**New member of the Hankook Motorsport family -**

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**Premium tyre maker Hankook and the Dutch series promoter Dick van Elk recently signed a long-term agreement for an exclusive tyre partnership to start in season 2017. The Dutch Supercar Challenge racing series, which has been one of the top motor sport events in the Netherlands since 2001, has thus not only secured a new tyre partner for the future but also a new name ‘Supercar Challenge powered by Hankook’. This further partnership is a reflection of Hankook’s consistent efforts to expand its involvement in worldwide motor racing (including exclusive supplier to the DTM, the FIA Formula 3 European Championship, the 24H Series powered by Hankook, FIA F4 Spain, F4 NEZ Championship certified by FIA, F4 British Championship certified by FIA, the TCR Series in Germany, Italy and Portugal).**

**Neu-Isenburg, 24th November 2016**. Starting immediately for the next years, premium tyre maker Hankook will be the exclusive tyre supplier to the Dutch racing series “Supercar Challenge powered by Hankook”. The season kicks off on 14th April 2017 on the Dutch track of Zandvoort. Races will be held on eight weekends at venues in Germany, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Belgium and Austria. Hankook’s Motorsport Director Europe, Manfred Sandbichler: “This year Hankook has clearly demonstrated its global success in the motorsport field. And, as the year draws to a close, we are showing how we are continuing to grow. Our new venture is a very special racing series with more than 40 participants, including both touring cars and also GT racing cars. We look forward to this promising partnership.”

The agenda for a racing weekend during the Supercar Challenge powered by Hankook is as follows: Two 40 minute training sessions take place on the Friday. The qualifying and the first race are held on the Saturday and the second race is on the Sunday. The races each last 60 minutes plus an additional lap, with a pit stop having to be included. The vehicles are divided into four classes: GT, Supersport 1, Supersport 2 and Sport – in each case dependent on engine performance and vehicle type.

Both front and rear wheel drive racing cars, like the [BMW M4 Silhouette](http://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?depth=1&hl=en&rurl=translate.google.com&sl=nl&tl=en&u=http://www.supercarchallenge.nl/nl/bmw_m4_silhouette.html?start_number=311&usg=ALkJrhjYSzxPSFATKlZsSQBX-YrxvNgT_Q), BMW235I RACING, Renault Clio RS, Porsche 991 GT3, Porsche 997 GT3 or the Porsche Cayman GT4 take part in the races. All vehicles will start with the tried-and-tested Hankook premium racing tyres Ventus Race as F200 (slick) and Z 207 (rain).

Dick van Elk, Head of this famous racing series: “We firmly believe that Hankook is the right tyre partner for us. Hankook is one of the most committed tyre makers in the motorsport world and has excellent contacts to the vehicle manufacturers. We know that the drivers can count on excellent performance with the premium tyres from Hankook.”

For more information about the Dutch racing series, please visit the website: http://www.supercarchallenge.nl.

14th -16th April – Zandvoort (NL)

12th -14th May – Red Bull Ring (AT)

9th - 11th June – Spa (BE)

14th -16th July – Zolder (BE)

4th - 6th August – Assen (NL)

8th -10th September – Brands Hatch (GB)

29th September -1st October – Nürburgring (DE)

20th - 22nd October – Assen (NL)

**About Hankook**

Hankook Tire is one of the global top 5 companies in the mass production of tyres and manufactures innovative, award winning radial tyres of proven superior quality for passenger cars, light trucks, SUVs, RVs, trucks and buses as well as motorsports (circuit racing/rallies).

Hankook continues to invest in research and development so that we can always offer our customers the highest level of quality, combined with technological excellence. At a total of five development centers and seven large scale factories around the world, the company develops and produces tyre solutions specially tailored to the requirements and needs of regional markets. Bespoke tyre solutions for the European markets as well as European Original Equipment according to the requirements of leading premium car manufacturers, are developed in the company’s regional Technical Centre in Hanover/Germany. Production for the European region is taking place in the state-of-the-art manufacturing site in Rácalmás/Hungary which was inaugurated in June 2007 and is continuously being expanded. Currently more than 3,000 employees produce up to 19 million tyres a year for passenger cars, SUVs and light trucks.

Hankook Tire’s European headquarters are located in Neu-Isenburg near Frankfurt am Main in Germany. The manufacturer operates further branches in Germany, UK, France, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Hungary, Czech Republic, Russia, Turkey, Sweden and Poland. Hankook products are sold directly through regional distributors in other local markets. Hankook Tire employ more than 22,000 people worldwide and are selling their products in over 180 countries. Internationally leading car manufacturers rely on tyres made by Hankook for their original equipment. Approximately 30 percent of the company's global sales are generated within the European and CIS-Region.

For more information please visit www.hankooktire-press.com or www.hankooktire.com

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