

Motorsport News

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China

Double victory for the Zhengzhou Nissan Navara team in the Taklimakan Rally 2018

The drivers, HE, SONG and XU, impressed their adversaries and the public during the Taklimakan Rally 2018, the most prestigious cross-country rally in Asia. Despite difficulties encountered during their race – particularly the crossing of the Tourfan Depression and the Taklimakan Desert – the duo won the place of honor in the T2 and T2.1 classes. // Page 2.

Italy

Outstanding success for the Silkolene Riding Days

FUCHS Italy organized three events of the Silkolene Riding Days on the legendary race tracks of Misano Adriatico, Mugello and Vallelunga, in 2018. These renowned sporting events captivated the riders just as much as the public and were a great promotion for the FUCHS Silkolene brand. // Page 9.



Portugal

The Baião Rally team seized the provisional title at Castelo Branco

Vítor Pascoal and Ricardo Faria of the Baião Rally team excelled during the second and the third round and took the lead of the Portugal Rally Championship. Now since their Porsche 997 GT3 has been set-up well by expert mechanics, the drivers are aiming for the 2018 title. // Page 5.





China

The bold drivers of the Zhengzhou Nissan Navara team won the Taklimakan Rally 2018 in their classes

Sponsored by FUCHS China for the first time, the Zhengzhou Nissan Navara team won the 13th edition of the Taklimakan Rally 2018, the greatest and toughest cross-country rally in Asia. From June 2 to 14, this international off-road event, lauded as the Dakar Rally of China, welcomed 16 motorbikes, 90 cars, trucks and quads for an overall distance of 5,000 km of roads and interconnecting links.

The nine special races covered 2,800 km leading through the towns of Urumqi, Turpan, Hami and Changji Hui. The drivers crossed snow-capped mountains, deserts, lakes and steep sand dunes.

The complexity of the rally courses was a true performance test for automotive lubricants. FUCHS supported and assisted the team. "The engine oil delivered its full potential and the drivers mastered all the challenges waiting behind every corner!" said Zhang Jie, FUCHS China Marketing Specialist.

"To perform well during this intense long-distance rally, the drivers needed mental toughness, versatility and a strong support crew. Temperatures reaching 40°C, unforeseeable sandstorms and the labyrinth of race tracks could not deter the drivers from marching forward like frontier warriors. With courage and resolve, they braved mud and soil, wind and rain for the sole purpose of winning this off-road extravaganza. With the assistance of FUCHS LUBRICANTS, the team emerged as the champion of T2 class (Cross-Country Series Production Vehicles) after topping five stages and as double champion of T2.1 class (Petrol Cross-Country Series Production Vehicles)."

During the award ceremony Yang Zhiyuan, FUCHS China Marketing Director, congratulated the team.

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN Supersyn SAE 5W-40, TITAN ZH 3044, MAINTAIN DOT 4

Photo, left to right: FUCHS China: Qun YE, Product Manager Automotive Lubricants and Zhiyuan YANG, Marketing Director. Drivers: Nasheng HE, Haitao SONG and Yuandong XU.



South Africa

Vice-champion title for the BCR team

The Ice Block race – the last of the four national rounds of the 2017/ 2018 National Thunder Cat Championship – took place east of Johannesburg in June. The BCR/ Arrow Underwriting Managers team ensured a really great performance against 45 crews and won the 2nd place of the national podium.

Adrenaline guaranteed!

The driver, Marc Gleed (44), and his co-driver, Wiltas Leeuwner (23), raced in the Longhaul class. This category mixes endurance and strategy over 140 km around the Vaal River. In their very light semi-rigid boat equipped with super powerful 50 hp engines the driver reaches 115 kph on a straight. The cooperation between the two teammates must be perfect to avoid flying.

The extremely spectacular Trans Agulhas Challenge is very popular and are watched by up to 70,000 spectators during the five days of racing. It should also be noted that 15,000 people followed each day on apps and the eight TV broadcasts of these impressive races were watched by 55,000 viewers.

A dynamic team

In race 1, the crew had a great start and reached 3rd position in the first lap. Boosted by this performance, they intensified their efforts and defended their 2nd place until the chequered flag. Overall, they won 2nd place in the national championship 2017/ 2018.

