**Press Release**

**MINI John Cooper Works on Hankook race tyres for its comeback at the 24-hour classic in the Eifel**

* **Cult car to make its first appearance for ten years at the Nürburgring 24 Hours**
* **Proven quartet at the wheel of the 306-hp car**
* **The iconic Nürburgring is like a second home for the Hankook Ventus Race tyre**

**Neu-Isenburg, Germany, 26.05.2022** – The legendary Nürburgring 24 Hours is one of the highlights of the endurance season for motorsport fans all over the world. This weekend (26th to 29th May) sees the 50th staging of the classic race, which will feature a MINI John Cooper Works for the first time for ten years. The race car, based on the cult British car and run by the Bulldog Racing team, will be supported by Hankook with the high-end Ventus Race tyre, which has proven itself in numerous endurance races.

Bulldog Racing launched its Nürburgring 24 Hours project in the Eifel region in September 2021. The MINI John Cooper Works has been adapted to meet the demands of the endurance marathon. The modifications include increasing the size of the tank to 100 litres, constructing a new racing cage and altering the aerodynamics. As such, the MINI John Cooper Works is well-equipped for the ADAC TotalEnergies 24h Nürburgring, where the team will have its sights set on victory in the SP 3T class, as the car makes its comeback on Hankook race tyres after an absence of ten years.

Sharing the cockpit of the 112 car will be Austrian Markus Fischer and the German trio of Jens Dralle (Schorndorf), Danny Brink (Külsheim) and Uwe Krumscheid (Adenau). Hankook’s subjective test driver Krumscheid knows the Nürburgring well and supervises the workshop at the Hankook Europe Technical Center (ETC) in Meuspath at the Nürburgring. Together with other Hankook development drivers, he tests new tyre developments at the nearby racetrack, particularly developments in the field of high-end original equipment, including for very sporty BMW M models. Krumscheid will be making his 16th appearance in the 24-hour race on the 25.378-kilometre combination of the Grand Prix Circuit and the Nordschleife. “This unique endurance race is always a fantastic challenge. It's great to compete in this legendary classic in the MINI John Cooper Works on the Hankook Ventus Race tyre,” said Krumscheid, looking forward to the 50th staging of the spectacular race in the Eifel.

Manfred Sandbichler, Hankook Motorsport Director Europe: “Hankook has supported many teams at the Nürburgring 24 Hours in the past. However, it is rather special when a cult car like the MINI John Cooper Works returns to the Eifel on our Ventus Race tyre after a long time away. The Nürburgring is something of a home circuit for Hankook. I am confident that the MINI John Cooper Works, with the Hankook race tyre, the highly-motivated Bulldog Racing team and an experienced crew, will have a great Nürburgring 24 Hours.”

The BMW M Group is putting on many special events at the Nürburgring to mark its 50th anniversary, including at the large “M Town” activity area on the ring°boulevard. The Nürburgring 24 Hours takes place from 26th to 29th May. You can find information on the race results online at <https://www.24h-rennen.de/>.

**Hankook in Motorsport**

For years, Hankook has been one of the first ports of call for high-end motorsport products. The premium tyre maker’s involvement in motor racing covers a broad spectrum. Hankook supplies its high-end products to world-renowned racing series, as well as high-class junior formats and popular grassroot events. The successful Ventus Race line of tyres is used at racetracks all over the world. Experienced Hankook engineers and their service crews are on site to help the teams get the best possible performance out of their cars on the Hankook race tyres. With new collaborations and partnerships, the company is constantly strengthening its status as a global player on the motorsport scene.

The portfolio of series supplied by Hankook includes the 24H Series powered by Hankook, which takes place in seven countries on three continents. With Hankook as exclusive tyre partner and title sponsor, this has developed into one of the strongest endurance series in the world. The premium tyre maker has also supported the W Series since it was launched in 2019. The FIA Formula series, which is reserved for female drivers, lines up on Hankook race tyres and features on the support programme for Formula 1. Hankook has also been a partner of the DTM Trophy from the word go, and has supplied the prestigious GT4 series with the internationally tried-and-tested Ventus Race tyre since the inaugural season in 2020. The involvement in motorsport also includes various Formula 4 formats, TCR series, one-make cups for a wide range of manufacturers, and assorted racing events.

You can find more information at [www.hankooktire-mediacenter.com](http://www.hankooktire-mediacenter.com/) and [www.hankooktire.com](http://www.hankooktire.com/)

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