



Media Information  
11<sup>th</sup> August 2015

**Copa del Rey: BMW Sail Racing Academy Team wins ORC 1 class. King Felipe of Spain presents trophy.**

BMW Sail Racing Academy team wins prestigious regatta by half a point.

**Palma de Mallorca.** The BMW Sail Racing Academy team, under the guidance of Roberto Ferrarese – the head of the BMW-initiated sailing school for ambitious amateur yachtsmen and women – won the fiercely-competitive ORC 1 class in what was the closest competition at this year’s “Copa del Rey”. The crew, led by the multiple world champion (12-metre class, 1984; two-ton class 1991, 1993), narrowly defeated its strongest opponents “Earlybird”, with two-time America’s Cup winner and triple Olympic champion Jochen Schümann on board, and “Elena Nova” to win the fiercely-competitive ORC 1 class last Saturday. The crew, with match race specialist Simone Ferrarese at the helm, was embroiled in a thrilling competition, which went right down to the wire. In the end, a fourth place and a win on the sixth and final day of the competition proved sufficient to clinch overall victory.

The Copa del Rey was preceded by the three-day training course at the BMW Sail Racing Academy. The academy’s goal is to provide a professional programme of coaching for advanced yachtsmen and women, whilst at the same time offering them the unique opportunity to take part in a high-class regatta like the Copa del Rey. This was a dream come true for five participants. They formed a successful crew with Roberto and Simone Ferrarese, who were responsible for tactics and steering, and another four regular crew members. The ORC 1 class was the strongest in the competition, featuring a total of 44 yachts. As such, the entire team was delighted with its somewhat unexpected victory. The trophy was presented in the evening by King Felipe of Spain.

Dr. Nicolas Peter, BMW Group Head of European Sales Region, said: “This is a fantastic success. Congratulations to the entire crew on winning such a prestigious competition. Everyone did their best and showed emphatically that the concept of the BMW Sail Racing Academy is working superbly. The efforts of Roberto Ferrarese and his team are outstanding evidence of the quality of this programme.”

**Note to editors:** You can find the latest press releases, media folders and copyright-free images for editorial purposes regarding BMW’s sporting commitments online at: [www.press.bmwgroup-sport.com](http://www.press.bmwgroup-sport.com)



### BMW Sport Communications

Nicole Stempinsky

Tel: +49 (0)89 – 382 51584

E-mail: [Nicole.Stempinsky@bmw.de](mailto:Nicole.Stempinsky@bmw.de)

Internet: [www.bmw-yachtsport.com](http://www.bmw-yachtsport.com)

### The BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2014, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.118 million cars and 123,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2014 was approximately € 8.71 billion on revenues amounting to € 80.40 billion. As of 31 December 2014, the BMW Group had a workforce of 116,324 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

[www.bmwgroup.com](http://www.bmwgroup.com)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BMWGroup>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/BMWGroup>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/BMWGroupview>

Google+: <http://googleplus.bmwgroup.com>