

PETROL SEAT CARS TO ADD 20 KILOS

The fastest cars will stay on the maximum compensation weight for the last but one event of the season in Japan. Like in Oschersleben and Imola before, the BMW 320si and the SEAT León TDI will carry 40 kg of ballast at Okayama. According to the calculation that took into account the lap times set in the three previous events (Brands Hatch, Oschersleben and Imola) these two models share the “honour” of being the reference car.

The Chevrolet Cruze remains on +30kg, while Alessandro Zanardi’s BMW 320si (equipped with a sequential gearbox) and the LADA Priora will have again 20kg deducted from the minimum weight. On the contrary, because of the excellent performances recently posted by Coronel, Boardman, Bennani and Čolak, the petrol-powered SEAT León cars have lost the right to deduct 20 kilos and will be forced to run on the minimum weight.

Compensation weights Okayama

+ 40 kg	BMW 320si, SEAT León TDI
+ 30 kg	Chevrolet Cruze LT
± 0 kg	SEAT León TFSI
- 20 kg	BMW 320si Zanardi, LADA Priora

PORTUGUESE TEST FOR MENU AND THE CRUZE

While the WTCC cars are traveling to Asia by sea for the final two events of the 2009 season, the Chevrolet team continued their test and development programme of the Cruze. Following the tests in Zolder with Nicola Larini and Magny-Cours with Robert Huff earlier this summer, the Cruze ran this week at Portimão’s Autodromo do Algarve for a three-day session, with Alain Menu at the wheel.

The work in Portimão was focused on testing different set-up and suspension solutions. The test went well with no hiccups at all, except for some rain showers that reduced activity on Tuesday. This test was also very useful for the team to build a first set of data about the demanding new circuit, which will host WTCC’s Portuguese event next year.



Alain Menu’s Chevrolet Cruze during the test in Portimão

TEAM ENGSTLER TEST ASIAN DRIVERS

The Liqui Moly Team Engstler completed a test in Hockenheim with three Asian drivers. Alongside their regular WTCC entries – team principal Franz Engstler and Kristian Poulsen – the German team will field two additional cars in Japan and three in Macau.

Masaki Kano from Japan and Henry Ho from Macau will race at Okayama, while Ho will be joined by his fellow countrymen Lic Ka Liu and Jo Rosa Merszei in Macau.

Kano, Ho and Lic had the opportunity to test the BMW car in Hockenheim, taking advantage of Engstler's advice. Kano, who had raced for the team in last year's WTCC events at Okayama and Macau, knew the racetrack already and clocked good lap times. Ho and Lic started testing at the wheel of BMW 320i E46 cars, before switching to the new E90 models. The Asian programme means a huge effort for the team that shipped five cars to Japan and will fly a crew of 25 people.



Franz Engstler with Lic Ka Liu (left) and Henry Ho (right)

GREEN ELECTRICITY FOR YOKOHAMA

Like last year, Yokohama will again make use of “green electricity” with reduced environmental burden at the WTCC service garage during the event in Okayama.

Green electricity, which is generated by natural energies, including wind power, hydropower and biomass (biological resources), has been gaining attention as a less environmentally damaging form of power. Green electricity use is recognised with a green certificate of the “ecological value” of the use, including reduced use of fossil fuels and CO₂ emissions.

Yokohama has contracted with Japan Natural Energy Company Limited, and been issued a green certificate worth 1,000 kWh of energy using natural resources (biomass generation of 1,000 kWh).

Having elevated the fight against global warming to the level of highest importance among in its environmental activities, Yokohama Rubber is striving to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to conserve energy across the full range of its business activities.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR 2010 WTCC

Media accreditation for the 2010 FIA World Touring Car Championship full season is now open.

Journalists and photographers who wish to apply for WTCC permanent media pass must file the proper accreditation form and return it via registered mail together with the required documents.

The application form is available for download at:

<http://www.fiawtcc.com/html/uploadedFiles/docs/WTCC%20Permanent%20Form%20for%202010.pdf>

The deadline for application is November 12th, 2009.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR MACAU

Applications for Media Accreditation for the 56th Macau Grand Prix and rounds 23 and 24 of the FIA World Touring Car Championship are now open.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Friday, 23rd October.

- **International Press** must send applications to:
Fabio Ravaioli – FIA WTCC Media Delegate
tel +39 06 39729497, fax +39 06 39729470, email: media@fiawtcc.com
- **Press, TV and Radio from China, Macau, Hong Kong and Taipei** must apply on-line at: <http://www.macau.grandprix.gov.mo>
- **International TV and Radio** must send applications to:
Antonios Argyropoulos – Eurosport Events
tel +33 1 40938517; email: antonios@eurosport.com

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR OKAYAMA

Rounds 21 and 22 of the 2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Okayama, Japan, 31st October and 1st November.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 20th October.

Please remember that media passes issued by National Sporting Authorities and/or any other series will NOT be valid.

The Accreditation form may be downloaded at the websites www.fia.com and www.fiawtcc.com.

- **International Press** must send applications to Fabio Ravaioli
tel +39 06 39729497, fax +39 06 39729470, email: media@fiawtcc.com
- **Japanese Press** must send applications to Naoki Andou
tel 0868 743311, fax 0868 742600, email: pr@okayama-international-circuit.jp
- **TV and Radio** must send applications to Antonios Argyropoulos
tel +33 1 40938517; email: antonios@eurosport.com

COUNTDOWN: - 29 DAYS



to the 2009 FIA WTCC Race of Japan – 31st October / 1st November in Okayama