

Press Release

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Pressure is on Polestar Cyan Racing in vital WTCC weekend at Monza

The pressure is on Polestar Cyan Racing ahead of the second FIA World Touring Car Championship (WTCC) round at the legendary Monza circuit in Italy this weekend, following a strong season opener in Morocco three weeks ago.

"Monza is the very opposite to the tight track in Morocco and should suit us a lot better with its high-speed layout. If Morocco was an away game where we escaped with a draw, Monza is the return home game; we must succeed it if we are to become World Champions. The pressure is on us now," said Alexander Murdzevski Schedvin, Head of Motorsport at Polestar.

The season opener in Marrakech saw Polestar Cyan Racing sending a clear message of strength to its main competitors by claiming a MAC3 victory, two podium finishes and a joint manufacturers' championship lead with Honda, despite the circuit being one of the toughest of the calendar for the team.

"We started the season on the level needed for a title assault. We won the MAC3 and got a bit of winner's feeling in the team – that is important for everyone. We need to be ahead of Honda at Monza and let's not forget the Citroëns. They are really strong here as well. This track should suit us better than Marrakech and Hungaroring for example and we need to deliver where we are strong. My dream scenario this weekend is a 1-2-3 in the main race," said Thed Björk.

Nicky Catsburg made a strong debut for the team, claiming the most points of the drivers in the team and is currently placed third in the drivers' championship, 15 points from championship leader Tiago Monteiro.

"I kept my expectations quite low ahead of the season but knew that if we could do well in Marrakech, we can do well everywhere. And I was so pleased with the results after the season opener. Now I have quite high expectations for Monza. You have to change your mindset now that you know that we have a car with the potential to claim the World Title. I think we can fight for victories at Monza and that is the plan," said Nicky Catsburg.

The super-fast Monza circuit was constructed in 1922 as the third purpose-built racing circuit in the world, with legendary drivers like Juan Manuel Fangio, Ronnie Peterson and Ayrton Senna claiming victories there, as well as the inaugural WTCC race being held at the circuit in 1987.

"It is an honor for me to race at Monza, a circuit with so much history and it's definitely one of the best in the world. It is also an unforgiving track as you have 74% full throttle around a lap, so a small mistake costs a lot of lost time. My goal for the weekend is to be in the top three of qualifying and fight for the victory in race one and two," said Néstor Girolami.

Follow the team during the Monza weekend with live timing, live commentary and more on our new WTCC site: <http://wtcc.polestar.com>

WTCC Race of Italy

Circuit: Autodromo Nazionale Monza

Length: 5793 m

Lap record (WTCC): 1:59.000 (Huff)

Schedule

(Times in CET)

Saturday 29/4

09:00 Free Practice 1 (45 min)

12:00 Free Practice 2 (45 min)

14:15 Qualifying

15:25 MAC3

Sunday 30/4

12:15 Race 1 (9 laps)

14:15 Race 2 (11 laps)

Championship Standings

Drivers' – Top 5

1 Tiago Monteiro Honda Civic 43 pts

2 Norbert Michelisz Honda Civic 36 (-7)

3 Nicky Catsburg Volvo S60 28 (-15)

4 Mehdi Bennani Citroën C-Elysée 26 (-17)

5 Néstor Girolami Volvo S60 25 (-18)

5 Thed Björk Volvo S60 25 (-18)

Manufacturers'

