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DTM

"O'zapft is!" - BMW Motorsport and BMW Team Schnitzer bring the Oktoberfest atmosphere to the North Sea.

Zandvoort (NL), 27th September 2013. While visitors from all over the world have been flocking to Munich (DE) since last Saturday for the Oktoberfest, BMW Motorsport has travelled 850 kilometres to Zandvoort (NL) for the penultimate DTM race of the year. But despite being so far from home, BMW still managed to bring a bit of the famous Bavarian festival atmosphere to the North Sea. On Friday, BMW Motorsport Director Jens Marquardt invited quests to join him in the BMW Hospitality for a ceremonial keg tapping. Having tapped the keg, brought specially from Munich, he uttered the traditional words "O'zapft is!" This heralded a refreshing round of drinks for the guests and team members present.

"Oktoberfest is an integral part of Munich – and we brought the unique atmosphere of the world's largest fair to the North Sea today," said Marquardt. "And an evening like this is also an entertaining change from the everyday routine on a race weekend."

BMW Team Schnitzer from Freilassing (DE) enjoys a particularly close association with the Bavarian tradition. Because of this, the mechanics donned their Lederhose on Friday evening and completed several pit stops in their traditional outfits. "Over the long history of our team, we have competed in races all over the world. However, our home is and always will be Upper Bavaria," said Team Principal Charly Lamm. "It is a nice idea to continue our local traditions here on the North Sea coast. That was definitely a very different pit stop practice."

BMW Motorsport leads the Manufacturers' Championship going into the ninth of ten DTM races. Augusto Farfus (BR) is the only DTM driver still in a position to deny Audi's Mike Rockenfeller (DE) the title in the Drivers' Championship.

About the DTM.

The German Touring Car Masters – DTM for short – is the most popular touring car series in the world. Last season, over 650,000 spectators flocked to renowned racetracks in Germany and around Europe to watch the ten races live. The series pits the three premium automobile manufacturers BMW, Audi and Mercedes-Benz against each other in a sporting contest. BMW fielded its first works teams from 1984 to 1992, during which time it claimed 49 race victories and won the Drivers' Championship on three occasions (1984, 1987 and 1989). In 2012, the manufacturer returned to the DTM with the BMW

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M3 DTM, three teams and six drivers. BMW promptly won five races and topped the driver, team and manufacturer standings at the end of the season.

The 2013 DTM calendar once again consists of ten races. The schedule includes four trips abroad, to Brands Hatch (GB), Spielberg (AT), Moscow (RU) and Zandvoort (NL). The season traditionally ends in Hockenheim (DE) on 20th October. This season sees BMW line up with an even stronger contingent of four teams and eight drivers. The car charged with defending the team's hat-trick of titles is once again the BMW M3 DTM. TV station ARD is broadcasting each qualifying (from 14:30) and every race (from 13:15) live. Tickets for all the DTM races are available here: http://www.bmw-motorsport.com/en/fan-area/dtm-tickets.html

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