

Press release  
19 June 2015

**Legends Parade at the Austrian Grand Prix: BMW Group Classic brings the Brabham BMW BT52 back to the race track.**

Formula One champion Nelson Piquet takes his world championship-winning car out onto the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg.

**Munich/Spielberg.** The history of Formula One is replete with compelling stories. A number of particularly spectacular episodes will be recalled on Sunday, 21 June 2015, as part of the Austrian Grand Prix world championship event. Eight historic vehicles from motor sport's crowning discipline will be lining up for the Legends Parade at the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg with former F1 racing drivers at the wheel – including a reunion with three-times Formula One world champion Nelson Piquet. In 1983 the Brazilian became the first driver in the history of Formula One to win the world championship title in a racing car powered by a turbo engine: the Brabham BMW BT52. At the Legends Parade in Spielberg, Piquet will once again be behind the wheel of his championship-winning car, which today belongs to the BMW Group Classic collection.

The engine that imbued the Brabham BMW BT52 with its legendary status was developed by BMW Motorsport GmbH under the guidance of its then Technical Director, Paul Rosche. His team furnished the British Brabham racing team with a 1.5-litre four-cylinder unit featuring 16 valves, a turbocharger and – in a first for Formula One – Digital Motor Electronics. This mix made for an awesome power potential, with experts estimating its maximum output at up to 1,400 hp. Rosche's response to such speculation was typically understated: "We don't know for sure as the dyno didn't go beyond 1,280 hp."

The BMW turbo engine was first deployed in a Formula One race at the start of the 1982 season; 630 days later Nelson Piquet drove the Brabham BMW BT52 to world championship victory. His title win marked the close of an unusually exhilarating season in which Piquet started from pole just once but clocked the fastest race lap four times and won three out of 15 races. He made eight podium appearances, collecting 59 world championship points over the season to take the 1983 Drivers' World Championship title.

The race car Piquet piloted along the road to victory continues to impress to this day with its 1980s-style arrow-shaped design and its extraordinary engine power. It is thanks to the BMW Group Classic team responsible for historic

Press release

Date 19 June 2015

Topic **Legends Parade at the Austrian Grand Prix: BMW Group Classic brings the Brabham BMW BT52 back to the race track.**

page 2

motor sport that the Brabham BMW BT52 is once again demonstrating its prowess on the race track. In 2013, exactly 30 years after Nelson Piquet's triumph, the racer was roused from its automotive retirement and ushered back onto the race track. Numerous mechanics who were involved in its development more than three decades ago were recruited for its extensive restoration – among them Paul Rosche. The upshot was experienced for the first time at the Goodwood Festival of Speed in July 2013. The Brabham BMW BT52's involvement in the Legends Parade in Austria will be its third appearance since its revival.

**For questions please contact:**

BMW Group Classic  
Corporate Communications  
Stefan Behr  
Spokesman BMW Group Classic  
[Stefan.Behr@bmw.de](mailto:Stefan.Behr@bmw.de)  
Phone: +49 89-382-51376, Fax: +49 89-382-28567

BMW Group Classic  
Gabriele Fink  
Corporate Communications  
Head of BMW Museum, BMW Group Classic Communications  
Phone: +49-89-382-51375  
mailto: [gabriele.fink@bmw.de](mailto:gabriele.fink@bmw.de)

Internet: [www.bmwgroup.com](http://www.bmwgroup.com)  
Internet: [www.press.bmwgroup.com](http://www.press.bmwgroup.com)  
Email: [press@bmw.de](mailto:press@bmw.de)

**BMW Museum – Hands-on history**

Visitors of all ages can explore the past, present and future of the BMW brand at BMW Welt, the BMW Museum and the BMW plant. The BMW Museum plays an important role in this. Since re-opening in 2008, it has been successfully presenting the history of BMW and offering a glimpse of the future. The museum also explores the theme of mobility for the benefit of younger visitors. The Junior Museum organizes a special program for children and young people, basing its educational concept on learning through play. The museum also has a history of its own: it is one of the oldest automobile museums in Germany, was built in 1973 and declared a historic monument in 1999.

Press release

Date 19 June 2015

Topic

**Legends Parade at the Austrian Grand Prix: BMW Group Classic brings the Brabham BMW BT52 back to the race track.**

page

3

**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>