The team has been sponsored by FUCHS for five years. “We are very happy with this achievement in the championship. The FUCHS lubricants that we use definitely gave us the competitive advantage to stay on top of our racing,” said Marc Gleed, the Team Manager.

The team is now preparing for the world championship which will take place at Fréjus in France in September and the 2018/ 2019 Trans Agulhas Challenge.

Boat: weight of the boat including crew: 365kg – length: 4.1m – engine: 3 cylinders - 50hp

FUCHS lubricant: TITAN Marine TC-W3



Germany

Two class victories for the BLACK FALCON team at the 4th VLN round

BLACK FALCON team crossed the finish line as the winners of the SP10 and V6 classes at the VLN round which took place at the Nürburgring track. The crew of Mercedes-AMG GT4 – Stefan Karg, Fidel Leib and Moritz Oberheim – celebrated their second victory of this VLN season, while Ronny Lethmate and Miguel Toril achieved their 1st class victory in the Porsche 981 Cayman. The Porsche 911 Carrera of Alexander Akimenkov, Christoph Hoffmann, Uwe Lebens and Vasilii Selivanov also finished the race on the podium and won 3rd place in the V6 class. With their Mercedes-AMG GT4, Stefan Karg, Fidel Leib and Moritz Oberheim of the BLACK FALCON team IDENTICA fought their way from 3rd on the grid to the top in this 4-Hour Race. With a lap time of 8:51.440 minutes they also achieved the fastest lap in their class. Their teammates Peter Ludwig, Mustafa Mehmet Kaya and Gabriele Piana competed in the Mercedes-AMG GT4 of the BLACK FALCON Team TMD Friction. After the 4th place in qualifying they completed a flawless race and finished 5th.

The two Porsche production cars of the BLACK FALCON team TMD Friction finished the race with a double podium in the V6 class. Ronny Lethmate and Miguel Toril started from 3rd place and quickly moved up to 2nd position. In the last hour of the race they finally took the lead and did not relinquish it until the end. Their teammates – Alexander Akimenkov, Christoph Hoffmann, Uwe Lebens and Vasilii Selivanov – started from 4th on the grid and crossed the finish line in 3rd place after an outstanding performance.

The drivers of the Porsche 911 GT3 Cup MR II – Jürgen Bleul, Manuel Metzger and “Takis” – started from the 1st position in their class and quickly distanced themselves from their competitors. They drove the fastest race lap in the SP7 class.

In the 6-Hour Race in August, the VLN season highlight, the BLACK FALCON team will be competing with one AMG GT3, three AMG GT4s and four Porsches.





Portugal

Baião Rally team: unbeatable at Castelo Branco and Viana do Castelo

Vítor Pascoal and Ricardo Faria revealed their talents during the second of the seven rounds of the Portugal Rally Championship. In the Castelo Branco race, the crew of the Baião Rally team knew it was essential to score in this round after giving up the start of the championship. In their Porsche 997 GT3, the objective was to take any risks necessary to stay in the title fight. Due to the bad weather conditions and rain, the rally proved to be more difficult than expected and it was not easy for the driver to use all the power of the Porsche. Nevertheless, their competitive spirit has once again prevailed and the duo dominated the rally once they reached the first special stage. Thanks to the perfect set-up of the Porsche and their unfailing motivation, they managed an excellent performance right up to the chequered flag and had their first triumph of the season. Of the 70 accredited teams only 39 crossed the final line.

The third round will take place in Viana do Castelo with 14 special stages over 322 km. Since the beginning of the rally, the team imposed their rhythm once again.

Vítor Pascoal explained: “Our main focus was to confirm our last performance and finish on the podium. Thanks to the withdrawal of our main opponent on the second day of the race, it was easier to manage our race and ensure our second victory of the season.” The team actually led the championship. “We like the Viana do Castelo rally. We are welcomed by a lot of public, particularly in the two super-specials in the center of the city, being a great way to promote our project and our partners.”

The team has been sponsored by FUCHS since 2015 and uses a wide range of FUCHS products.