1 Volvo 96 pts

1 Honda 96 (-0)

TV Schedule

<https://www.fiawtcc.com/watch-it-on-tv/>

<http://www.eurosportplayer.com>

2017 FIA World Touring Car Championship Entry List

No – Driver – Team – Car

3 – Tom Chilton – GBR – Sébastien Loeb Racing – Citroën C-Elysée WTCC

5 – Norbert Michelisz – HUN – Honda Racing Team JAS – Honda Civic WTCC

8 – Aurélien Panis – FRA – Zengő Motorsport – Honda Civic WTCC

9 – Tom Coronel – NED – ROAL Motorsport – Chevrolet RML Cruze TC1

12 – Rob Huff – GBR – Münnich Motorsport – Citroën C-Elysée WTCC

18 – Tiago Monteiro – POR – Honda Racing Team JAS – Honda Civic WTCC

25 – Mehdi Bennani – MOR – Sébastien Loeb Racing – Citroën C-Elysée WTCC

27 – John Filippi – FRA – Sébastien Loeb Racing – Citroën C-Elysée WTCC

34 – Ryo Michigami – Honda Racing Team JAS – Honda Civic WTCC

61 – Néstor Girolami – ARG – Polestar Cyan Racing – Volvo S60 TC1

62 – Thed Björk – SWE – Polestar Cyan Racing – Volvo S60 TC1

63 – Nicky Catsburg – NED – Polestar Cyan Racing – Volvo S60 TC1

68 – Yann Ehrlacher – FRA – RC Motorsport – Lada Vesta WTCC

86 – Esteban Guerrieri – ARG – Campos Racing – Chevrolet RML Cruze TC1

99 – Daniel Nagy – HUN – Zengő Motorsport – Honda Civic WTCC

TBC – Kevin Gleason – USA – RC Motorsport – Lada Vesta WTCC

FIA World Touring Car Championship 2017 Calendar

WTCC Race of Morocco (Marrakech): 7-9 April S

WTCC Race of Italy (Monza): 28-30 April

WTCC Race of Hungary (Hungaroring): 12-14 May

WTCC Race of Germany (Nürburgring Nordschleife): 25-27 May

WTCC Race of Portugal (Vila Real): 23-25 June S

WTCC Race of Argentina (Termas de Río Hondo): 15-16 July

WTCC Race of China (Shanghai Ningbo Circuit): 13-15 October

WTCC Race of Japan (Twin Ring Motegi): 27-29 October

WTCC Race of Macau (Circuit de Guia): 17-19 November S

WTCC Race of Qatar (Losail International Circuit): 30 November-1 December N

S = *Street race*

N = *Night Race*

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About Polestar

Polestar is the performance brand of Volvo Cars. The company was founded as a motorsport team in 1996 and has been successful in numerous championships, racing with various Volvo models. In 2009, Polestar started to offer performance related products and thereby intensified the business relations with Volvo Cars. The first performance cars, based on Volvo's S60 and V60, were launched in 2014.

In 2015, Volvo Cars acquired the performance unit of Polestar, as a strong commitment towards a credible performance offer and with the mission to define future premium performance.

About Cyan Racing

Cyan Racing is the motorsport partner to Polestar was founded as a motorsport team in 1996 and has been successful in numerous championships. The company is owned by Christian Dahl and handles all motorsport operations of Polestar. Cyan Racing, formerly named Polestar Racing, has claimed seven STCC drivers' titles and eight STCC teams' titles with the Volvo 850, S40, C30 and S60.

Volvo Car Group in 2016

Voor het boekjaar 2016 liet Volvo Car Group (Volvo Cars) een bedrijfswinst optekenen van 11 miljard SEK (EUR 1,2 miljard), tegenover 6,6 miljard SEK (EUR 697 miljoen) in 2015. De omzet voor dit boekjaar bedroeg 180,7 miljard SEK (EUR 19,1 miljard), tegenover 164,0 miljard SEK (EUR 17,3 miljard) in 2015. In 2016 verkocht Volvo Car Group wereldwijd 534.332 auto's, ofwel 6,2% meer dan in 2015. Deze recordcijfers qua omzet en bedrijfswinst betekenen dat Volvo Car Group kan blijven investeren in het wereldwijde transformatieplan.

Over Volvo Car Group

Volvo is actief sinds 1927. Vandaag is Volvo Cars een van de bekendste en meest gerespecteerde automerken ter wereld. In 2016 werden 534.332 Volvo's verkocht in ongeveer 100 landen. Sinds 2010 is Volvo Cars eigendom van Zhejiang Geely Holding (Geely Holding) uit China. Het bedrijf maakte deel uit van de Zweeds Volvo Group tot 1999, wanneer het werd gekocht door het Amerikaanse Ford Motor Company. In 2010 werd Volvo Cars uiteindelijk overgenomen door Geely Holding.

In december 2016 stelde Volvo Cars wereldwijd meer dan 31.000 medewerkers tewerk. De hoofdzetel, productontwikkeling, marketing en administratie van Volvo Cars zijn grotendeels gevestigd in Göteborg, Zweden. Het hoofdkantoor van Volvo Cars voor China is gevestigd in Shanghai. De grootste autofabrieken van het bedrijf zijn gevestigd in Göteborg (Zweden), Gent (België) en Chengdu (China), terwijl de motoren worden gemaakt in Skövde (Zweden) en Zhangjiakou (China) en de carrosserie-onderdelen in Olofström (Zweden).

Keywords:

Old S60, Press Releases, 2017, Product News

Descriptions and facts in this press material relate to Volvo Cars' international car range. Described features might be optional. Vehicle specifications may vary from one country to another and may be altered without prior notification.

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