1st July 2013

**YOKOHAMA Motorsports weekend WTCC Porto**

With the last European races of the FIA World Touring Car Championships held over the weekend in the sun kissed beautiful city of Porto, in Portugal the competition continues to excite the many fans.

In the very technical and narrow street circuit at Porto, the crowds turned up in their thousands to witness another driving exhibition by Yvan Muller who is stronger and stronger with each race and now leads the Championship with a 122 point advantage over the second qualified Michel Nykjaer after his victory – the fifth of the season - in Race 1. Muller had qualified in pole position and was never going to be troubled in his finely tuned Chevrolet Cruze. He also highlighted the heat during the weekend which meant the temperature inside the car was around 50-60 degrees and it required a lot of concentration and focus to win the race.

His team mate Tom Chilton also managed a meritorious second place gaining valuable points for his Championship challenge by managing to ward off Nykjaer’s constant attacks.

Race 2 turned out to be a very British affair with James Nash managing to keep a lights to flag victory despite a very good effort from current World Champion Rob Huff who finished second and only narrowly managed to fend off several attempts from the Dane Nykjaer who pushed Huff throughout the race. From the third lap Huff had been experiencing trouble with his brakes and to him the second place was a “great result” considering he could have been “out at any time.“

Nykjaer’s two third places at the weekend make him the overall second in the current Championship and leading the YOKOHAMA Trophy and signs of his determination are evident at every race. During the whole weekend Nykjaer also paid tribute to Allan Simonsen who tragically passed away recently in a racing accident at Le Mans.

Meanwhile Miss YOKOHAMA (Switzerland) Debora Cordeiro was also present at Porto supporting the racing and the Japanese Tyre manufacturer’s promotional activities during the weekend.

The World Touring Car Championship will now cross the Atlantic for the first non-European races of the season which will take place in Argentina on the 3rd & 4th August 2013.