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Markus Palttala on his victory in the 2014 BMW Sports Trophy 2014 – BMW works driver Jörg Müller to compete in 24H Dubai.

Whether in the DTM, the United SportsCar Championship, or countless other championships: week after week BMW teams and drivers around the world do battle for points, victories and titles. Away from the track too, members of the large BMW Motorsport family around the world are also creating headlines. The “BMW Motorsport News” allows us to regularly summarise all the action for you in a compact and informative manner. This way, you are always up to speed.

BMW Sports Trophy 2014: Winner Palttala in the BMW M4 DTM.

A dream came true for BMW privateer Markus Palttala (FI): After the 2014 season had drawn to a close, the Finn took to the race track once again – in a BMW M4 DTM. This was Palttala's reward from BMW Motorsport for winning the drivers' standings of the 2014 BMW Sports Trophy. A total of 283 BMW privateers from 26 countries registered for this year's competition. With successes in the BMW Z4 GTD in the United SportsCar Championship (USCC) and in the BMW Z4 GT3 in Europe, Palttala secured first place, for which he received 30,000 euros in prize money and got to drive the BMW M4 DTM. In Jerez de la Frontera, Spain, Palttala spent a day with BMW Motorsport's DTM team and climbed into the cockpit of the BMW M Performance Parts M4 DTM.

Three questions for ... Markus Palttala.

Markus, did you think you would be the top driver come the end of the BMW Sports Trophy season?

Markus Palttala: “After my successful season in both America and Europe, I initially had my sights set on a place in the top 25. I thought that was a realistic goal. I never even considered finishing right up at the top, or actually winning. That was a genuine surprise. I don't know what means more to me: winning the BMW Sports Trophy or the fact that I was able to drive the BMW M4 DTM. Both were absolutely incredible.”

You could hardly hope for a better end to the season ...

Palttala: “Yes, it has been a great year for me. However, the way it finished was obviously the icing on the cake. I won a few races in the USCC, but not the title. We finished runners-up at the 24-hour race in Spa-Francorchamps. That was awesome, but we still just missed out on the big victory. Therefore, winning the BMW Sports Trophy was a very nice compensation.”

What did the BMW M4 DTM feel like?

Palttala: “I was obviously expecting great things before my drive. But the BMW M4 DTM exceeded all my expectations. The downforce is so much greater than in a GT car. You really notice it in the long, fast corners. The brakes are also better, although the difference here to a GT car is not so profound. What really blew my mind was the downforce.”



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24H series: Jörg Müller to compete in 24H Dubai.

BMW works driver Jörg Müller's (DE) 2015 racing season will start shortly after the turn of the year. From 8th to 10th January, 2015, Müller will compete in the 24-hour race in Dubai (AE). He will start for the MPB Racing team and will share the cockpit of a BMW M235i Racing with Matias Henkola (FI), Stephan Kuhs (DE) and Bernhard Henzel (DE). 2015 will see the tenth edition of the 24H Dubai. BMW privateer teams have registered a total of 15 BMW race cars in the various classes.

FIA Formula E Championship: BMW in action as "Official Vehicle Partner" in Uruguay.

After two appearances in Asia, the drivers and teams of the FIA Formula E Championship were in South America this weekend. The Punta del Este ePrix in Uruguay marked the third round of the trend-setting race series for Formula vehicles with electric drive. BMW is the "Official Vehicle Partner" of the innovative championship and was in action once again in Uruguay, ensuring safety on the track with the BMW i8 Safety Car and the BMW i3 Medical Car. Also, BMW DTM driver António Félix da Costa (PT) made another appearance for Team Amlin Aguri. However, a technical problem forced him to retire before the end of the race. Victory in the eventful Punta del Este ePrix, which saw the BMW i8 Safety Car take to the track a total of four times, went to Sébastien Buemi (CH), ahead of Nelson Piquet Jr. (BR) and Lucas di Grassi (BR).

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