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE PRO S SAE 10W-60, TITAN GT1 PRO C-3 SAE 5W-30, TITAN GT1 PROFLEX SAE 5W-30, TITAN SINTOPOID LS SAE 75W-140, TITAN Supersyn SAE 5W-30, TITAN SYN MC SAE 10W-40



Albert Kröpfl and Verena Arzberger

Austria

Three drivers in the Pre- TT Classic Road Races under the FUCHS colors

The Pre-TT Classic Road Races “Southern 100” were held on the 4.25 mile Colas Billown Course in the south of the Isle of Man. Since the first race in 1955, these competitions have grown in popularity to such an extent that the race programme has had to be expanded to cater for the number of competitors wishing to take part.

The IGFC senior and organizer of the Rupert Hollaus memorial race, Wolfgang Stropek, and the two surgeons Dr. Albert Kröpfl and Dr. Verena Arzberger participated in the race and crossed the finish line after 1,900 km. In the sidecar class Kröpfl and Arzberger with their 500 Kurth BMW were able to reach 14th place in the section Church Bends.

Wolfgang Stropek was successful with his Seeley Matchless 500 in the 500 and 850cc solo classes and secured 8th and 16th place respectively. The 72-year-old spoke of extremely difficult conditions. The road course is so rugged that it loosened screws on bikes again and again.

“We congratulate all the FUCHS drivers for their excellent performances,” said Markus Kollenz, FUCHS Austria.

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene CASTORENE R 40 S, Silkolene COMP 4 XP SAE 20W-50, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene PRO PREP, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE



Wolfgang Stropek



Zimbabwe

Cameron Durow confirms his talent at Terra Topia

Cameron Durow was back in great shape from winning heat 1 and 2 at Terra Topia during the 4th South Africa National MX Championship in Johannesburg. Recently, Cameron has been flying the FUCHS Silkolene banner high in the 125cc class in Italy, Holland and France.

Manu Bako on his 65cc FUCHS Silkolene KTM achieved 3rd place in heat 1, won heat 2 and ranked 1st overall for this round. He is now level on points in the championship and is looking forward to racing round 5 which will take place in Cape Town in August.

Leah Heygate on her FUCHS Silkolene KTM had two solid 2nd's in the Ladies class and is keeping the pressure on her rivals going in Cape Town.

Jayden Ashwell is getting back to top form and had a great ride in heat 1, with a 3rd and a 5th in heat 2. Jayden is currently lying 5th place in the championship and looking to climb the ladder in the 5th round.

Regan Wasmuth on his FUCHS Silkolene KTM had a mixed bag on the day but is still riding well and is a huge contender for the SAMX Championship crown.



Nicole Cicillini

Italy

The strong commitment of FUCHS Italy

Sharing the same DNA as FUCHS Silkolene, in 2018 FUCHS Italy decided to invest in a series of initiatives to bring true passionate riders closer together – whatever their age – and to share highlights of which only true enthusiasts know the value. Thanks to all these beliefs the Silkolene Riding Days were born.

FUCHS Italy also started sponsorship activities trying to give new young riders the chance to live their dreams, to support women riders in the world of racing and to stand by those who dreamed of returning to the saddle after a serious accident. "We are happy to sponsor newcomers in the world of the races but are also faithful to riders such as Luca Maria Casagrande of the LM Racing team, Giorgia Montini of the Cello team, Remo Castellarin and Nicole Cicillini of the Old Crazy Man team," said Cristina Delmastro, FUCHS Italy.



Remo Castellarin

Remo Castellarin – Old Crazy Man team: on top of the Italian National Trophy 1000

30-year-old Remo Castellarin was one of the FUCHS testimonials at the Silkolene Riding Days 2018. He is currently the leader of the Italian National Trophy 1000 in the open category.

His next challenge with the FUCHS Silkolene logos will be at the Misano Adriatico race with a BMW K1000RR of 1098cc with 220 horsepower. In the last tests he performed very well establishing his personal record on this track.

Italy

FUCHS Italy supported enthusiastic racers for the 2018 sporting season



Luca Maria Casagrande – LM Racing team: leader of the Italian National Speed Motorbike Championship

Well known in the world of bikes for winning all the trophies in the minibikes categories, Luca Maria Casagrande rides an Ohvale 110 in the CNV – Campionato Italiano Velocità – this season. This championship is dedicated to promoting the Pit Bike sector, Ohvale GP-0, and is organized in five interregional selections. All the finalists of each category will compete for the nomination for the National Champions Motoasi.it.

