23rd May 2014

**Spectacular Motorsports weekend for YOKOHAMA**

Japanese Tyre manufacturer YOKOHAMA continues its intense activity at the top level of professional motorsports and this weekend will see additional excitement in the international scene.

In Austria, at the well known Salzburgring the FIA World Touring Car Championship, with YOKOHAMA as exclusive tyre supplier, will take place with the strong Citroen racing team of Muller, Loeb and Lopez, battling it out to see who prevails in the beautiful yet complex circuit. With the Argentinian “Pechito” Lopez currently leading the trio, and taking advantage of good points obtained at the last race held in Slovakia, there is everything to go for with only a third of the Championship held so far. Rally legend Sebastien Loeb, now turned into a Touring car dynamo, also managed a spectacular overtaking manoeuvre at Slovakiaring from the start which enabled him to lead the race just ahead from Lopez who was on pole to become the eventual winner after the extremely heavy downpour and adverse weather conditions forced the organization to call a red flag ending the race. Slovakiaring 2014 will certainly go down in the history of the Championship as the unusual race that dampened the spirits of many - fans and drivers, who were unable to enjoy and compete the second race. This was the first time since the Championship was restarted in 2005 that a race has been cancelled due to extremely bad weather.

With all eyes set in Austria, it will not only be the three leading contenders of the Championship who have high hopes. Tiago Monteiro currently on 4th place and his team mate, Veteran Italian star Gabrielle Tarquini currently 5th, also have the necessary experience and skill which combined with the Honda team effort, are really working hard to catch up with the French manufacturer’s racing team. With such a technical and narrow circuit as Salzburgring, and a weather report signalling better weather conditions, the excitement is growing by the hour and the social networks are already buzzing with opinion on whether there are additional challengers to the Championship this year. Sunday will tell.

Not far from Austria another YOKOHAMA supported vibrant racing event, the ADAC GT Masters will also take place at the Lausitzring in Dresden, Germany.

World rally champion Ogier and ex-F1 driver Alguersuari will be making their ADAC GT Masters debut and will be trying to match or improve the likely good performances from Frentzen and Winkelhock among the other 50 super car drivers in grid. The guest appearance at the Lausitzring for Volkswagen works driver Ogier, will spice up the competition although he will be back contesting another world rally championship round in Italy at the wheel of his Volkswagen Polo R WRC in just ten days' time. For his part Alguersuari aims to compete in all twelve remaining ADAC GT Masters races in the 550bhp Mercedes gullwing.

ADAC GT Masters schedule, 2014 remaining races;

23/05 - 25/05/14 Lausitzring

06/06 - 08/06/14 Red Bull Ring (A)

08/08 - 10/08/14 Slovakia Ring (SVK)

29/08 - 31/08/14 Nürburgring

19/09 - 21/09/14 Sachsenring

03/10 - 05/10/14 Hockenheimring Baden-Württemberg