



Le Mans, the 5th October 2010



The Automobile Club de l'Ouest launches Intercontinental Le Mans Cup in China

Last June, just after the 24 Hours of Le Mans, Remy Brouard, the CEO of the Automobile Club de l'Ouest, visited China to finalise the agreement for the organisation of the closing round of the Intercontinental Le Mans Cup. On Saturday 18th of September, he was back in the Orient for a press conference on the Zhuhai International Circuit (ZIC), for the official announcement of the 1000 km of Zhuhai, which will be held from 5th to 7th November 2010.

Fifty members of the Chinese media attended the press conference, as well as Jenkins Zhan and Stewart Tan, respectively President and Director General of ZIC. At this first major endurance racing event in China as part of ILMC, Remy Brouard recalled his role in developing technology, including diesel engines (Peugeot and Audi) in recent years, and also the presence (off classification) of the Porsche 911 GT3 R Hybrid at the 1000 km Zhuhai: "Since 1923, Le Mans has always opened its regulations to new technologies and safety systems for the road cars of the future. Next year we will allow hybrid systems in the race. There will be an electric car project, as well as other innovative solutions to reduce the carbon footprint on our planet. "

First impressions of the ILMC are already very positive: three races on three continents (Europe, America, Asia), thirty entries and prestigious manufacturers (Ferrari, Porsche, BMW, Audi, Peugeot, Jaguar, Lamborghini, not to mention the return of the Petit Le Mans Panoz), both in the prototype class and in GT. These, like the Automobile Club de l'Ouest, partners (Rolex, Peugeot, Audi, Ferrari, Porsche, Dunlop, Michelin, Zonbon Hotel), and the many suppliers and sponsors of the teams involved in ILMC, are already looking forward to the 1000 km, to be held in a country that is also the premier global automotive market, arguably the most coveted today.

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Remy Brouard announced the list of 27 entries expected for this closing round of the ILMC 2010: it consists of ten prototypes (six LM P1 three LM P2 and one Formula Le Mans), twelve GT (three LM GT1 and nine LM GT2), the new Porsche hybrid, and four additional competitors from Asian GT and GT3 European Championships. The weekend the 1000 km of Zhuhai will have two support races: the Porsche Carrera Cup Asia and the Volkswagen Scirocco Cup. "There will be an autograph session, a car show, the presence of partners, activities, a giant screen, etc.. Thank you to the ZIC team and S2M for making this race a great event and a success", said Remy Brouard.

A dozen drivers from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan and even Malaysia will also be on the starting grid of the first big endurance event of on Chinese soil. Among them, Zhang Shan, driving Formula Le Mans car entered by Hope PoleVision Racing and Marchy Lee, driving an Audi R8. "An opportunity for professional Chinese drivers and champions of Le Mans to compete in more than five hours of racing, with former Formula 1 drivers and winners of the 24 Hours," Remy Brouard welcomed. "There will be competitors from fifteen different nationalities and six manufacturers officially represented. It's a great moment for motorsport in China, and an honour to launch Le Mans for the first time. The 1,000 km from Zhuhai will be the third and final round of the Intercontinental Le Mans Cup, after Silverstone and Petit Le Mans. In the near future, Le Mans will also be the opportunity for young Chinese manufacturers to participate in the 24 Hours of Le Mans, the toughest race in the world. They can, like the Chinese teams that run in their own country each year, be part of ILMC the great trophy of World Endurance. "



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