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Wittmann completes 158 laps in Spielberg – Three BTCC victories at Croft.

Whether in the DTM, the United SportsCar Championship, or countless other championships: week after week BMW teams and drivers around the world do battle for points, victories and titles. Away from the track too, members of the large BMW Motorsport family around the world are also creating headlines. The "BMW Motorsport News" allows us to regularly summarise all the action for you in a compact and informative manner. This way, you are always up to speed.

DTM: Wittmann cashes in his present – 158 laps in a Formula One car.
A childhood dream came true for Marco Wittmann (DE) in Spielberg (AT) on Wednesday, when he took part in a Formula One test for Scuderia Toro Rosso. In good conditions, the 2014 DTM champion completed 158 laps of the 4.326-kilometre Red Bull Ring in the STR10, making him the hardest-working driver of the test day, at which the other Formula One teams were also in action. The Formula One test was a gift from BMW Motorsport and premium partner Red Bull to mark his title-winning season in the DTM.

Three questions for ... Marco Wittmann.

Marco, how did you feel on your way to this test – and how do you feel now, on your way home?
Marco Wittmann: "There was a lot of anticipation coming into the day. I was very relaxed about the whole thing, as I was not under any pressure. I took everything in my stride without too much expectation. Now that the day is over, I feel fantastic. I did an awful lot of laps and made the very most of my test. Both the team and I are very happy with the results of the test. That was a fantastic experience, for which I would like to say another big thank you to BMW Motorsport, Red Bull and Scuderia Toro Rosso. The team made me very welcome and I felt right at home."

158 laps is the equivalent of more than two races. That speaks volumes for the fitness levels of a DTM driver...
Wittmann: "I think our levels of fitness are outstanding. And I really noticed that today. I had slight problems with my neck, but other than that I feel good. Prior to the test, Timo Glock gave me a few tips on how to prepare, and I underwent a special training for my neck. That definitely paid off."

In which areas did you notice the biggest differences and the biggest similarities between a Formula One car and the BMW M4 DTM?
Wittmann: "The biggest difference you notice is definitely the acceleration. The high torque of the Formula One car, together with its light weight, makes for a huge amount of drive. Even in the higher gears, I sometimes had wheelspin. The braking is also completely different to in a DTM car, due to the hybrid drive's energy recovery system. The cornering speeds were surprisingly similar. It is here that you realise just how much downforce the BMW M4 DTM generates. It has no need to hide behind

the Formula One car in that respect. All in all, I really enjoyed this experience, but am looking forward to getting back in the BMW M4 DTM."

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DTM: Special test for the BMW M Performance Parts M4 DTM.
The BMW M Performance Parts M4 DTM is put to the test at every race. However, Martin Tomczyk (DE) has now put his racing car through a very special inspection. In BMW Motorsport's latest YouTube video, "The Duel", the BMW Team Schnitzer driver and his car were subjected to a general and exhaust inspection by DEKRA – the same inspection that every road-going BMW model must regularly undergo. The 1:35-minute clip sees Tomczyk pull slowly into the workshop in the BMW M Performance Parts M4 DTM, before he revs up the engine and lets the wheels spin, creating so much smoke that the inspectors can hardly see their hands in front of their faces. Do Tomczyk and the BMW M Performance Parts M4 DTM pass the inspection? Check it out for yourself. The video "The Duel" is available now on the BMW Motorsport YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/d1Hyt-P5p6k

DTM: Lebenshilfe Landshut visits the BMW DTM teams at the Norisring.
The BMW DTM teams, in Nürnberg (DE) for the third race weekend of the DTM season, received a special visit on Saturday: a group of 20 from the charity Lebenshilfe Landshut were guests at the Norisring (DE). The organisation has been supporting disabled people for almost 50 years. The idea to visit the DTM came from Willibald Löw, Member of the Supervisory Board BMW AG and Chairman of the Works Council, Landshut Plant. He has been involved on the board of Lebenshilfe Landshut for many years. "In the Lebenshilfe workshops, we are forever seeing how great the passion and enthusiasm is for BMW and BMW Motorsport. Hence the idea of visiting a DTM race together," said Löw. BMW Motorsport made sure the fans from Landshut enjoyed an unforgettable day at the Norisring. The programme was drawn up in cooperation with BMW Motorsport Director Jens Marquardt. BMW works driver Jens Klingmann (DE) showed the guests around the team garages, while Marquardt welcomed the group to the BMW Motorsport Hospitality and took time out to sign autographs.

