

Motorsport News

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South Africa

A memorable victory

After four grueling days, Team Rusgenot Transport won in the modified class the 2022 Trans Agulhas Race. They ran the tough speed challenge of 670 km through big waves and rough sea, with their inflatable boat powered by a Yamaha two-stroke 50 hp engine. // Page 5.

The Netherlands

Bravery, talent, and audacity for the FUCHS team

For the second time in a row, the private racing team DDW Rallyteam raced in the Dakar Rally, a long and hard challenge for both the team and truck. The extreme 14-stage adventure took place in Saudi Arabia over 8,549 km. // Page 8.



Portugal

A wonderful snap!

Photographer, Ricardo Oliveira, won the 2022 ERC Digital Photography Award with a shot of the Hyundai i20 N Rally2 driven by the FUCHS driver Ricardo Teodósio. The award was a great piece of advertising, promoting the team to rally fans all over Europe. // Page 6.



Tanzania

New season, new goals!

Driver Raj Singh Deere and his co-driver of the FUCHS TITAN Rally Team will take part in the five rounds of the 2023 Tanzania National Rally Championship. The first race will be held in Iringa, followed by races in various regions of Tanzania, before the championship concludes in the Arusha area. The championship is the second most popular sporting event in Tanzania, after football, and attracts tens of thousands of fans.

Following a successful 2022 season, the FUCHS duo won third place overall in the championship with its Subaru WRX STI N10.

Raj Singh Deere (known as 'Raj D') said: "I'm thrilled with this year's calendar. I promise to do even better than last year and to win more podiums. My sincere thanks go to the entire FUCHS LUBRICANTS management for their trust in the team and me. I'm excited for the new season kick-off."

FUCHS Tanzania Marketing Executive, Frank Ngobile, said: "By the end of this year, we plan to have run multiple events to promote rally awareness and, most importantly, to have increased content on our social platforms that focuses on our team. Once again, we will sponsor the team because of the great performance they showed in the previous season. With our continuing support this year, we believe the team has the potential and dedication to achieve the greatest results yet."

Calendar: May: Rally of Iringa (IMSC), June: Rally of Tanga (MUMC), July: Rally of Tanzania (AAT), September: Rally of Morogoro (MURC), October: Rally of Arusha (AMSC)

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN GT1 Flex 23 5W-30, TITAN SUPERGEAR 80W-90, RENOLIT L-LX 220 EP2, MAINTAIN DOT





South Africa

First 2023 podium for Ian Rall

Young rider Ian Rall raced in the 2023 Gauteng Xcross Country Club (GXCC) series with a Honda CRF 450 RX in the OR1 Pro class.

The GXCC is an off-road motorcycle and quad club and is dedicated to developing adrenaline-filled off-road and cross-country motorsport experiences for all competitors in a safe, fun, and competitive environment. The club is proudly affiliated with MSA (Motorsport South Africa) and is host to both the GXCC series and the Northern Regional Championships. The series will consist of six rounds in 2023 at venues within a 200 km radius of Johannesburg and Pretoria.

At the end of the first round, FUCHS rider Ian Rall said: “I felt great in the first ten kilometers with a lot of passes and caught up to the leader, but I threw it away by going down hard. After the crash, I took it easy and managed to finish third in my class. It’s great to be back and feel all the love from the racing family.”

Calendar: January, April, June, July, October, November

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 10W-60 XP, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL, Silkolene PRO COOL, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene WASH OFF





South Africa

Ready to take to the podiums!

The first round of the 2023 MSA NRMX Championship took place in February at the Phakisa Raceway, which also served as the pre-National for round one of the SA MX National Championship.

New FUCHS rider Johan Vogelesang said: “The day started off with a solid practice. I felt quite comfortable on my new bike and had competitive lap times. The first heat started off great with the holeshot and an early lead ahead of my main competitors. I was confident and managed to open up a small gap in the first few corners. Halfway through lap one, I hit the wrong line on a jump through a fast straight section and ended up going down hard, thankfully with no serious injuries.”

In 2022, the 25-year-old rider competed in the SA MX National Championship and the Free State, with a few one-off events like the North vs South Interprovincial thrown in between. Johan finished fifth overall in the MX1 class of the SA MX National Championship, took the title in the Free State and the Northern Cape MX1 Regional, and was selected to represent South Africa in the 2022 Motocross of Nations in the MX1 class.

“In 2023, I’m riding with a 2023 Orange County KTM 450 SX-F and, after placing fifth in the 2022 national championship, my goal is to get a top three overall in the championship at the end of the eight rounds of the season. I also plan to run a few rounds in the MSA NRMX Championship.”

