just 12 MICHELIN Pilot Sport EVs for the two e-prix in the United Kingdom's capital
- More than a quarter of the unique Thames-side ExCel Circuit is indoors

With the 2021/2022 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship fast approaching the mid-August double-header finale in Seoul, South Korea, London's two London races could well have a major influence on the outcome of both title chases.

Formula E's history is closely intertwined with the British city, since the first two campaigns (2014/2015, 2015/2016) included races in its 83-hectare Battersea Park. The 2020/2021 calendar then took in the sprawling ExCeL London exhibition and convention centre on the banks of the River Thames in Newham, at the former Royal Victoria Dock. Inaugurated in 2000, the complex hosted Olympic boxing, table tennis and weightlifting in 2012, while last summer saw it serve as a backdrop to motor racing for the very first time. On the back of that successful debut, it was chosen to stage two E-Prix this season, on July 30 and 31.

Around a quarter – some 600 metres – of the 2.14-kilometre, 22-turn lap is under cover, resulting in changing grip levels as the cars move onto and off the interior's highly abrasive resin floor. Last season, the situation was further complicated by rain, meaning the outside portion was wet and the inside dry. The cars therefore needed a tyre that was capable of taking both situations in its stride, something only Michelin's Formula E tyre was capable of delivering!

"This championship really is unique," says **Mirko Pirracchio**, the manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "It's the only racing series that features races at such radically different venues. Since 2014, we have come across the whole gambit of conditions and hazards associated with street circuits and have had to deal with hugely contrasting weathers as we have travelled from country to country and from continent to continent. Yet we've successfully covered all these different challenges with a single tyre. The circuit in London was designed from scratch last year and included a resin interior floor, which led to different grip levels and high wear-rates that we only discovered when we arrived. This time around, after analysing all the data we collected in 2021, we know what to expect. The temperature is likely to be around the 30°C mark if the sun shines but there is always a chance that rain might spring a few surprises."



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“That said, we have every confidence in the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV’s qualities this weekend because ExCel Circuit’s specific characteristics are now known territory for us.”

For the two London E-Prix, the tyre allocation per car is just six fronts and six rears, the same as it was for New York a fortnight ago. This moderate allowance testifies to the careful attention that is being paid to sustainability by the racing programmes that Michelin is involved in. Taking fewer tyres to races equates to raw material and energy savings, as well as simpler logistics and fewer tyres to recycle, all benefits that help to make motorsport more and more responsible.

The technologically-sophisticated MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV is the first-ever connected tyre to be used in world-class motor racing. It is equipped with a sensor which relays pressure-related information to Michelin Motorsport, Race Control and the FIA in real time with a view to optimising performance and ensuring that the regulations are adhered to. Outside of motorsport, this technology is employed to provide ordinary motorists with enhanced safety and peace of mind, while connected tyres are an integral part of the Smart City projects the planet’s biggest cities are working on.

Michelin’s ambition is to improve the mobility of its customers over the long-term. As a leader in the mobility domain, Michelin designs, manufactures and distributes tyres best-suited to customers’ needs and uses, as well as services and solutions to enhance vehicle efficiency. Michelin also offers its customers ways to enjoy unique experiences during their journeys and when travelling. In addition, Michelin develops high-tech materials for many sectors of activity. Based in Clermont-Ferrand, Michelin has offices in 177 countries, employs 124,760 people and operates 68 tyre factories which together produced around 173 million tyres in 2021 (www.michelin.com).

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