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BMW Team RLL - Continental Monterey Grand Prix Post Race.

Woodcliff Lake, N.J. – May 1, 2016... BMW Team RLL finished today's two-hour Continental Monterey Grand Prix, at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, in Monterey, Calif., ninth and tenth in the GTLM class.

Bill Auberlen and Dirk Werner, driving the No. 25 BMW M6 GTLM, finished ninth, 1.256 seconds ahead of the No. 100 M6 co-driven by John Edwards and Lucas Luhr in tenth place. Both cars completed 78 laps of the 2.238-mile, 11-turn Laguna Seca circuit during the 120-minute contest. The race was won by the No. 67 Ford GT of Ryan Briscoe and Richard Westbrook.

While the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship now enters the traditional Le Mans break for teams competing in the classic 24 hour race, BMW Team RLL heads to Watkins Glen International, in Watkins Glen, NY for two tests in preparation for the July third Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen race.

"The race was really disappointing for everyone," said **Bobby Rahal, Team Principal.** "We were searching for the set up for this new tire, but we couldn't find it in the time we had. Everybody deserved better, but now we have two tests at Watkins Glen, so we can



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take this tire and actually start understanding it so we are more competitive at the next race there."

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Bill Auberlen, driver No. 25 BMW M6 GTLM (9th): "Today was not our day, but we will be back at the front of the GTLM field sooner than later. A race like this one just makes BMW's next success that much sweeter."

Dirk Werner, driver No. 25 BMW M6 GTLM (9th): "We had a difficult weekend. The speed gap we had from the beginning we faced in the race as well, so we couldn't really fight for positions. I pitted quite early in the race and had luck that a yellow came out. Everyone else pitted so that moved us to the front - at least for a little while. Driving for maybe eight or ten laps in P1 was the best part of the race for me. Ultimately, we just didn't have the pace for better results."

John Edwards, driver No. 100 BMW M6 GTLM (10th): "It was a really hard race. We knew it was going to be difficult from Friday when we first got onto the new tire. Obviously we didn't find a good way to adapt to it. Fortunately we have eight weeks to the next race and a couple of test days, so we can find our way. We tried to go off strategy with the yellows and I saved a lot of fuel so we could go to the end. That strategy was really a good one as we got ahead of the cars we were racing with, but at the end we were just too slow to stay ahead of them."

Lucas Luhr, driver No. 100 BMW M6 GTLM (10th): "The weekend ended as it started - disappointing. In terms of performance, both of our cars were never able to fight or compete with the others. I think the break over these next few weeks will do us a lot of good and I am sure we will get it sorted out. As always in racing time is ticking a little bit against us, but there is no point having our heads down. We have to put our heads together, improve and come back stronger."

Round Five of the 2016 IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, the Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen, will be held at Watkins Glen International, in Watkins Glen, NY, on July 3rd. The race will be broadcast live on Fox Sports 1 beginning at 10 a.m. ET. Follow BMW Team RLL on Twitter at @BMWUSARacing for "from-the-pit-box" updates all weekend.

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 and X4 Sports Activity Coupes. The BMW Group sales organization is represented in the U.S. through networks of 341 BMW passenger car and BMW Sports Activity Vehicle centers, 153 BMW motorcycle retailers, 125 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.

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, former 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 their 25th season of competition in 2016, the team has compiled 37 victories, 49 poles, 144 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 earned three wins, two poles and a total of eight podium finishes to finish second in the Manufacturer, Team and Driver championships. Prior to the start of the 2016 season BMW Team RLL had won 13 races, 20 poles and 57 podium finishes.

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Journalist note: Information about BMW Group and its products in the USA is available to journalists on-line at <u>www.bmwgroupusanews.com</u> and <u>www.press.bmwna.com</u>.

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