

Motorsport News

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South Africa

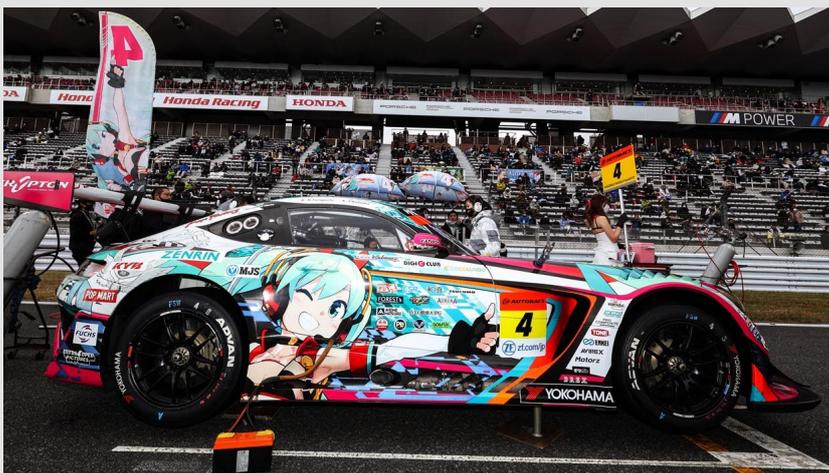
A promising 2021 season

Winners of the 2020 Thundercat Regional Championship, Marc Gleed and Wiltas Leeuwner, are betting on the perfect set-up of their inflatable boat to gain new victories in 2021. Their hard training will also contribute to the future success of this audacious team.
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Austria

Zorn ready to fight his opponents

After claiming seventh place in the 2020 European Individual Ice Speedway Championship, FUCHS rider Franky Zorn has intensified his training in Sweden to rival the best competitors of the FIM Ice Speedway Gladiators Championship this season. // Page 2.



Japan

Eight races to prove their skills

The GOODSMILE RACING & TeamUKYO Team will be contesting the 2021 SUPER GT Series. After a challenging 2020 season, drivers Nobuteru Taniguchi and Tatsuya Kataoka will take part in the eighth round of the GT3 series on the most legendary Japanese circuits. // Page 3.



Austria

An impressive show on ice

The Ice Arena Lodowa in Tomaszów Mazowiecki (Poland) hosted the Individual Ice Speedway European Championship in December behind closed doors. Fortunately, fans could follow these talented competitors live.

17 riders from ten countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, The Netherlands, Germany, Russia, Switzerland, Sweden, Italy, and Poland), took part in this extremely renowned event classed just behind the world championship, the Ice Speedway Gladiators Championship.

At the starting line, the riders jumped on their saddles to push the nails of their tires into the ice for maximum grip. They had to do several rounds of four laps at over 100 km per hour to prove their skills. The riders' entry into the corners was impressive. They were not far off digging furrows into the ice with their handlebars, tilting their bikes up to 70 degrees. The motorcycle fairing covers wheels equipped with 170 nails, each 28 millimeters long. The frame is minimalist and the engine runs on methanol.

"At the end of the race, there were so many ruts in the ice that it was difficult to hold the bike," explained FUCHS rider Franky Zorn.

Russian riders confirmed their skill in this discipline with the top three places, while Franky secured seventh. Franky is well known among the Polish public thanks to his European Championship title in 2008.

"After the race, we made some adjustments to the bike in the workshop before testing it in Strömsund (Sweden), but it was quite difficult, with temperatures close to -18°C."

The next race is scheduled to take place at the Togliatti circuit in Russia. The drivers are waiting for approval from the FIM (International Motorcycling Federation).

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene CASTORENE R40S, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene PRO PREP



Japan

GOODSMILE RACING & TeamUKYO proved their skills at the Fuji Speedway

The Takanokono Hotel FUJI GT 300km RACE, the eighth round of the 2020 AUTOBACS SUPER GT Series, was held at the international circuit of Fuji Speedway in Shizuoka Prefecture. The ultimate round of the GT3 series welcomed 60 eager drivers to finish the season with good performances. "The SUPER GT is the most popular car-racing series in Japan, except for Formula 1," commented FUCHS Automotive Manager, Takashi Fujitsu.

FUCHS local distributor Abe Shokai Ltd and FUCHS Japan have been sponsoring the GOODSMILE RACING & TeamUKYO Team for five years. Team Manager, Ukyo Katayama – a famous former F1 driver – and Team Owner, Takanori Aki, manage two renowned drivers, Nobuteru Taniguchi and Tatsuya Kataoka, driving the GOODSMILE HATSUNEMIKU AMG GT3.

