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Contact: Thomas Plucinsky
BMW of North America Motorsport Communications
201-406-4801 (cell) / thomas.plucinsky@bmwna.com

Bill Cobb
BMW of North America Motorsport Press Officer
215-431-7223 (cell) / billcobbcommunications@yahoo.com

Kathi Lauterbach
Rahal Letterman Lanigan, VP of Communications
317-297-8064 (office) / 317-447-4337 (cell) / klauterbach@rahal.com

BMW Team RLL Survives to Finish Third in Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen; Rain Reigns at Watkins Glen, But BMW Leads GTLM Class

Woodcliff Lake, N.J. – June 28, 2015... Bill Auberlen and Dirk Werner drove the No. 25 BMW Z4 GTLM to a third place finish in today's very wet Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen. The duo completed 157 laps of the 3.4-mile, 11-turn Watkins Glen International circuit with the race slowed by eight caution periods and red flagged during the worst downpour for 14 minutes. The race ended behind the BMW M4 safety car during the last yellow flag with the victory going to the No. 17 Porsche.

The duo's third podium finish of the season, including a win at Long Beach, moves Auberlen and Werner to the top of the GTLM driver points standings and keeps BMW at the top of GTLM manufacturer points standings.

The day ended in disappointment for the No. 24 BMW Z4 of John Edwards and Lucas Luhr as Edwards was caught out by the slick conditions on lap 77, spinning into the tire wall entering the heading into the "boot" section and was retired from the race.

The race started with Auberlen in the No. 25 Z4 and Edwards in the No. 24 car from the second and third class grid positions. A light rain was falling causing Auberlen to spin on the opening lap and fall to the rear of the class. Edwards drove an excellent opening stint, moving into the lead on lap 36, as Auberlen recovered to P4 - 19 seconds back. Both pitted

ten laps later, handing off to Luhr and Werner. Edwards was back in the No. 24 Z4 on lap 76 while Werner remained in the No. 25 car, taking over the lead when Edwards went off on the next lap.

By mid-race the rain in control of the race and with two hours to go the entire field was racing on wet tires. Auberlen got back behind the wheel of the No. 25 Z4 on lap 118. He was in P3 as the race was red flagged with one-hour-and-28-minutes remaining and the race remained stopped for 14 minutes. The yellow flag waved and the race continued behind the safety car with the team choosing to pit Auberlen for his last stop as soon as the car could make it to the checkered flag. With 30 minutes to go he had moved into second place. The experienced veteran survived the difficult final minutes as the rain poured down causing the track to be extremely slick and affecting the car's electronics causing the engine to shut off intermittently. He lost second on lap 151 and was unable to get the position back as the race ended under yellow.

Bobby Rahal (Team Principal, BMW Team RLL): "It was a tough day and tough conditions. We had a little electrical glitch with the No. 25 Z4 which caused us to lose second place right there at the end. The weather conditions made it difficult. It is a shame we lost the 24 car. All in all, another podium and the lead in both the manufacturers' and drivers' championship."

Bill Auberlen (No. 25 BMW Z4 GTLM, third): "That was a tough one. From the get go we were on pretty hard compound dries, and it sort of sprinkled and it looked like our car hated that combination – sprinkling and a medium tire we were out to lunch. Then the track would dry, you would come to the front, sprinkle and we would go back. On rains it was just the opposite. When we put the Michelin rains on I went right to the front. We beat everyone we needed to beat in the points and we are moving forward and that is all we wanted to do. I had an ignition issue with so much rain and my motor shut off coming out of the carousel and that is how the Porsche got by me for second."

Dirk Werner (No. 25 BMW Z4 GTLM, third): "That was one of the most difficult races I have been in. It was a little bit like a Nurburgring feeling where the weather conditions really had a lot of surprises for us. We were out on a dry track and then out on slicks in the wet. Today everything was about staying in the race. Bill did a great job keeping the car on the road in the wet. I did my best and in the end I think we can all be happy with this podium. The car had a very good pace and it is very enjoyable to have a car like this Z4 which shows

a good performance. So far we have had a very good season with quite a few podiums, and I have enjoyed it a lot so far."

John Edwards (No. 24 BMW Z4 GTLM, dnf): "It was a very disappointing end to a promising day. We were quick in the dry, and quick in the wet. I think the only conditions we struggled with were when we had some drizzle and were on slicks, but in most conditions we could go really fast. Regarding the incident, I don't have much to say. The car snapped really quick and we checked the data quickly, but didn't see anything obvious from the car side. I was facing the wall before I even knew anything was happening, so maybe there was the chance there were some weepers or something on the track, but whatever happened the end result was the same we are out of the race. We probably had the best car in the race and the best chance to win."

Lucas Luhr (No. 24 BMW Z4 GTLM, dnf): "To be honest it was a very disappointing day, just because I think we had a very strong car in both wet and dry conditions and normally I think with a car like this you could win, but we didn't even finish the race. This is very, very disappointing, not only for me personally as a driver, but I think also for the whole team and for BMW. If you get a chance like this in a championship that is so close you have got to take it, and unfortunately John had an off and we didn't take this opportunity. From experience I know on these days when you are by far the quickest car on the track don't come that often in this tight and competitive year. On the bright side, we know we have a very strong package, our BMW Z4 is mega, and really I have so much fun driving it. If you ask me now what I would do to make it better I cannot tell you, so that is a good thing. Our sister car at least got on the podium, but for the next race we need to get our heads together and take the opportunity which has been given to us."

Round Six and the start of the second half of the 2015 TUDOR United SportsCar Championship will be held at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, in Bowmanville, Ontario, Canada, on July 12th. The two-hour-and-forty-minute Mobil 1 SportsCar Grand Prix will be broadcast live from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. ET on Fox Sports One.

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; Designworks, a strategic design consultancy based 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 and X4 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, 148 BMW motorcycle retailers, 123 MINI passenger car dealers, and 36 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.

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 2013 was euro 7.91 billion on revenues amounting to approximately euro 76.06 billion. As of 31 December 2013, the BMW Group had a workforce of 110,351 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been built 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.

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, CBS Late Show host David Letterman and Mi-Jack co-owner Mike Lanigan, has been competing for over two decades. Prior to the start of the 2015 season, the team had

compiled 30 victories, 47 poles, 130 podium finishes, three series championships (1992, 2010, 2011) and claimed 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. The following year, the team won both the Manufacturer and Team Championships in the GT category and swept all three GT titles - Manufacturer, Team and Driver – in 2011. In 2012 the team finished second in the Team Championship and third in the Manufacturer Championship and in 2013, the team finished second in the Driver, Team and Manufacturer Championship. The 2014 season brought a new challenge with the creation of the TUDOR United SportsCar Championship and the team finished on the podium six times including four second-place finishes. In 2015, the team will attempt to add to their 10 wins and 49 sports car podium finishes.

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