Only eight-year-old, Luca Maria Casagrande succeeded in winning the first races of Central Italian Championship. He is now leading the ranking and qualified for the National Finals.



Giorgia Montini – Cello team: on the highest step of the podium at Fermo

Aged 19, Giorgia Montini is studying and working at the same time, trying to spend any additional energy on her passion: motocross. Even if she cannot practice as much as she wants to, she rides her bike proudly and with determination – a gift from her grandparents. “She is our pride in the motocross competitions!” explained Cristina Delmastro, FUCHS Italy.

In the last round of the FIM Women Cross World Championship, she qualified in the 11th place, but she didn't finish heat 1 after a fall. More motivated in the second heat, Giorgia remained in the top 10. Lacking the time to perfect her physical form, she finished in 15th place.

At Fermo, she was on top of the podium of the Italian Motocross Senior Women Championship in front of Kiara Fontanesi – five-times world champion. She is now leading the national championship before the two last rounds 2018.



Nicole Cicillini – Old Crazy Man Team: objective, the first step!

New partner of FUCHS Italy, Nicole Cicillini (19) has surprised the members of FUCHS by her grit and determination on the track. Currently racing against men on her Yamaha 300 in the Central Italian Championship, she reached the 3rd position in the championship.

Sabino D'Amico – her team manager – and Remo Castellarin – her teammate – are preparing Nicole to race in the 300 Super Sport class, the top category of the ‘Campionato Italiano Velocità’, the major Italian championship. “Nicole was our guest at Mugello and Vallelunga during the Silkolene Riding Days. With Remo Castellarin as tutor, she had the chance to come to know the track and started training for the next step, which is the top level of the most important Italian championship,” said Cristina Delmastro.



Italy

Exciting Silkolene Riding Days

After the first successful edition of 2018 Silkolene Riding Days in Misano Adriatico in April, FUCHS Italy decided to repeat this event on the Mugello circuit in June and on the Vallenga circuit in July. "During the one-week day event in Mugello, we exploited the capacity of the track with 240 racers and 800 visitors, while in Vallenga, which took place the entire weekend, we were sold out almost two months in advance of the date with 400 riders and 1,200 people," explained Cristina Delmastro, FUCHS Italy.

This event is now well-known and gets a great feedback from the competitors. The safety of the riders is at the heart of these races and a lot of specific advice and rules are underlined during the mandatory briefing. The active interaction with renowned riders is appreciated by all the participants. One on the main rules is that all the bikes must be checked by safety control before entering the track.

To promote the FUCHS Silkolene brand, FUCHS Italy offers all the competitors a precious mix of FUCHS Silkolene lubricants, a special edition of the FUCHS Silkolene cap, the official event t-shirt, the TNT bag and free photos of the entire event on Facebook.

"In Vallenga we had testimonials from prestigious riders like Vinicio Bogani, former rider 500 class in MotoGP Championship, Fabio Massei who raced in the Superstock 1000 World Championship and Remo Castellarin, our rider in the Italian National Trophy Championship, who is currently leading the ranking," said Cristina Delmastro.





Great Britain

Two podiums for the Bellerby Motorsport team

Sisters Paige and Drew Bellerby had a flawless performance in South Wales for the latest round of the British Rallycross Series. Drew started the first day with an assertive but controlled drive to win 2nd places in heat 1 and the semi-final and scored 3rd place in the final.

Day 2, Drew got a blistering start straight off the line, took the lead and drove a controlled race to the chequered flag. She scored her first win of the season at the Pembrey circuit. Afterwards, Drew could hardly contain her excitement.

“Overwhelmed, on cloud nine and thankful are some of the emotions which come to mind as I finish 1st in BMW Mini class.”

Meanwhile, Paige raced again in her Lotus Exige after the engine upgrade. Thanks to improved speed, she qualified in 6th place for the final race and finally won the 3rd place of the podium. Congratulations to the Bellerby sisters!