SA MX National Championship calendar:
February: Phakisa, April: Cape Town (rounds two and three), May: Pietermaritzburg, June: Richards Bay, July: Gqeberha (rounds six and seven); November: Gauteng

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 10W-60 XP, Silkolene TITANIUM DRY LUBE, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL, Silkolene FOAM FILTER CLEANER, Silkolene PRO BOOST, Silkolene WASH OFF



South Africa

What a start to 2023!

For the first time since the pandemic, the international competitors were back for the 22nd edition of the Passion for Speed at the Zwartkops racetrack, and the circuit was packed with excited spectators.

FUCHS Lola Team was eager to race against some of the highly competitive International Sports Prototypes cars, including Ford GT 40s, Porsche 917, McLaren, Chevron, and many other superfast cars. The team was looking forward to seeing how they would fare against the international competitors and especially the local drivers.

During qualifying, the T 70 Lola car experienced overheating and a misfire due to the ambient temperature of 33°C, resulting in a disappointing tenth position on the starting line. The team worked to resolve the issues by adding cooling vents, opening spark plugs, replacing parts, and carrying out a whole range of checks.

On Saturday morning, the team set its sights on a strong performance, reaching one of the top spots in just ten laps. "As a safety precaution, I dosed the radiator with Silkolene PRO COOL and doctored the fuel with one of my favorite FUCHS products: Silkolene PRO BOOST."

Despite an average start, driver Lary Wilford managed to squeeze his way through the turn-two exit and got past a Porsche. With one down and eight to go, he started feeling confident. By lap seven, he was able to make his way past six more cars and moved up to third.

"As you move towards the front, the challenge is tougher because these are the fastest cars in the race and passing becomes very difficult. I closed right up on the two leaders, watching for when a pass could be possible. As we entered turn eight, the runner-up tried an out-braking maneuver on the leading Chevron. Realizing this compromised their exit, I grabbed the apex of the corner and unleashed the 750 horses I have at my disposal. What an adrenaline boost!" The FUCHS Lola T70, which started 10th, converted to a win.

FUCHS lubricants: MAINTAIN ENGINE CLEANER, ANTICORT G70, TITAN RACE PRO S 10W-60, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene CARB CLEANER, Silkolene PRO BOOST, Silkolene PRO 4 15W-50, Silkolene WASH OFF, TITAN SINTOPOID LS 75W-140, TITAN SINTOPOID LS 75W-90, Silkolene PRO COOL



South Africa

Standing ovation for Team Rusgenot Transport

FUCHS driver Marc Gleed and his co-driver, Herman Erasmus, were on the starting line of the 2022 Trans Agulhas Race at the end of December at Plettenberg Bay. The team was again challengers in the world's toughest inflatable boat race, where 30 fearless teams raced over 670 km in front of 50,000 spectators who came to the beaches to cheer them on.

The eleven women and men of Team Rusgenot Transport were determined to reclaim their 2022 place on the podium and worked tirelessly for six months to prepare. Marc tested the boat and the propellers over many kilometers in tricky weather conditions on the various stages to find the right set-up.

Marc said: "The secret is to be consistent and finish all the stages with a high average speed and to opt for fast beach stops. We won the first stage with a four-minute lead over the second boat in the modified class and took first place

in the King of The Waves Surf race, but faced challenges in the following two days. We lost a lot of time with a near flip, then we had to change a propeller in perilous conditions, big waves, and a choppy sea. However, all teams lost time in these two stages, so in the end, we were leading our class by 20 minutes before the final stage of 224 km."

Despite strong winds and heavy surf, the team chose to take shortcuts through kelp beds and shallow reefs, taking the risk of striking a rock or getting stuck, to gain an edge. "After many twists and turns, we won the modified class in the 2022 Trans Agulhas. Massive thanks to FUCHS LUBRICANTS for the support we received; it's greatly appreciated."

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



Portugal

A picture worth a thousand words

In 2022, two-time champion Ricardo Teodósio and co-driver José Teixeira raced in the National Rally Championship (NRC) and, for the first time, in the Portuguese rounds of the FIA European Rally Championship (ERC), and the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC).

Thanks to Portuguese photographer Ricardo Oliveira, who won the 2022 ERC Digital Photography award, the picture of the Hyundai i20 N Rally2 driven by Ricardo Teodósio was seen by fans all over Europe.

