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## U.S. Press Information



**For Release:** January 27, 2013

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### **BMW Powers Chip Ganassi Racing with Felix Sabates to Victory at Rolex 24 at Daytona**

**Woodcliff Lake, N.J. – January 27, 2013 . . .** The No. 01 Chip Ganassi Racing with Felix Sabates TELMEX/Target BMW Riley ended 24 hours of hard fought sports car racing at the 51<sup>st</sup> Rolex 24 At Daytona in the same position from which it started: First.

Starting from the pole-position, CGRFS co-drivers Scott Pruett, Charlie Kimball, Juan Pablo Montoya, and Memo Rojas completed 709 laps in the twice-around-the-clock endurance classic at the Daytona International Speedway to secure the famous pyramid-shaped trophy and Rolex watches. The car led a total of 420 laps and set the fastest lap of the race at 1:41.177 minutes on Lap 180.

The victory is the second overall Rolex 24 win for BMW with CGRFS. The first win came in 2011. Since the program began in 2010, the combination has combined for the GRAND-AM Daytona Prototype Manufacturer's championship in 2010 and 2011 and the Team and Driver titles (Pruett and Rojas) in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

The No. 02 CGRFS TARGET/Telmex BMW Riley of Scott Dixon, Dario Franchitti, Joey Hand and Jamie McMurray started the race from the outside of the front row and led 107 laps before retiring from the race with gearbox problems on lap 594. They were credited with an 11<sup>th</sup> place finish.

Team Sahlen, in the team's debut Daytona Prototype race, finished their two BMW Rileys in the 9th and 15th positions. The performance of the No. 42 Sahlen's machine of Dane Cameron, Bruno Junqueira, Will Nonnamaker and Simon Pagenaud was notable for qualifying 3<sup>rd</sup> and finishing 9<sup>th</sup>. The BMW Riley of Fifty Plus Racing finished 12<sup>th</sup>, completing 517 laps.

In the GT class, BMW was represented by two Turner Motorsport BMW M3s. Unable to start their No. 93 car due to a mechanical problem and crash in the Friday's final practice session, the team raced the No. 94 M3 to an 18<sup>th</sup> place class finish.

"The Rolex 24 at Daytona is always an exciting race and this year was no different," said Gordon McDonnell, BMWNA Motorsport Manager. "BMW and our engine partner Dinan Engineering are extremely proud to have powered Chip Ganassi Racing with Felix Sabates to another Rolex 24 victory and Scott Pruett to a record-tying fifth win. I would also like to congratulate Team Sahlen on an excellent debut race with BMW Power."

The second round of the 2013 GRAND-AM season will be held at The Circuit of the Americas, in Austin, Texas, on Saturday, March 2.

More information can be found at [www.bmwusa.com](http://www.bmwusa.com) and [www.grand-am.com](http://www.grand-am.com).

### **BMW Group In America**

BMW of North America, LLC has been present in the United States since 1975. Rolls-Royce Motor Cars NA, LLC began distributing vehicles in 2003. The BMW Group in the United States has grown to include marketing, sales, and financial service organizations for the BMW brand of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, the MINI brand, and the Rolls-Royce brand of Motor Cars; DesignworksUSA, a strategic design consultancy in California; a technology office in Silicon Valley and various other operations throughout the country. BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC in South Carolina is part of BMW Group's global manufacturing network and is the exclusive manufacturing plant for all X5 and X3 Sports Activity Vehicles and X6 Sports Activity Coupes. The BMW Group sales organization is represented in the U.S. through networks of 338 BMW passenger car and BMW Sports Activity Vehicle centers, 139 BMW motorcycle retailers, 115 MINI passenger car dealers, and 34 Rolls-Royce Motor Car dealers. BMW (US) Holding Corp., the BMW Group's sales headquarters for North America, is located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.

Information about BMW Group products is available to consumers via the Internet at:

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

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