



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

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In Seoul, the 100th Formula E race for Michelin will take place at an all-new circuit

- The ABB FIA Formula E World Championship on its first visit to Seoul. The new South Korean circuit includes a section inside the city's Olympic stadium.
- An allocation of 12 tyres (three sets) per driver for the likely hot and humid week-end's two e-prix where grip levels are an unknown.
- A further opportunity for the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV to showcase its performance and exceptional versatility.

With both the Drivers' and Constructors' title-chases yet to be settled, the 2021/2022 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship's 22 drivers and 11 teams are poised to wrap up the season with another double-header outing in brand-new territory: South Korea.

The country was originally slated to hold its first Formula E meeting back in May 2020, but that plan had to be shelved due to the Covid pandemic. Now, though, it is about to join China, Malaysia and, more recently, Indonesia as one of the four Asia-Pacific nations to have hosted Formula E action, taking the total number of countries to have organised races to 20, on four different continents.

South Korea's interest in motorsport and technology makes it an ideal venue for Michelin to demonstrate its advanced expertise with the third generation of the tyre it conceived for the inaugural Formula E championship back in 2014/2015. Since then, the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV has evolved at the same time as the all-electric cars themselves, bringing a revolutionary new approach to world-class single-seater racing.

"The second E-Prix in Seoul, on Sunday, will be our 100th Formula E race," notes **Mirko Pirracchio**, the manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "We very much like the idea of concluding the season at a brand-new venue because there is still everything to fight for, with several drivers in contention for the crown. The 2.6-kilometre, 22-turn circuit features a typical street-circuit cocktail of slow and fast corners, straights and hairpin bends. It even includes a section inside a sports stadium where the atmosphere promises to be... electric. We had no advance information about grip levels or the surface, but we are expecting a good mix because the lap takes in ordinary streets, the part through the stadium and its peripheral roads."



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“The track itself is relatively narrow and likely to be soiled because this is the first race to be held on it. However, thanks to its versatility, we expect that our Formula E tyre will deliver the same high performance as usual. They say the temperature will peak at around 30°C, so that is unlikely to be an issue. What might be, however, is the humidity which could prove punishing for the drivers and their cars. Thankfully, they will be able to count on a tyre that has repeatedly shown its efficiency across an exceptionally wide variety of conditions.”

The tyre allocation for the two Seoul E-Prix is 12 per car (six fronts, six rears) which is the rule this year for double-header fixtures, compared with eight for single-race weekends. This quota for 2021/2022 fits perfectly with Michelin’s sustainable approach to motorsport. Indeed, running a smaller number of tyres means using fewer materials and less energy at the manufacturing stage, not to mention reduced transport costs. There are fewer tyres to recycle, too.

The technologically-sophisticated MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV is the first-ever connected tyre to be used in world-class motor racing. It is equipped with a sensor which relays pressure-related information to Michelin Motorsport, Race Control and the FIA in real time with a view to optimising performance and ensuring that the regulations are adhered to. Outside of motorsport, this technology is employed to provide ordinary motorists with enhanced safety and peace of mind, while connected tyres are an integral part of the Smart City projects the planet’s biggest cities are working on.

Michelin’s ambition is to improve the mobility of its customers over the long-term. As a leader in the mobility domain, Michelin designs, manufactures and distributes tyres best-suited to customers’ needs and uses, as well as services and solutions to enhance vehicle efficiency. Michelin also offers its customers ways to enjoy unique experiences during their journeys and when travelling. In addition, Michelin develops high-tech materials for many sectors of activity. Based in Clermont-Ferrand, Michelin has offices in 177 countries, employs 124,760 people and operates 68 tyre factories which together produced around 173 million tyres in 2021 (www.michelin.com).

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