



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Boulogne-Billancourt, France (July 1, 2022)

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV returns to Morocco for what promises to be a particularly challenging E-Prix

- The ABB FIA Formula E World Championship pays its fifth visit to Marrakech's Circuit Moulay El Hassan which hosted the last E-Prix before Covid restrictions kicked in 2020.
- The tire allocation for Marrakech is eight MICHELIN Pilot Sport EVs per car, while the drivers face an exacting cocktail of hot weather and an abrasive, sand-coated track.
- The high-speed circuit is familiar territory to many of the drivers who know their Michelin tyres will give them the confidence they need to push from start to finish.

After recently visiting a new venue in Jakarta, Indonesia, Formula E returns to familiar territory with its fifth trip to Marrakech. This time around the race takes place at the height of summer (July 2), in contrast to the 2020 and 2019 E-Prix there which were held on February 29 and January 12 respectively. The weather is consequently sure to be far, far warmer this time around!

The circuit is almost three kilometres in length but has just 12 corners that are mostly quite slow. It's a semi-permanent facility and part of the track is employed for various sports and educational activities the rest of the year. For the Formula E clash, they add another section of roads that are normally open to ordinary traffic, including Avenue Mohamed VI and Route de L'Ouraki.

"Back in January 2019, the track temperature was barely 5°C for free practice. That's a record low for the championship that still stands," recalls **Mirko Pirraccho**, the manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "This year, the track temperature could easily exceed 50°C at the start of the race, which is about as hot as it gets in Formula E, and we are expecting the air temperature to climb from 16°C in the morning to something like 37°C in the afternoon. That said, the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV was engineered from the outset to be competitive and provide the drivers with confidence in all weathers, not to mention their very fast warm-up performance and consistency whatever the conditions. Thanks to our connected monitoring system, we are kept informed of the cars' tyre pressures at all times and the teams will be able to adjust their respective strategies depending on how the weather evolves on the day. The anticlockwise circuit itself is identical to the layout proposed in previous years and the conditions during the first few laps tend to be fairly delicate because of the sand that gets blown onto the track from the nearby desert. There are also two different types of asphalt, while grip levels are likely to increase as the meeting progresses. As in Jakarta, we will keep



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a close eye on the temperature and wear levels, but we are confident that our tyres will perform as well as they usually do.”

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.

For the 2022 season’s 10th round, the drivers will be authorised to use a maximum of two sets of MICHELIN Pilot Sport EVs (four fronts and four rears), the bespoke tyre developed for the all-electric racing series. To cover the two free practice sessions, qualifying and Saturday afternoon’s E-Prix (45 minutes + 1 lap), the teams will need to use their respective allocations wisely. The conditions for the race itself promise to be tough on the cars and drivers alike, but the latter know they will be able to count on the expert advice of Michelin’s experienced technicians to optimise their performance.

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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