



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

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The MICHELIN Pilot Spot EV heads for Jakarta's hot and humid streets

- The ABB FIA Formula E World Championship's first trip to Indonesia.
- A unique setting and a tyre allocation of just eight MICHELIN Pilot Sport EVs per driver for testing, qualifying and the race itself.
- The efficiency of Michelin's Formula E tyre provides the drivers with the confidence they need to tackle fresh challenges.

Mid-May's trip to Berlin was a familiar journey for the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship regulars who have raced in the German capital every year since 2014. At the peak of the Covid crisis, as many as nine e-prix were even held there in less than two weeks to conclude the 2019/2020 series.

In striking contrast, this weekend's visit to Jakarta marks a step into unknown, tropical territory for the all-electric competition, in spite of the fact that as many as 92 E-prix have been held across the planet to date. In fact, Indonesia hasn't hosted a world-class motorsport event since 2006.

The 18-turn, 2.37-kilometre street circuit in the city is twisty and bumpy, with an appreciably long straight, and has been likened to the configurations proposed by New York City, USA, and Valencia, Spain. Here, however, humidity and searing heat promise to take their toll of the drivers and their battery-powered electric single-seater cars. Indeed, weather forecasters are predicting that the thermometer will reach more than 30°C, along with humidity levels in excess of 90 percent, while track temperatures are likely to exceed 40°C.

"The circuit is located in a part of Jakarta that has a high number of hotels and several theme parks, but the most thrilling ride for the drivers will be at street level!" says **Mirko Pirracchio**, manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "The asphalt was laid relatively recently, so grip levels will probably be high, although street tracks can often be dusty, so that might be an issue early in the day. Indonesia is obviously a step into the unknown for the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV but our tyre has had plenty of opportunities over the years to demonstrate its exceptional versatility around the world, so we go there feeling reasonably confident.

"In the course of the championship's seven previous seasons, we have gained considerable experience of competing in extreme cold, heat and humidity, and our partners have always been pleased with our tyres. The humidity levels we expect



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in Jakarta stand to be a challenge for everyone, just as they were when we raced in Putrajaya, Malaysia, in Seasons 1 and 2. We have also contended successfully with exceptionally high ground temperatures in the past, including in Santiago, Chile, where the track surface reached 60°C. We also once lapped in temperatures close to freezing point in Marrakesh, Morocco!

“The remarkable thing is that we have systematically earned the drivers’ trust in all these conditions with exactly the same tyre. Outstanding warm-up performance, versatility, competitiveness and energy-efficiency have effectively been features of Michelin’s bespoke Formula E tyre over the three different generations we have supplied since the championship’s inauguration in 2014.”

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.

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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