The image of the FUCHS team powering its car through a deep watersplash in Rally Serras de Fafé e Felgueiras came out top of the enthusiasts' poll from a shortlist of eleven fantastic entries submitted by the ERC's best photographers.

The dramatic image gives a full insight into the conditions competitors faced at the opening round as jets of water shoot through both the Hyundai's hood vents.

The team has been sponsored by FUCHS since 2019 and will race in the nine rounds of the NRC this season.

Calendar: Rally Serra de Fafé, Rally Alto Tâmega, Rally Terras d'Aboreira, Rally Vidreiro/Centro de Portugal, Rally de Castelo Branco, Rally dos Açores, Rally Vinho Madeira, Rally de Castelo Branco, Rally Casinos do Algarve

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



Italy

A new prestigious partnership for FUCHS

FUCHS Italy has signed a sponsorship contract with EvanBros Racing Team for 2023. The successful team was two-time world champions in the FIM World Supersport Championship in 2019 and 2020, and three-time world vice-champions in the FIM World Supersport Championship in 2019, 2021, and 2022. The team has won 29 races, 61 podiums, and 17 pole positions.

In 2022, visibility for the team was high: the 76 races of the championship were broadcast on more than 20 TV channels, with 69 million fans tuning in. 50,000 spectators were on the bleachers at every race and three million enthusiasts followed on all the social platforms.

For the 2023 season, the team recruited Andrea Mantovani, who will make his debut in the championship with a Yamaha YZF-R6. The 28-year-old rider has a lot of experience in the WorldSBK, the STK1000, and the MotoE™ World Cup.

The intense first two-day test took place at the Circuito of Jerez (Spain) and the following ones at the Phillip Island track (Australia), which will host the first round of the season.

Andrea Mantovani said: “The tests were two really exciting days. The overall balance is certainly positive. Now it’s time to analyze the data collected, to understand where we need to improve, and how to do it. Both

the team and I gave our best, which is fundamental for doing well: we are a new duo, which needs time, but on the race pace we are already competitive. I thank the team for their fantastic work, I can’t wait to get back on the bike.”

Calendar: February: Phillip Island (Australia), March: Mandalika (Indonesia), April: Assen (The Netherlands), May: Catalunya (Spain), June: Misano (Italy) and Donington Park (UK), July: Most (Czech Republic), September: Magny-Cours (France) and Aragon (Spain), October: Portimao (Portugal) and San Juan (Argentina): the last race must be confirmed.

FUCHS lubricant: Silkolene PRO 4 10W-30



The Netherlands

An exciting challenge for the FUCHS team

For the second time in a row, FUCHS participated in the prestigious Dakar Rally with the private racing team DDW Rallyteam. Driver Egbert Wingens and co-driver Marije van Ettehoven – one of the few women in the rally – were sponsored by FUCHS through its distributor, The Netherlands Dupag Group. They raced with an Iveco, Torpedo model, prepared by their mechanic, Marijn Beekmans.

The Dakar 2023 covered 9,000 km of sand, gravel, and water. In total, 409 participants, including 55 trucks, embarked on the adventure, which was the toughest Dakar Rally in years.

Egbert Wingens said: “This is my fifth Dakar. I started in a car but for me, bigger is better, so I prefer the truck! I drove in Argentina and Chile but really enjoyed last year’s event in Saudi Arabia. It was so technical. We finished 17th but I saw that the main difference to the other competitors was in the loose sand where we just didn’t have enough power. So this year we chose a Caterpillar engine with 1000 Nm more torque. We are one of the smaller private teams and have built our own truck. For example, our cooling system comes from a crane.”

The Dakar 2023 required much vigor from drivers on the most rolling portions, but also talent from the navigators. The team was able to cope with a multitude of perilous situations. At one stage, the truck fell on its side, causing two broken tires and a twisted rim. Following the incident, the team decided to bivouac in the desert for the night and was able to leave the next day thanks to some great mechanic work. Then the aluminum diesel tank began to struggle on the stony routes and this time, the problem forced the team to withdraw for safety reasons in the 14th and last stage of the rally.

Nevertheless, the duo had a magnificent run with very good results, making a great comeback from 22nd to eleventh place during stage ten, resulting in 20th place overall. This Dakar ended with frustration for the team at not being able to cross the finish line.

