**Hankook at the 24H race in the ‘Green Hell’: resounding success as sole provider for the TCR and GT4 classes.**

**The new BMW M4 GT4 celebrated its debut with a victory in its class on Hankook racing tyres**

**160 cars and over 200,000 spectators once again made the 24-hour classic into the most spectacular festival of the motorsport calendar. Premium tyre maker Hankook was a trusted partner yet again at the German Nuerburgring circuit. The exclusive supply of tyres for the TCR and GT4 classes, as well as for the new BMW M4 GT4, which made its official race debut in the 24-hour marathon at the Nürburgring, was a resounding success.**

***Nürburg/Germany, 30th May 2017*** – The 24-hour classic in the Eifel mountains was bathed in magnificent sunshine. The 160 teams started in hot summery conditions on Saturday afternoon. Rain on parts of the circuit with 30 minutes of the race remaining made for a thrilling finale, with the lead changing hands. Premium tyre maker Hankook supplied 21 cars with its race tyres of the type *Ventus Race*, in all necessary dimensions and in both the dry and wet version. In total, 1500 tyres were transported to the Eifel region of Germany for the event. Hankook’s Ventus premium race tyre performed perfectly at all times in a wide range of conditions at the iconic, 25.378-kilometre circuit. The slick-tyre provided a consistently high level of grip both in daytime track temperatures of up to 47 degrees and on a cooler track during the night. This high level of consistency from the Hankook race tyre meant that all the drivers were still able to clock fast lap times at the end of their stints.

The first official race outing of the new BMW M4 GT4, which also entered the race exclusively on Hankook race tyres, attracted a lot of attention. Driven by Germans Dirk Adorf and Jörg Weidinger, alongside the Brits Ricky Collard and Jethro Bovingdon, the car won the SP 8T class and finished a respectable 37th overall. The global sales launch of the BMW M4 GT4 was timed to coincide with the start of the ADAC Zürich 24H Race. Designed for the BMW customer racing, the new model will also be supplied exclusively with Hankook tyres.

**Manfred Sandbichler, Hankook Motorsport Director Europe:** “We are very proud to be the exclusive tyre supplier for the new BMW M4 GT4. This cooperation is a further milestone for us in international motorsport. In addition, the exclusive supply contract for the TCR and GT4 classes has once again proved that Hankook is the right partner when it comes down to providing the teams with premium level mono-make tyres and services on a large scale. A big compliment goes to our service crew, of course, which did a flawless job all weekend again, in order to ensure optimum tyre supplies to the cars under contract. Despite the large range of temperatures, our tyres provided all drivers with a consistently high level of grip and thus the best possible car control.”

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Contact:**  **Hankook Tire Europe GmbH |** Corporate Communications Europe/CIS **|** Siemensstr. 5a, 63263 Neu-Isenburg **|** Germany | | | |
| **Anna Magdalena Pasternak**  PR Manager  Tel.: +49 (0) 6102 8149 – 173  a.pasternak@hankookreifen.de  **Sven Kaatz**  Media Relations  Tel: +49 (0) 171 8609730  sk@9pm-media.com | **Yara Willems**  Public Relations  Tel.: +49 (0) 6102 8149 – 172  y.willems@hankookreifen.de |  |  |