Great Britain

JG Speedfit riders in great shape

British Superbike team JG Speedfit is celebrating after Leon Haslam maintained his place at the top of the British Superbike Championship. The rider strengthened his lead after taking 1st and 2nd place finishes at Knockhill. These results have given the Derbyshire ace a 74-point lead in the championship while teammate Luke Mossey also grabbed two points-scoring finishes.

Also representing JG Speedfit team in the British F1 sidecar 600 cup, Ricky Stevens and Ryan Charlwood moved up to 4th in the British Sidecar Championship.



Great Britain

Mark Bowd brushes the podium at Brands Hatch

The annual American Speedfest event is the largest and most prestigious event in FUCHS LUBRICANTS sponsored JDM Racing's calendar. Sharing the programme with five other series, including NASCAR Euro and Formula 5000, it is estimated that during Saturday and Sunday over 30,000 spectators attend the event at Brands Hatch.

The grid was shared with 32 V8 muscle cars including Corvettes, Mustangs, Cobras, TVRs and MGBs.

Mark Bowd of the JDM Racing team with his Ford GT 40 qualified 8th and finished 4th in the M class, just outside of the trophies with a lap time of 56.1 seconds.

Great Britain

Fabulous battles at the FUCHS LUBRICANTS MSA British Historic Rally Championship

The fourth of the seven rounds of the FUCHS LUBRICANTS MSA British Historic Rally Championship saw Paul Barrett and his new co-driver Will Rogers fight back from early delays to scoop maximum points on the Red Kite Stages. With only ten seconds deciding the top 3, the win proved to be an important result for Paul Barrett for the final ranking, after his non-finish in the previous rally.

The FUCHS LUBRICANTS 'Spirit of the Rally' product award went to Barry Stevenson-Wheeler who worked flat out to repair his Ford Escort Mk2 after an off on the Carlisle Stages two weekends earlier.



Great Britain

Joe Collier dominated with a double podium at Knockhill track

EHA Racing rider Joe Collier earned a double podium visit aboard the Aprilia RSV4 RF at Knockhill in Scotland, consolidating his position in the Pirelli National 1000cc Superstock Championship – with just 13 points now covering the top 3 in the series. Collier holds 3rd place after five rounds and a very impressive performance at the Fife venue, which incidentally was his first-ever on 1000cc machinery – and 24 months since he last competed at the Scottish venue. In race 1, he came through from 13th to grab 1st place on the podium and in race 2, which was red-flagged, he worked his way through from the second row for another important 16 championship points.



France

Suspense until the last stage for the Turbo ABP Competition

For their first season in the French Rally Championship – Asphalt, Jordan Berfa (23) and Damien Augustin (32) won their first podium during the fifth of the nine rounds of the championship. In this very competitive 45th edition of the Rouergue Rally, only 81 of the 118 crews crossed the final line at the end of the 12 special stages totalling over 200 km. The last “super-specials” was close with a gap of only one tenth of second between the leaders. This rally was particularly trying for the drivers but very exalting for the public, who turned out in large numbers to applaud the crews.

With their Hyundai i20 propelled by 290 hp, the drivers of the Turbo ABP Competition secured 5th place the first day and won the 3rd position at the end of the rally.

“The good knowledge of the special stages of this rally combined with two days of training, helped us to achieve this performance. The improvements of the car were done particularly on the set-up of the

dampers and the height of the chassis,” explained Jordan Berfa. From 12th place after the first races, Jordan and Damien reached 8th place in the provisional rank of the championship. “A few mechanical concerns along with driving mistakes which caused flat tyres, deprived us of good results at the beginning of the season. This podium puts us right back in the championship and we are even more motivated to reiterate this performance as soon as the next race.” The Turbo ABP Competition team is composed of 12 people and is aiming for the top 5 during this season. “The level of the asphalt championship is higher than the land rally which we won last year. The driving is different and more precise. Actually, the gap between the leaders of the championship is very tight and we all have the chance to achieve our targets. This new challenge in the asphalt rally helps us to grow.”

Next races: September: Mont-Blanc Morzine and Cœur de France – October: Critérium des Cévennes – November: Sainte-Maxime.