



PRESS RELEASE

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The MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV excels at ExCeL London's two E-Prix

- A big turnout for the 2021/2022 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship's visit to London's ExCeL Circuit
- The allocation of just 12 MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV tyres to cover the weekend's two E-Prix proved ample to provide the drivers with the confidence they needed to push throughout Saturday and Sunday's action
- Formula E: motor racing's first world championship to feature indoor action!

Formula E's stopover in the United Kingdom capital proved another roaring success, with big crowds showing up on both days to enjoy the racing and cheer on the British drivers involved in the series.

The championship's early visits to London – in 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 – took teams to Battersea Park. After giving the city a miss for a number of years, it returned there in late-July 2021, having moved to a new venue: the 100,000-square-metre ExCeL London exhibition and conference centre where, in an interesting first, the circuit included indoor action.

Inaugurated in 2000 and situated in Newham's Royal Victoria Dock on the banks of the River Thames, close to London City Airport, the facility had hosted all manner of events, but never an international motor race – and certainly not a round of a world championship starring all-electric single-seaters!

To reach the level of success it enjoys today, Formula E has been able to count on world-class partners capable of enabling its exciting cars to race in the open air and indoors alike, a combination that calls for tyres capable of performing across an exceptionally wide spectrum of surface types.

The 2.14-kilometre, 22-turn ExCeL Circuit includes almost 600 metres that are indoors. The pits straight and start/finish line are also inside the building, while the twisty, occasionally bumpy track includes access ramps to enter and exit the exhibition centre.

The challenge resulting from the combination of these unique characteristics, the possibility of fickle weather and contrasting temperatures indoors and out is covered by a single tyre, however: the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV.

The tyre that raced in London this weekend was the third evolution of the technologically sophisticated solution that the French firm conceived for the exceptional difficulties that are part and parcel of Formula E.



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“Once again, London was an event apart for all concerned,” reports **Mirko Pirracchio**, the manager of Michelin’s Formula E programme. “It’s the only circuit of its type and we saw a number of drivers appear at the sharp end who tend to figure less frequently amongst the front-runners. This clearly added to the interest because performing around such a unique, bumpy track with access ramps and a highly abrasive surface indoors requires significant skill. For the drivers to be able to push to the maximum with no apprehension here, they need to have total trust in their tyres, which in turn need to provide impeccable grip and traction both indoors and out. As we saw last year, rain can make things even more complex, but it’s not the prime concern. The chief objective was to make optimal use of the three sets of tyres that were allowed for the two days, as a function of the priority of the moment. In qualifying, for example, where outright performance took front stage, the drivers were able to fit fresh rubber that quickly climbed to its ideal running temperature. During the races, where dynamic and energy efficiency were more the key, they were able to keep pushing without having to worry about the range of their cars. The track temperature varied at different points around the circuit but this wasn’t a major issue. For us, it was another successful weekend and we are now looking forward to travelling to Seoul [Korea] to discover another all-new circuit and showcase the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV’s unique versatility one more time. No other high-performance racing tyre is capable of covering such a wide range of challenges and conditions.”

Low tyre allocations, high performance

The tyre allocation for the two London E-Prix was just 12 per car. Since the beginning of the 2021/2022 FIA Formula E World Championship, the number of covers available for single-race meetings has effectively been eight, rising to 12 for the calendar’s double-header fixtures. Aided by the input of Michelin Motorsport’s specialists, Formula E is consequently the FIA-sanctioned world championship that requires the fewest tyres, a claim that fits perfectly with Michelin’s sustainable approach to the sport. Since the beginning of the inaugural Formula E season in 2014, Michelin has constantly endeavoured to deliver increasingly higher performance and energy efficiency, initially by reducing the weight of its Formula E tyre, then by making it possible to use even fewer covers as part of its contribution to making motor racing more and more responsible.

The technologically-sophisticated MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV is the first-ever connected tyre to be used in world-class motor racing. It is equipped with a sensor which relays pressure-related information to Michelin Motorsport, Race Control and the FIA in real time with a view to optimising performance and ensuring that the regulations are adhered to. Outside of motorsport, this technology is employed to provide ordinary motorists with enhanced safety and peace of mind, while connected tyres are an integral part of the Smart City projects the planet’s biggest cities are working on.



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The first 2022 London E-Prix, on Saturday, was won by Jake Dennis (Avalanche Andretti), ahead of Stoffel Vandoorne (Mercedes EQ Formula E Team) and Nick Cassidy (Envision Racing).

The winner of Sunday's clash was Lucas di Grassi (Rokit Venturi Racing) who was joined on the podium by Jake Dennis (Avalanche Andretti) and Nyck de Vries (Mercedes EQ Formula E Team).

The next two rounds of the 2022 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship will take teams to the finale in Seoul, South Korea, where the season's Drivers' and Constructors' title fights will be settled.

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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