Kataoka began the 66 laps at a furious pace, passing eleven cars in the first three laps and moving up to 13th position. In the stand, the public was thrilled and had high expectations, especially when Kataoka set his personal best time on lap five. But the team was in for a shock when a competitor hit Kataoka's car, causing it to spin round and come to a stop in the middle of the circuit. This accident pushed him back to 27th place, the lowest the team has ever been. Kataoka restarted at the bottom of the grid

but soon rejoined the pack. Due to early pit strategies by rival teams, teammate Taniguchi gained positions lap by lap and was in eighth position by lap 25. Despite the Mercedes AMG GT3 struggling on the straights, Taniguchi finally passed the checkered flag two laps behind the leader.

Ukyo Katayama said: "Despite the upset of the 2020 championship, the drivers have been able to accumulate some points through a series of tenacious races with single finishes in the early stages of the season. They claimed eighth place in the driver standings and seventh in the team standings."

2021 calendar: April 10-11 – Okayama International Circuit; May 3-4 – Fuji Speedway; May 29-30 – Suzuka Circuit. To be confirmed: rounds 4 and 5 at Buriram United International Circuit and Sepang International Circuit; September 11-12 – Sportsland SUGO; October 23-24 – Autopolis; November 6-7 – Twin Ring Motegi

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN Supersyn LONGLIFE 0W-40, TITAN SINTOPOID LS 75W-90, MAINTAIN FRICOFIN V



South Africa

Marc Ansley enthusiastic about new challenges

FUCHS rider Marc Ansley of the MA 18 Racing Team participated in the 2020 South Africa National Motocross Championship in the MX3 class. This specialist, well known on the motocross scene, benefits from 30 years of experience in this very demanding discipline. It is a sport that requires good physical fitness as well as a great deal of strategy. The rider must anticipate the bumps and difficulties of the circuit while overtaking his opponents. Marc managed to finish fifth in his class in 2020.

After four seasons in the SA National Motocross Championship, Marc has chosen to take part in the ten rounds of the 2021 Inland Motocross Championship. All the races are streamed live on Facebook and social media.

Mark opted to ride with a KTM 350 SX-F to counter the talented favorites of the championship. He has chosen to do intensive training during the off-season to improve his skills and test the new bike. "I'm happy to have had the opportunity to train on the Terra

Topia Dirt Bike Club, a circuit in the 2021 championship."

Marc has been sponsored by FUCHS South Africa for three years. "I've chosen to race with FUCHS Silkolene this season because I believe in their products. I recommend them to fellow riders because I trust in their quality. FUCHS is a great group and I'm proud to be their ambassador."

Very dynamic on social media, FUCHS South Africa relays a lot of news about its partnership activities.

2021 calendar: January: Dirt Bronco Raceway MX Track; February: Terra Topia Dirt Bike Club; March: Erora MX Track; May: Smoking Pistons MX Dirt Track and Chestnut Hill MX Track; June: Terra Topia Dirt Bike Club; July: Dirt Bronco Raceway MX Track; August: Erora MX Track; October: Smoking Pistons MX Dirt Track; November: Chestnut Hill MX Track

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 R 10W-60, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene BRAKE CLEANER, Silkolene FOAM FILTER CLEANER



South Africa

Victories in the firing line

Despite a chaotic season, driver Marc Gleed and navigator Wiltas Leeuwner of the Rusgenot Transport Team celebrated first place overall in the 2020 Thundercat Regional Championship in the modified class. With their inflatable boat equipped with a 50 hp engine, the duo fought the waves at over 115 km per hour. It is always a captivating spectacle for the public to see forty teams brave the sea.

In 2021, the team will take part in the National and World Inflatable Powerboat Championships as well as the Trans Agulhas Inflatable Boat Challenge. "This season, we'll race with the latest Infanta racing boat powered by the new Yamaha 50 hp engine. Our team worked hard, using all our technology and expertise to develop various combinations between the boat, engine, and propellers. 2021 will be a challenging season as we're going all out to regain our status as national champions and Trans Agulhas winners in the modified class, but also to achieve the highest position in the 2021 world championship," explained Marc Gleed.

The team has been sponsored by FUCHS for four years. Marc and Wiltas said: "We find that the range

of FUCHS Silkolene lubricants is far superior to anything else that we've ever used, and the extensive product knowledge of the FUCHS engineering team has proven to be extremely beneficial to us. We also noticed that there is a suitable FUCHS product for every application requirement that we might have. FUCHS lubricants have been instrumental to our team successes over the years."

FUCHS South Africa Marketing/Advertising Administrator, Janet Kerr, explained: "We're proud to sponsor Marc and Wiltas. They exemplify the FUCHS values and have great integrity and respect for their chosen sport and sponsors."

Inflatable boat: Weight of the boat including crew: 365 kg – Length: 4.1 m – Engine: 3 cylinders, 50 hp

2021 calendar: February: regional event Cape Town; April: national event Struisbaai; October: SA World Championship; December: Trans Agulhas, to be confirmed.

