



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

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MICHELIN's Endurance racing tyre range poised for Fuji Speedway debut

This weekend sees the 2022 FIA World Endurance Championship (FIA WEC) move on to Japan, a country it hasn't visited since 2019. The Fuji Speedway round comes after July's trip to Monza, Italy, and is the season's fifth clash ahead of the finale in Bahrain in mid-November.

The 4.563-kilometre, 16-turn track near Mount Fuji, sits about 100km from the Japanese capital Tokyo and was inaugurated in 1965, becoming the property of Toyota in 2005. It has undergone many modifications over the years and today features a perfectly smooth surface, along with a main straight of some 1.5km in length, one of the longest at a permanent facility anywhere in the world.

The 6 Hours of Fuji has been an FIA WEC fixture since the championship's creation, although it wasn't included on either the 2020 or 2021 calendars due to the Covid pandemic. This year's meeting is consequently something of a return to normality for the Japanese venue.

"It's an honour for all those involved in the FIA WEC to be back racing in front of Japanese fans at Mount Fuji for the first time since 2019," says Michelin's Endurance Racing Manager, **Pierre Alves**. "We are keen to see how our latest MICHELIN Pilot Sport HYPERCAR and GTE ranges perform at this splendid circuit which has always been popular with our partners. The drivers will be able to count on the mechanical grip provided by our tyres through Sector 2's fast corners, while Sector 3 features several slower turns that call more for responsive handling and traction performance out of the bends. In contrast, the times posted through Sector 1 are far more influenced by the cars' aerodynamic and, obviously, engine performance, so the Fuji Speedway is clearly a big challenge for Michelin. Also, while we can expect warm weather at this time of year, there is a strong likelihood of rain, too, which would obviously make a number of strategy options possible based on a variety of criteria. Our technical advisors will be on hand, of course, to help our partner teams make the best decision for the conditions of the moment."

The 2022 6 Hours of Fuji will see Michelin provide tyres for the five Hypercar, five LM GTE Pro and 13 LM GTE Am entries for a total of 23 cars of the 36 on the grid.

Michelin's ambition is to improve the mobility of its customers over the long-term. As a leader in the mobility domain, Michelin designs, manufactures and distributes tyres best-suited to customers' needs and uses, as well as services and solutions to enhance vehicle efficiency. Michelin also offers its customers ways to enjoy unique experiences during their journeys and when travelling. In addition, Michelin develops high-tech materials for many sectors of activity. Based in Clermont-Ferrand, Michelin has offices in 177 countries, employs 124,760 people and operates 68 tyre factories which together produced around 173 million tyres in 2021 (www.michelin.com).



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