**FIA WTCC China races attract crowds**

13th October 2014

The last two race weekends in China have proved once again the excitement that the FIA World Touring Car Championship has to offer and certainly pulling the crowds of spectators.

With surprise wins from Tom Chilton in Race 1 in Beijing and Rob Huff achieving the first ever win in WTCC for Russian manufacturer Lada in Race 2, the Manufacturers’ Championship had to wait until this past weekend for Citroen to celebrate in Shanghai.

Citroen’s Team efforts have now been rewarded with the brilliant result which will only be further strengthened by the individual titles that are still at stake with the “Drivers Championship” and with Citroen drivers already well placed and offering firm guarantees of success and possibly a 1, 2, 3 - Honda’s Thiago Monteiro permitting.

The past weekend witnessed a clear win in Race 1 for the Argentine, Jose Maria “Pechito” Lopez in Shanghai which now positions him as the runaway leader of the Championship with a 93 point lead from current Champion Yvan Muller who was very unfortunate on the second race and was forced to retire from damage to his car following an incident with his other Citroen team mate, Sebastien Loeb.

Homeboy Ma Qing Hua, managed a meritorious 2nd place following closely from Lopez.

For his part the Moroccan driver Mehdi Bennani made his own history by winning his first ever overall race at WTCC ahead of Thiago Monteiro in race 2.

The current standings with the Japan race at Suzuka and Macau street circuit still pending are as follows:

1. Pechito Lopez - 384 pts
2. Yvan Muller – 291 pts
3. Sebastien Loeb – 251 pts
4. Thiago Monteiro – 170 pts