



Media Information  
2 October, 2017

**BMW Motorsport News: British Touring Car Championship 2017.**

- Team BMW and West Surrey Racing (WSR) take the Manufacturer and Team titles in British Touring Car Championship.
- Driver's title right down to the wire after Colin Turkington makes an incredible comeback.
- Finale marks successful return as manufacturer-supported team.
- First time BMW has officially entered BTCC since 1996.
- Title won in 125i M Sport.

Team BMW has returned to the podium in style, taking both the Manufacturers'-Constructors' and Teams' titles in the 2017 British Touring Car Championship at the weekend.

In one of the most dramatic seasons the series has ever seen, the championship was wide open going into the final weekend of the season, but BMW's star driver, Colin Turkington, secured the Manufacturers' title for the brand in the second of the day's races at Brands Hatch on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Turkington drove a storming race, taking his 125i M Sport to victory from 15<sup>th</sup> on the grid.

The win was enough to also take the driver's championship right into the last of the season's 30 races, with Turkington 2<sup>nd</sup> in the overall standards. However, despite overtaking five other cars from 10<sup>th</sup> on the grid, the Irishman was involved in a collision a third of the way through the race.

The team had done enough, though, to secure two of the three major titles in the series – a testament to the hard work of West Surrey Racing (WSR) and its work with BMW cars over the past decade. As an independent, the team took the 2014 Drivers' and Teams' Championship with the previous generation 125i M Sport.

Graeme Grieve, CEO of BMW Group UK, said: "The BTCC is one of the most significant race series in the UK and has a huge and enthusiastic following. With a history of success and the continuous support of WSR for the past decade, we were delighted to step up as a manufacturer-supported team again after 21 years, and absolutely thrilled to prove that we still know how to win."

BMW UK's financial investment in the BTCC team included the funding of technical

# BMW

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developments on all fronts, focused on the very latest BMW engine technology. Completing the team line-up were former BTCC champion Andrew Jordan and fans' favourite Rob Collard, marking his 10th consecutive year of driving a BMW in the BTCC, the last seven with WSR. Both drivers finished in the top 10 drivers' rankings, contributing to the team's overall success.

**Ends**

#### **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 31 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2015, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.247 million cars and nearly 137,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2015 was approximately € 9.22 billion on revenues amounting to € 92.18 billion. As of 31 December 2015, the BMW Group had a workforce of 122,244 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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