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 2, Silkolene PRO SRG 75, Silkolene PRO PREP, Silkolene WASH OFF, Silkolene ENGINE CLEANER, Silkolene CARB CLEANER



South Africa

A bold and energetic season ahead

The 2020 season of the SuperBike Magazine Short Circuit Series has been a historic edition but also one of the most hotly contested. FUCHS rider Luca Coccioni of the Rich Racing Team shone with second place overall in the Clubmans2 class with his KTM RC 390, then Marius Boeta Knoetze and Alicia Rich Knoetze finished in the top eight. Their teammate Lyle Ramsay changed over to the BMW series mid-year and achieved seventh place overall in a shortened championship. He also participated in the 3 Hour Endurance Race at the Bulawayo Motorsport Park with a Golf Polo and claimed fourth overall.

Team Manager and owner, Vic Rich, explained: "In 2021, we plan to compete in the World of Motorcycles Racing Series, which promises to be the biggest and most publicized series in South Africa. The team will enter three riders in the 400 cc class and one in the 600 cc class. Lyle Ramsay will compete in the BMW series, driving a new BMW E36 330i over nine rounds. Depending on the exposure value, visibility, and budgets, we will also race in the Michelin Short Circuit Series and the Blu Cru Africa Cup. We have

signed a new partnership with international rider Allan Jon Venter, who will race the new Suzuki 1000 cc in the above series. We see this partnership as value-added exposure for us and our partners."

The team has been partnered with FUCHS for six years. "We've been using FUCHS lubricants in all of our bikes and cars. We've never had any mechanical failures but have seen a drop in maintenance costs and moving parts replacements."

FUCHS South Africa Marketing/Advertising Administrator, Janet Kerr, said: "The team places huge value on creating a cohesive team that embodies our values. They're a well-managed and professional outfit."

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO R 0W-20, Silkolene PRO 4 10W-40, Silkolene PRO 4 PLUS 5W-40, Silkolene CHAIN LUBE, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene CONTACT CLEANER, Silkolene ENGINE CLEANER, Silkolene WASH OFF, Silkolene SILKOPEN



Great Britain

Paige Bellerby wins the Super National title in 5 Nations British Rallycross Championship

Paige Bellerby has been declared the winner of the Super National Rallycross Championship after the penultimate round, held at Lydden Hill in December. The organizers had to cancel the final planned round due to COVID-19 restrictions.

On finding out the news, Paige said: “Although this year has not been how we all would have hoped, this truly has been a fantastic result and brings a massive amount of joy to the end of what has been an awful year for everyone.” Paige is the first woman to win the Super National title and joins her sister Drew as one of the only two women to have won national titles.

Paige summed up her successful season: “One of the season highlights was the late evening round of the championship at Lydden. Tackling Hairy Hill in the dark is an amazing experience, and the floodlit circuit creates a great atmosphere. My biggest thanks and gratitude go to all my sponsors, who have continued to support the team through this awful year. I hope 2021 will be different and that we’re able to return to winning every round of the championship in front of spectators and fans.”

She added: “The Lotus car is currently in bits, undergoing repairs to the gearbox. We’ll be jumping straight into the winter rebuild to get the car ready for the season.”

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE SYN 5, TITAN RACE PRO S 5W-40, TITAN RACE PRO S 5W-30



Portugal

Vítor Pascoal, sacred national rally and hill climb champion

In 2020, Vítor Pascoal performed an unusual feat in national motorsport and triumphed in the Campeonato de Portugal de Ralis GT (Portuguese GT Rally Championship) and Campeonato de Portugal de Montanha GT (Portuguese GT Hill Climb Championship). The Porsche 991 GT3 Cup driver had good results and showed his ability to overcome a difficult season at all levels.

After twice being crowned champion in the Portuguese GT Rally Championship, Vítor Pascoal had reached his ambitious goals for 2020: to revalidate the title in the

rallies and also try to win the Hill Climb Championship in the GT3 class, his first full season in the series. And he succeeded!

“Ending such a difficult year with two titles and several victories, both in the rally and hill climb disciplines, is the best reward for all our efforts,” said Vítor. “We’ve made great sacrifices to be present in the two championships, always dignifying the image of our sponsors, and fighting for victory in every event. I remember the weekend we raced the Rally Vidreiro on Friday and Saturday and then the Rampa Serra da

Estrela on Sunday, fighting for first place in two different competitions. I dedicate these titles to our sponsors for the trust they placed in us in such an atypical year, to Ricardo Faria – a key player in the Baião Rally Team –, and to our entire technical team.”

The team will race in both championships in 2021.

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE PRO S 10W-60, TITAN SINTOPOID LS 75W-140, MAINTAIN BRAKE CLEANER