



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Boulogne-Billancourt – May 10th, 2021

A Michelin tyre range ideally suited to the challenge of Le Mans - Bugatti

Following the first four Michelin record-breaking rounds of the 2021 MotoGP™ World Championship, the Michelin Motorsport team will be driving north from its base in Clermont-Ferrand to the iconic Circuit Bugatti Le Mans for the next round, the SHARK Grand Prix de France.

In addition, the French circuit will also play host to the second round of the FIM Enel MotoE™ World Cup, where riders will battle for victory on identical Energica Ego Corsa electric motorcycles shod with Michelin's specially developed Power Slick tyres, which are constructed using a higher percentage of sustainable materials – 33 per cent in the front tyres and 40 per cent in the rears.

The first four rounds of the 2021 championship have seen records broken at every circuit. These have included race duration records, race lap records, all-time circuit lap records and all-time circuit top speed records, and all have been set using Michelin's 2021 range of Power Slick race tyres.

Michelin's MotoGP tyre allocation for the weekend at the 4.185 kilometre (2.6 miles) circuit, which features nine right-hand and five left-hand corners, and a short 674m (0.419 miles) straight, will be three front and three rear MICHELIN Power Slicks, plus two front and two rear MICHELIN Power Rain tyres. The tight and twisty nature of the circuit means that the front tyres will be subjected to a lot of hard braking into the low-gear corners and then the rears will endure the subsequent hard acceleration forces on the exits.

The 2021 Le Mans MotoGP allocation will comprise MICHELIN Power Slick tyres that have been chosen to give all teams and riders the optimum grip and race-distance consistency for their respective machines in readiness for the 27-lap race on the Bugatti Circuit, with its medium-severity asphalt. The allocation will be Soft, Medium and Hard compounds for the front and rear, with the Hard front and all three of the rear options being asymmetric – with a harder right-hand-side to cope with the additional corners that go in that direction. The Soft and Medium fronts will be symmetric.

In the event of wet weather MICHELIN Power Rain tyres will be available in Soft and Medium compounds front and rear, with the two rear options being asymmetric and again these are harder on the right side.

In MotoE, all riders will have the choice of Medium symmetric front and Soft asymmetric rear slick tyres, with Soft symmetric front and Soft asymmetric rear rain tyres available should the weather turn bad.



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Speaking ahead of the race weekend, **Piero Taramasso**, Michelin Two-Wheel Motorsport Manager, said: “We are all very much looking forward to our home race, and the different challenges it will offer us and the riders. So far this season we have been to circuits with warm and dry conditions, but in Le Mans the weather could be changeable at this time of year, and this could give the riders the opportunity to make use of the high grip levels provided by our 2021 rain tyres.”

“It will also be good for the MotoE riders to have their second race weekend of the season, following the first at Jerez, and to give them another opportunity to showcase our more environmentally friendly range of tyres, that we have developed specifically for the electric Energica machines using a wide range of sustainable materials from scrap car and truck tyres to orange and lemon peel”.

The MotoGP and MotoE riders will take to the track on Friday morning for the first of two Free Practice sessions on that day. Saturday will see two more practice sessions followed by Q1 and Q2 for MotoGP, and one practice session followed by EPole for MotoE. On Sunday the lights will go out for the races at 10:05 for MotoE and at 14:00 for MotoGP (local time).

Michelin, the leading mobility company, is dedicated to enhancing its clients' mobility, sustainably; designing and distributing the most suitable tires, services and solutions for its clients' needs; providing digital services, maps and guides to help enrich trips and travels and make them unique experiences; and developing high-technology materials that serve a variety of industries. Headquartered in Clermont-Ferrand, France, Michelin is present in 170 countries, has 123,600 employees and operates 71 tire production facilities which together produced around 170 million tires in 2020. (www.michelin.com)

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