

Press Release
17 October 2019

THE NEW MINI COOPER SE: IN GREEN MODE THROUGH THE “GREEN HELL”.



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You simply can't get more efficient. Thanks to two-stage adjustable recuperation activated by a toggle switch, the first all-electric MINI can power round the legendary North Loop of the Nürburgring without having to apply the brakes once.

Munich. The North Loop of the Nürburgring, 20.8 kilometres of motor-sport history, was once named the “Green Hell” by three-times Formula 1 World Champion Jackie Stewart. It is still the regular venue for ultimate endurance tests even 43 years after the last Grand Prix race for automobiles was held there. Every new model of the MINI brand has to put its performance characteristics to the test on the challenging circuit located in the Eifel mountains. And the legendary circuit is just the right testing ground for the new MINI Cooper SE (combined fuel consumption: 0.0 l/100 km; combined electricity consumption: 16.8 – 14.8 kWh/100 km; combined CO₂ emissions: 0 g/km). It puts the car's exceptional qualities to the test by requiring it to master completely new challenges. However, rather than hoping for lap records, the first all-electric vehicle

Company
Bayerische
Motoren Werke
Aktiengesellschaft

Postal address
BMW AG
80788 Munich

Telephone
+49-89-382-50181

Internet
www.bmwgroup.com

Press Release

Date 17 October 2019

Subject The new MINI Cooper SE: In Green Mode through the “Green Hell”.

Page 2

from the British premium automobile manufacturer is looking for records of a very different nature. Maximum efficiency and a high level of sensitivity in the right foot are needed if the new MINI Cooper SE is to negotiate the “Green Hell” in Green Mode without touching the brake pedal.



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The new MINI Cooper SE is the first electrified model from the BMW Group in which the driver can individually determine the extent of recuperation and the associated deceleration effect. Depending on the mode selected, the electric motor supplies more or less energy back to the high-voltage battery as soon as the driver takes their foot off the pedal. The braking effort associated with toggling the electric motor to engage generator operation is correspondingly high or low. The technological innovation offers the incentive for a very special type of challenge. How fast can the new MINI Cooper SE take curves like the right hander at the Bergwerk (mine), the Caracciola-Karussell (carousel) or the right-left switchback from the Stefan-Bellof-S going on to Schwalbenschwanz (Swallow's Tail) without the driver having to touch the brake pedal a single time?

Press Release

Date 17 October 2019

Subject The new MINI Cooper SE: In Green Mode through the “Green Hell”.

Page 3

Ideally, the new MINI Cooper SE would complete the efficiency test on the Nürburgring in Green Mode. Alongside a comfort-related characteristic steering curve, this setting for the MINI Driving Modes also encompasses a rather less spontaneous response from the actuator. There is also an option to activate the Green + Mode using the right-hand toggle on the characteristic switch panel beneath the central instrument. This additionally deactivates the automatic climate control and the seat heating in order to save more energy. The recuperation mode is selected with another toggle switch to the left of the start/stop button. This enables the driver to use the one-pedal feeling typical



P90371623

of the new MINI Cooper SE to suit their individual preferences in order to increase the dynamic performance and efficiency simultaneously in all-electric driving round fast bends.



P90371621.jpg

Press Release

Date 17 October 2019

Subject The new MINI Cooper SE: In Green Mode through the “Green Hell”.

Page 4

The level of brake energy regeneration and hence also the deceleration can be harmonised with the driving style and to suit the track profile. Timely toggling ensures soft recuperation ahead of extended bends and full energy recovery with corresponding deceleration ahead of tight curves without the driver’s foot having to touch the brake pedal. If we take Brünchen (Small Well) as an example at kilometre 16, professionals



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recommend approaching the sharp right-hand corner on the left-hand side of the track and starting to turn into it at an early stage. The full recuperation performance is necessary here in order to avoid being carried over the curbs at the left-hand edge. Conversely, slow deceleration is adequate before the second right-hand curve of this circuit section, particularly since there is hardly any time to put pedal to metal. This takes drivers energetically into the Eiskurve (Ice Bend) and they emerge full of verve in the direction of Pflanzgarten (Plant Garden).



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Anything that goes on the Nürburgring will also provide the additional portion of driving fun in everyday traffic that is so typical of the MINI style for local zero-emission mobility. Model-specific displays in the cockpit of the new MINI Cooper SE also help during fast changeover between sharp and wide curves when selecting the most appropriate

Press Release

Date 17 October 2019

Subject The new MINI Cooper SE: In Green Mode through the “Green Hell”.

Page 5

recuperation mode. A standard setting is the particularly intensive brake energy regeneration that results in negative deceleration of 0.19 g. The change to soft recuperation with a value of 0.11 g is confirmed by feedback in the digital instrument



P90371623

cluster of the new MINI Cooper SE. Furthermore, only one of the two LED light fields is still active in the recuperation display. At the same time, a yellow LED lamp lights up at the front of the toggle switch.

The first lap in the “Green Hell” already reveals the extent to which the two-stage recuperation increases driving fun in tandem with efficiency. This becomes evident directly behind the Galgenkopf (Gallow Hill) bend. Here the new MINI Cooper SE can make good use of all the energy that has been stored in its high-voltage battery during recuperative deceleration instead of being expended while braking. Nothing now stands in the way of a brilliant finish over the Döttinger Höhe (Döttingen Height).

Press Release

Date 17 October 2019
Subject The new MINI Cooper SE: In Green Mode through the “Green Hell”.
Page 6

The values of fuel consumption, CO₂ emissions and electricity consumption shown were determined according to the test procedure defined in the European Directive VO (EU) 2007/715 in the version applicable at the time of type approval. The figures refer to a vehicle with basic configuration in Germany and the range shown takes account of optional equipment and the different size of wheels and tyres available on the selected model. These factors can change during the configuration.

The values of some vehicles are measured according to the new WLTP (Worldwide Harmonised Light-Duty Vehicles Test Procedure) and converted to NEDC (New European Driving Cycle) for comparison purposes. The taxes or other duties for these vehicles may be based on fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions data which differ from that shown here.

Further information on official fuel consumption and official specific CO₂ emissions of new passenger cars is given in the ‘Handbook of fuel consumption, the CO₂ emissions and power consumption of new passenger cars’, which can be obtained free of charge at all sales outlets and from Deutsche Automobil Treuhand GmbH (DAT), Hellmuth-Hirth-Str. 1, 73760 Ostfildern-Scharnhausen, and at <https://www.dat.de/co2/>.

In case of queries, please contact:

Press and PR



Matthias Bode, Press Officer Product Communication MINI
Telephone: +49-89-382-61742
E-mail: matthias.bode@mini.com



Andreas Lampka, Head of Communication MINI
Telephone: +49 89-382-23662
E-mail: andreas.lampka@mini.com

The BMW Group

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world’s leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises 31 production and assembly facilities in 15 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2018, the BMW Group sold over 2,490,000 passenger vehicles and more than 165,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2018 was € 9.815 billion on revenues amounting to € 97.480 billion. As of 31 December 2018, the BMW Group had a workforce of 134,682 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.

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