BTCC: Successful weekend for West Surrey Racing in Croft.
The three West Surrey Racing drivers enjoyed a successful race weekend in Croft (GB) in the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC). Sam Tordoff (GB) claimed pole and BMW works driver Andy Priaulx (GB) qualified second to ensure the BMW 125i M Sport monopolised the front row. Their team-mate Rob Collard (GB) started from fourth to round off a dream qualifying result. In race one, the trio took full advantage of theirstart positions, with Priaulx coming home first ahead of Tordoff and Collard to complete a BMW one-two-three. Tordoff finished runner-up in race two to earn his second podium of the weekend, while Priaulx and Collard came home fourth and sixth. In race three, it was Collard's turn to celebrate as the winner on the top step of the podium. Priaulx completed the 1-2 in finishing second, Tordoff was sixth. "What an amazing day for all of us," said Priaulx after this historic success for the WSR squad.

USCC: Front row start for BMW Team RLL.
Qualifying for the fifth round of the United SportsCar Championship (USCC) at Watkins Glen (US) in New York state, the "Six Hours of the Glen", had to be cancelled on Saturday afternoon due to atrocious weather conditions. The rain was so heavy that the standing water would have made any track action dangerous. Due to this, the grid was decided according to the driver championship points standings. This means that the number 25 BMW Z4 GTLM of Bill Auberlen (US) and Dirk Werner (DE) started second in class and the number 24 BMW Team RLL sister car of John Edwards (US) and Lucas Luhr (DE) third. The Turner Motorsport BMW Z4 GTD of Michael Marsal (US) and Markus Palttala (FI) started from eighth on its class grid. The race is still on.

FIA Formula E Championship: Nelson Piquet Jr. is the first ever champion.
The BMW i8 Safety Car and the BMW i3 Medical Car have made the final stop on their 2014/15 world tour: the final round of the inaugural season of the FIA Formula E Championship was held in London (GB) this weekend. BMW is "Official Vehicle Partner" of the racing series for purely electric single-seater cars. First ever champion of the FIA Formula E Championship is Nelson Piquet Jr. The Brazilian secured the title in a dramatic Finale. After finishing the two races of the "London ePrix" in fifth and seventh, Piquet Jr. had an advantage of one point over Sébastien Buemi (CH), who was second overall. The victories in the two London races went to Buemi and Sam Bird (GB).

CTSCC: Season's best result for Fall-Line Motorsports.
Ashley Freiberg (US) and BMW Motorsport Junior Trent Hindman (US) drove the number 46 Fall-Line Motorsports BMW M3 to a season's best second place Grand Sport class finish in Saturday's rain-soaked two and a half hour Continental Tire Sports Car Challenge (CTSCC) race at Watkins Glen International (US). Freiberg started the race from her eighth place qualifying position and raced as high as third during her stint. Hindman moved up to second, but was unable to challenge for the win as the race was red flagged because of the wet conditions with some thirty minutes remaining, ultimately ending behind the BMW M4 safety car under the caution flag. Terry Borcheller (US) and Mike LaMarra (US), driving the number 23 Burton Racing BMW 128i, were the top-finishing BMW drivers in the Street Tuner class in eighth place. The race was won by the Chevrolet Camaro of Andrew Davis (US) and Robin Liddell (GB).

USCC: BMW M6 GT3 makes its first public appearance in North American at Watkins Glen.
BMW Motorsport added something very special to the "Six Hours of the Glen" event at Watkins Glen International (US). The fifth round of the United SportsCar Championship (USCC) saw the new BMW M6 GT3 racing car make its first public appearance in North America. Exhibited along with a BMW M235i Racing, a 1975 BMW 3.0 CSL and a McLaren F1 GTR, as well as a number of road cars, the BMW display of past, present and future was extremely well received.

Pirelli World Challenge: Turner Motorsport in action in Road America.
A Turner Motorsport BMW Z4 GT3 was in Pirelli World Challenge competition at Road America (US), in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, this weekend. Bill Ziegler (US), driving the number 95 BMW Z4 GT3, finished ninth in the GTA class in Friday's round 11 sprint race and improved to finish sixth in Saturday's round 12 event.

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