U.S. Press Information



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BMW Team RLL - Monterey Grand Prix Preview

Woodcliff Lake, N.J. - April 30, 2014 . . . BMW Team RLL brings its two BMW Z4 GTLM racing cars and the lead in the class Team and Driver championships to Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca for Round 4 of the 2014 TUDOR United Sports Car Championship on May 4, 2014. Following the team's third consecutive podium – a second place finish at Long Beach by the No. 56 car of John Edwards and Dirk Müller – all BMW Team RLL drivers stand in the top-five with Bill Auberlen and Andy Priaulx leading the driver points and Edwards and Müller only 6 points back in fourth.

This year's race at the historic 2.238-mile, 11-turn circuit will be two hours long with GTLM and Prototype cars racing together. BMW Team RLL has raced there since its first season in 2009 with best finishes of second place in 2010 and 2011.

"We have been in a position to win at Laguna Seca on several occasions, once losing it on the last lap," said **Bobby Rahal**, **Team Principal**, "and I think we have a good chance this year. We may not have the best pace for qualifying but we have several things in our favor for this round. The Z4 GTLM is a more developed car than it was last year. Unlike our main competitors, we have lots of setup and race data from last year and should be fast out of the transporter. We have proven reliability. The performance of the car in race configuration has been very strong and Laguna Seca has a lot of fast corners that work in our favor. With both











cars in the championship hunt, we are looking for not just a podium finish but a win this weekend.

Bill Auberlen, driver, No. 55 Z4 GTLM – "We leave Long Beach with the lead in the championship and I feel we are going to a track that should really suit the BMW Z4 GTLM. The weekend can't come fast enough for me!"

Andy Priaulx, driver, No. 55 Z4 GTLM – "Laguna is one of the most famous circuits in the world and I really can't wait to tackle this challenge. I will approach this race in the same way as Long Beach and I hope very much that my preparations will work as well for this race as it did for Long Beach. Our goal has to be to maintain our championship standing and keep us in the hunt for the title. The last few races have shown many positives and I am learning all the time when it comes to the rules and idiosyncrasies of joining a new series. As a team we have all the fundamentals in place and it will now be fine tuning the details that will make us an even stronger challenger."

John Edwards, driver, No. 56 Z4 GTLM – "I have a lot of good memories from Laguna, including last year where we crossed the finish line in third, giving me my first podium as a BMW driver. This year's race will be a lot different since it is only two hours long, so it will really be an aggressive battle in GTLM. Our car had speed last year to compete for the win and we've developed it further since then, so I expect that Dirk and I will be competing for the top spot once again. It's a very tight championship at the moment in GTLM so every position will be crucial this weekend."

Dirk Müller, driver, No. 56 Z4 GTLM – "After our great weekend in Long Beach with our first podium for this year we are hungry for more. John and I know Laguna Seca very well and we both know that our BMW Team RLL Z4 GTLM will suit this fantastic track. It is a great venue and the new two-hour format will give us another sprint race like Long Beach. Our engineer Chris (Yanchar) knows exactly what we both need to get the success there so I am very confident we'll add to our podium streak."

The two-hour Monterey Grand Prix will take the green flag at 5:45 p.m. ET Sunday, May 4th. The race will be broadcast live on Fox Sports 1 with coverage beginning at 5:30 p.m. ET. Follow BMW Team RLL on Twitter at @BMWUSARacing for "from-the-pit-box" updates all weekend. More information on the program can be found at www.bmwusa.com and www.bmwusa.com and www.bmwusa.com.









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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 339 BMW passenger car and BMW Sports Activity Vehicle centers, 139 BMW motorcycle retailers, 119 MINI passenger car dealers, and 35 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

Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing

BMW's partner, Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing, based in Hilliard, Ohio and co-owned by three-time IndyCar Champion and 1986 Indianapolis 500 winner Bobby Rahal, Mi-Jack co-owner Mike Lanigan and CBS LATE SHOW host David Letterman, has been competing for over two decades, compiling 28 victories, 42 poles and three series championships (1992, 2010, 2011) as well as claiming an Indianapolis 500 victory (Buddy Rice in 2004). In 2009 the team joined BMW of North America to campaign the new BMW M3 in the American Le Mans Series. In 2010 the team won both the Manufacturer and Team Championships in the GT category. In 2011 the team swept all three GT titles - Manufacturer, Team and Driver.

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Journalist note: Photography for editorial purposes as well as information about BMW Group and its products in the USA is available to journalists on-line at www.bmwgroupusanews.com and www.press.bmwna.com.

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