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BMW Motorrad's new challenge.

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The 2009 Superbike World Championship promises to be more exciting than ever, with BMW Motorrad Motorsport making its debut in the ultra-competitive series and taking on no less than six other manufacturers, four Japanese and two European. Although this is BMW's first attempt in World Superbikes, their racing heritage goes back 86 years, starting with their R 32 motorcycle in 1923. Since then BMWs have raced successfully on the Isle of Man and at other world-famous racetracks and have enjoyed many successes. The last success of the official BMW factory team was Walter Zeller's runner-up place in the 1956 World Championship. BMW officially returned to roadracing in 2007 with the HP2 Sports Boxer taking part in the Endurance Championship 24 hour classics in 2007 and 2008.

BMW's first ever 'Superbike' success took place at Daytona, USA, in 1976, when American Steve McLaughlin won the AMA Championship Superbike race in a thrilling photo-finish with team-mate Reg Pridmore. Both were riding R 90 S BMWs prepared by Butler & Smith, BMW's American importers. Back then the 'Superbike' class was a support race to the main event, but nine years later the first ideas for a Superbike World Championship (a world championship for production-based motorcycles) began to grow. The series was born in 1988 and since then has become the hallmark for close-fought, competitive racing, without sacrificing any of its friendly paddock atmosphere. It may be all-out combat on the track, but off it, it has an atmosphere unmatched by any other world championship.

BMW Motorrad have a very long history, but they are the 'new boys' of the Superbike World Championship. The company has decided to enter the series at, without a doubt, the hardest and most competitive time in its 21-year history. Any new manufacturer joining the series is going to face a tough time and BMW are under no illusions about the challenges ahead. BMW are entering World Superbike because it is a championship where fans and customers identify with the brand and the bikes. And fans will not have long to wait for the S 1000 RR roadbike from which the racebike is derived: it will make its public debut in early summer 2009.

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Troy Corser

"The BMW S 1000 RR racebike has a good base and we are all working hard to be competitive as soon as we can. This is BMW's first time in World Superbikes and none of us underestimate the challenge. But the challenge is part of the excitement and we are determined to do the very best we can.

As the season progresses I'm sure we'll improve a lot, but we are at a bit of a disadvantage because every time we go to a track we will be starting from scratch, whereas the others will have info and data from previous years. Even so, as the year goes on, I'm sure we'll get better and better and maybe even surprise a few people along the way."

Ruben Xaus

"This is a great challenge and I am so happy to be riding for a factory team and working with a great bunch of guys. I think I always knew that I would probably have to modify my style (after years of riding a twin) but I am very pleased with the progress we made in this direction at the recent tests.

For sure, it is not easy for any new manufacturer to enter this incredibly competitive series, but I believe that BMW can make a big impact on the championship and I am very happy to be a part of this big adventure."

Berti Hauser - Director BMW Motorrad Motorsport

"This great adventure began not so long ago, but now we are about to take part in our very first World Superbike Championship race and it is an exciting moment for us all. I firmly believe we have two great riders – Troy Corser and Ruben Xaus – and a very committed and enthusiastic team. Troy is the most experienced rider in WSBK and brings a lot of knowledge and information to the team. Although Ruben is not as experienced as Troy, he has so much enthusiasm for this project and I feel that he and Troy are a perfect combination. I am very pleased with the amount of progress we have all made in the past few months and now, like the whole team, I am really looking forward to this great challenge." BMW Media Information 2/2009 Page 4

BMW S 1000 RR SBK racebike. Technical Specifications.



Capacity:	999 cc, 4-stroke, 4 cylinder, liquid-cooled
Gearbox:	6 speed
Power:	200 + hp @ 14,000 + rpm
Bore & Stroke:	80 x 49.7 mm
Compression ratio:	14:1
Fuel system:	48 mm Dell' Orto injection system
Fuel tank capacity:	23 litres
Lubrication:	Wet sump
Dry weight:	162 kg
Wheelbase:	1,428 mm
Length:	2,056 mm
Width:	532 mm
Front suspension:	Öhlins upside down telescopic forks, 43 mm diamete
Rear suspension:	Öhlins TTX
Front brakes:	Twin disc 320 mm, Brembo, 4 piston calliper
Rear brake:	Single disc 220 mm, Brembo, 4 piston calliper
Wheels:	Front 16.5 inch x 3.5 inch, Rear 16 inch x 6.25 inch
Tyres:	Pirelli

Riders.

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Troy Corser, # 11.



Date of birth:	27.11.1971
Place of birth:	Wollongong, Australia
Home town:	Monte Carlo, Monaco
Marital status:	Married to Sam, with two children Kalani and Kelissa
Height:	1.75 m
Weight:	66 kg
Personal sponsors:	Alpinestars, Shark, Riders for Health
Hobbies:	Golf, go-kart, jet-ski, motocross
Passion:	Racing
Favourite country:	Home
Most respected riders:	All
Favourite tracks:	Phillip Island, Valencia, Portimao
First bike:	Yamaha TY80 (road), Honda CR80 (race)
First race:	1989 Australian 250 Production series (Suzuki RGV250)
Career highlights:	1996 – World Superbike Champion 2005 – World Superbike Champion
World Superbike history:	413 races, 128 podiums (33 wins, 47 seconds and 48 thirds), 42 pole positions
Website:	www.troycorser.com

Ruben Xaus, # 111.

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Date of birth:	18.02.1978
Place of birth:	Barcelona, Spain
Home town:	Andorra
Marital status:	Married (to Mariona), with two children Julia and Paula
Height:	1.83 m
Weight:	71 kg
Personal sponsors:	Arlen Ness, Premier, Oakley, Dea Due, Cabutti motor A.S.E, Chianchia, Biga, BRC, IPA, Fratelli Scotto, Faro, Commencal bicycles
Hobbies:	My family
Passion:	My girls (3)
Favourite country:	Spain
Most respected riders:	Team mate first
Favourite tracks:	All
First bike:	Montessa Cota 25cc
First race:	1992 Solo Moto 75cc Criterium
Career highlightss:	2003 – World Superbike Championship – 2nd
World Superbike history:	152 races, 35 podiums (11 wins, 13 seconds, 11 thirds), 1 pole position
Website:	www.rubenxaus.net

SBK team structure 2009.

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Team name:	BMW Motorrad Motorsport
Team partner:	alpha Racing
Director of BMW Motorrad Motorsport:	Berti Hauser
Race team manager/ Project leader:	Rainer Baeumel
alpha Racing management:	Josef Hofmann, Josef Meier
alpha Racing technical director:	Thomas Franz
Riders:	Troy Corser, Ruben Xaus
Troy Corser crew chief:	Tom Larsen
Ruben Xaus crew chief:	Wolfgang Martens

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Superbike World Championship 2009 Race calendar.



March 1	Phillip Island, Australia
March 14	Doha, Qatar
April 5	Valencia, Spain
April 26	Assen, Netherlands
May 10	Monza, Italy
May 17	Kyalami, Republic of South Africa
May 31	Salt Lake City, USA
June 21	Misano, Republic of San Marino
June 28	Donington, Great Britain
July 26	Brno, Czech Republic
September 6	Nürburgring, Germany
September 27	Imola, Italy
October 4	Magny-Cours, France
October 25	Portimao, Portugal

Contacts.

BMW press department:

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