

**ABB FIA Formula E Championship 2019/2020
MARRAKESH E-PRIX – Round 5**

***The MICHELIN Pilot Sport makes active contribution to
exciting Marrakesh E-Prix and Rookie Test as lap times
continue to fall***

For the fourth time in its history, Formula E travelled to Morocco for the Marrakesh E-Prix. The city's 2.971km-long, 12-turn Circuit Moulay El Hassan – one of the longest of the campaign – is divided into two distinct sections, namely a conventional racetrack and ordinary roads, including Avenue Mohamed VI and Route de l'Ouraki.

As a semi-permanent facility, it isn't strictly speaking a street circuit and its varying grip levels always pose a challenge for the MICHELIN Pilot Sport, Formula E's official tyre which had to cope with exceptionally cold weather at the same fixture in 2019. This time around, the event took place six weeks later in the year and the teams were greeted by warmer conditions as the thermometer climbed to more than 20°C for the race.

The Marrakesh E-Prix is particularly popular with the drivers. The track's fast layout provides good overtaking opportunities which have tended to produce some entertaining racing over the years, and this weekend was no exception. On top of that, local motor racing fans were treated to three days of action, beginning with the first free practice session (brought forward from Saturday to Friday afternoon to benefit from better light), the e-prix itself on Saturday, and the additional draw of a Rookie Test on Sunday for drivers with no previous experience of Formula E.

"This year's Marrakesh E-Prix was another good advertisement for Formula E, a series where differing strategies can result in some exciting scenarios," says **Jérôme Mondain**, the manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "As expected, Saturday's race was an intense affair and provided an eloquent illustration of how these cars can be pushed to their limits. This, in part, is made possible by our tyres, the consistency and low rolling resistance of which allow the drivers to make the very most of their energy allocations. Here in Morocco, we saw several drivers fight back from low grid orders, including Mitch Evans [Panasonic Jaguar Racing], who started from last place but who had the means to finish sixth, while Jean-Eric Vergne [DS Techeetah] came third after qualifying 11th. Sunday's Rookie Test gathered drivers from a number of disciplines and their varying driving styles allowed us to collect additional data about our tyres. It was also rewarding to see how quickly they all settled in. After such a busy weekend, I think it is fair to say that the MICHELIN Pilot Sport is a match not only for all the different types of surface that Formula E visits, but also for a broad array of driving styles."

The 2020 Marrakesh E-Prix was won by Antonio Felix Da Costa, ahead of BMW i Andretti's Maximilian Günther and DS Techeetah team-mate Jean-Eric Vergne.



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The next round of the 2019/2020 ABB FIA Formula E Championship will take place in Rome, Italy, on April 4.

MICHELIN Pilot Sport for Formula E: the first connected tyre in motor sport

For the first time this season, Michelin has introduced a connected tyre in Formula E, the MICHELIN Pilot Sport equipped with the Michelin Track Connect system. This innovation is in line with the Group's development strategy, which already markets a Michelin Track Connect solution for Track Days enthusiasts. Michelin's goal is to extend the benefits of digital technologies applied to tyres to mass production vehicles, in order to provide the car and its driver with useful information, particularly in terms of safety and energy efficiency.

Michelin Track Connect for Formula E allows tyre pressures to be monitored automatically and reliably – whether hot or cold. This new solution addresses a demand expressed by motorsport's governing body, the FIA (Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile), which has incorporated its use into Formula E's regulations. It also meets a requirement of the teams and the championship's promoter. Michelin Track Connect for Formula E uses a Michelin-designed and developed sensor embedded in a specific casing inside the MICHELIN Pilot Sport tyres which feature in the series. The data it collects is transmitted in encrypted form to the FIA and Michelin, who are the only recipients. Not only does this make sure that the information remains confidential, but it also allows the FIA to check minimum tyre pressures are adhered to. In addition to saving time, it is additional reassurance for the teams and helps to streamline the running of race days.



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