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN Supersyn 10W-60, TITAN ATF 4000, MAINTAIN FRICOFIN 50



Austria

Andreas Hasler crowned 2022 champion

FUCHS driver Andreas Hasler (49) is the SUPER LIGHTS champion of the 2022 season. He started to race karts at the age of 23 and very soon after he won the national vice-champion title, was Styrian champion, and then drove in the European championship. After ten years in this discipline, Andreas switched to autocross racing. From his second season, he proceeded to win the title for eight more years with a 4WD buggy. "After ten seasons, it was time to take on a new challenge. I got a Radical with a Hayabusa engine and drove a hill climb race. I went back to circuits relatively quickly though, that's more my thing."

Andreas chose to race in the BOSS GP Racing series with a big open single-seater car. "I like to drive on a circuit. It was also better for my mechanics because in the hill climb races, they only saw me at the start, whereas on the circuit, they can follow the car throughout race. It is also less dangerous than the hill climb races."

After four wins this season in the BOSS GP series, Andreas became 2022 SUPER LIGHTS champion with a Dallara GP2. "My goal is to be on top. Right now, I plan to use the current car for another two or three years and then possibly switch to a GP2 in the FORMULA class or a World Series bolide with a V8 engine. But when I see the Toro Rosso, my goal is to be able to sit in a Formula 1 car and do a few laps. You never stop dreaming when you're in motorsport. In any case, I hope we can be in BOSS GP for a few more years."

FUCHS Austria has been supporting Andreas Hasler for over twelve years now.

Calendar: April: Le Castellet (France), May: Hockenheim (Germany), June: Spielberg (Austria), July: Misano (Italy), August: Assen (The Netherlands), September: Brno (Czech Republic) and Monza (Italy), October: Magny-Cours (France) and Mugello (Italy)

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN SUPERSYN LONGLIFE 0W-40, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene PRO PREP



Great Britain

FUCHS renews its trust in the British Historic Rally Championship

FUCHS UK has returned for the sixth consecutive year as title sponsor of the Motorsport UK British Historic Rally Championship, which began its 2023 calendar at the Riponian Stages Rally in February, heralding the beginning of another exciting season for the top-drawer series.

The leading historic rally championship in the UK will see seven high-quality events form the roster in 2023, with six gravel rounds and one asphalt event offering the only change to the format.

The BHRC once again kicks off with the Thirsk-based Riponian Stages. This popular opener, famed for its unique closed-road asphalt link sections, has attracted a new line-up of crews and returning regulars, all eager to stamp their name on the trophy.

The series, organized by the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club, will continue to provide a wide range of classes for historic-specification machinery, catering for competition cars registered from 1968 to 1990, including everything from Category One to FIA-specification examples. New for 2023 is the introduction of Categories 4A and 4B as well as non-historic two-wheel-drive vehicles.

Last year's victors, Matthew Robinson and Sam Collis, former champions Nick Elliott and Dave Price, and 2019 champions, Simon Webster and Jez Rogers, all have their sights on the 2023 title.

FUCHS UK Marketing, John Mosley, said: "FUCHS wishes all competitors luck as they start their 2023 campaign!"





Australia

Team 18 reveals its new cars for 2023

Victorian Supercars squad Team 18 launched their 2023 Supercars Championship campaign, unveiling this year's warpaint at the 50 years of Waverley Forklifts gala event on February. Over 350 staff, customers, and associates of Waverley Forklifts attended the event, which was MC'ed by Channel 7 Supercars broadcast host, Mark Beretta.

Supercars Championship CEO, Shane Howard, and Chevrolet Racing General Manager, Chris Payne, were in attendance as well as Team 18 drivers Mark Winterbottom, sponsored by FUCHS Australia, and Scott Pye, along with more than 16 team members.

The drivers took the covers off the two Chevrolet Camaro ZL1s in the presence of the Schwerkolt family, Team Manager, Bruin Beasley, and staff from key team partners in attendance, including Stanley Black and Decker (DEWALT), Hino, Kenworth, Toyota Forklifts, Manitou, FUCHS, Seiko, Barry Bourke Motors, AC Delco Batteries, and Industrial Batteries Australia.

Team 18 drivers paid tribute to the Schwerkolt family and the Waverley Forklifts group during their speeches, highlighting how the culture of the organization has influenced the race team heading into the 2023 season. The 2023 Repco Supercars Championship kicks off on the streets of Newcastle for the Thrifty Newcastle 500 in March, live on Channel 7 and Fox Sports.

Mark Winterbottom said: "It's been a fantastic night to suit up and show off our 2023 Supercars to the hard-working staff at Waverley Forklifts, some of their valued customers, and some of the race team's major partners before we get set for the first round in Newcastle."

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE SYN 20, TITAN CYTRAC TD 75W-90