

Motorsport News

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Zimbabwe

A victory for Ross Branch at the 2020 Dakar Rally

Ross Branch, a desert-racing expert, has once again confirmed his talent in Saudi Arabia. From the start of the Dakar moto rally, he took the lead to win the second stage ahead of the race favorites. The success of the KTM FUCHS rider has made headlines. // Page 8.



Austria

FUCHS Austria on show at Moto-Austria

FUCHS Austria presented its whole range of FUCHS Silkolene lubricants at Moto-Austria, a prestigious exhibition for two-wheelers held at the Messe Wels venue. FUCHS representatives welcomed their customers and visitors and spoke to racing fans. // Page 4

South Africa

FUCHS reveals its 2020 partnerships

A few weeks before the beginning of the racing season, FUCHS confirmed its 2020 motorsport commitments during a meeting at the FUCHS SOUTHERN AFRICA headquarters. This year, FUCHS sponsors a lot of teams in different regional and national championships. // Page 2.





South Africa

FUCHS announces 2020 motorsport sponsorships

This season, FUCHS sponsors a large range of teams from V8 Supercars to motorbikes, cross-country racing to inflatable powerboats.

In the V8 Supercar, FUCHS signed with Terry and Larry Wilford (2nd and 5th respectively in 2019). In the VW Challenge, FUCHS is partnered with Rich Racing and Lyle Ramsay (3rd in 2019) as well as riders in the Monocle, Superbike Short Series and Bridgestone Challenge. In the SA Cross-Country Series, the HUD Racing and Truggy teams are committed to off-road racing with FUCHS. Michael Louw Racing is being supported by the brand in the Superbike Short Circuit Series and MAD Racing in the Super GT Cup. Other teams include the motocross rider Marc Ainsley and the Rusgenot Transport team in the Inflatable Powerboat Championship.

The teams are very satisfied with FUCHS lubricants. Team Manager, Vic Rich, said: “For our Kawasaki ZR6 engine we use FUCHS Silkolene PRO R SAE 0W-20. Engine startup is where most wear occurs. Thanks to its low viscosity, FUCHS prevents this and allows engines to rev up to 18,000 rpm, improving performance. The product has definitely given us a

competitive edge over the past five years. Reduced wear between the sprocket and the chain is also extremely important. FUCHS Silkolene TITANIUM DRY LUBE forms a bond on the components, resulting in less sprocket wear. In rainy conditions, FUCHS Silkolene PRO BOOST has an inhibitor that absorbs any moisture in the fuel.”

Michael Louw added: “Using FUCHS products has made a huge improvement to the bike’s engine life and performance.”

Marc Ainsley, FUCHS rider for three years in regional and national motocross, said: “The lubricants meet the tough conditions of MX racing.”

Dewald Brummer, FUCHS driver for the past four years in the Super GT Cup, explained: “The products are brilliant and contribute to reliability and better performance.”

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO R SAE 0W-20, Silkolene PRO 4 10W-40 XP, Silkolene TITANIUM DRY LUBE, Silkolene CHAIN LUBE, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE SPRAY, Silkolene WASH-OFF, Silkolene PRO RACE BRAKE FLUID, Silkolene PRO BOOST





Germany

BLACK FALCON delivers strong team performance in Australia

BLACK FALCON managed good results in the 19th edition of the 12-hour at Bathurst. Battling temperatures close to 40°C, the team claimed 3rd place in the Silver Cup class with the Mercedes-AMG GT3 #46. The sister car #77 entered into a joint venture with Craft Bamboo Racing. The crew of #77 was on track for the podium almost to the end before a puncture required an additional pit stop. They finished 5th overall.

In the Silver Cup class, Sergei Afanasiev, Patrick Assenheimer and Michele Beretta in Mercedes-AMG GT3 #46 secured a podium finish with a strong performance in their first race on the Mount Panorama Circuit. The trio drove a perfect race on this demanding mountain and valley track. Over the entire race, the team fought a thrilling battle with their rivals for the title and came in 3rd in the Silver Cup class.

The AMG GT3 #77 of Yelmer Buurman, Maro Engel and Luca Stolz was one of the favorites for overall victory right from the beginning. After a good start, the team established itself in the top group thanks to flawless and consistently fast stints. In 2nd place with less than half an hour to go, the final driver Engel had to make an additional pit stop due to a puncture. They crossed the finish line in 5th place after 12 hours.

Team Principal of BLACK FALCON GT, Sean Paul Breslin, said: "We came to Bathurst to fight for overall victory. Despite a few problems in the practice sessions, the team was up front the whole time. A puncture knocked #77 off the podium at the last second. The #46 drove a fast race and deserved to take 3rd place in its class."



Austria

Moto-Austria: a famous two-wheeler exhibition

For its debut, Moto-Austria took place from February 7th to 9th at Messe Wels, the most modern exhibition hall in Austria. Covering 27,000 m², this trade show welcomed 140 exhibitors from seven nations. Most international brands were represented and showed more than 640 motorcycles as well as a large range of accessories. In this elegant space, 43,480 visitors were sure to find their dream bike or scooter. "Moto-Austria was a complete success. Overall 92% of the visitors were very satisfied," said the organizers.

Numerous stars of the racing scene were invited, among them Max Kofler, Marco Mompör, Kim Adelhart, Peter Rohr and many more. Lucas Lit, Blackout and David Bost, three famous top-class

Instagramers and YouTubers, visited the fair and a lot of fans were happy to meet their idols.

FUCHS Austria shared a stand with its partners IG Formel Classic and MSC Rottenegg in its largest motorcycle exhibition yet. It was a great opportunity to present the whole range of FUCHS Silkolene lubricants to visitors, to welcome their customers and to speak with racing fans. "We were extremely satisfied by both the quality and number of visitors. The entertainment program was without precedent. This debut was very successful, with a new concept and a perfect setup. We are already looking forward to the next show, which will take place from February 11th to 13th in 2022," said FUCHS Application Engineer Markus Kollenz.



Great Britain

Bellerby Motorsport takes its first podium of 2020 at the Jack Frost Rally

FUCHS Silkolene-sponsored Drew Bellerby started off 2020 in the same way as she finished 2019: with a podium place.

The Croft Circuit kicked off its 2020 motorsport season with an annual Jack Frost Rally, which was organized and run by the Darlington & District Motor Club on February 2nd.

Drew was co-driving with Dave Ellis in his newly prepared BMW Mini. The day started wet and chilly then brightened up, but the pair still battled with their

car. Their calculated, sensible approach to the stages – notwithstanding a close encounter with a half-ton hay bale and a failure in the gear linkage as they headed out to the last of seven stages – paid dividends as they gradually moved up the order from 68th position to finish 15th overall and collected the award for 3rd in class 4.

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN RACE SYN 5, TITAN RACE PRO S SAE 5W-40, TITAN RACE PRO S SAE 5W-30, TITAN RACE CVJ GREASE, TITAN RACE WB GREASE



Great Britain

Team GB Speedway: Lions roar to victory in Perth

FUCHS Silkolene-sponsored Team GB Speedway's hero Tai Woffinden roared to a 14 paid 15-point maximum on his Lions return, inspiring his country to a 50-39 victory over Australia in a test match at Perth's Pinjar Park.

Woffinden sat out the 2019 Monster Energy FIM Speedway of Nations Final due to a back injury and endured a difficult end to the season in the FIM Speedway GP Series. Despite this, he overwhelmed an Aussie side led by fellow triple world champion Jason Crump, who came out of retirement to notch up nine points.

Joint GB boss Simon Stead took charge of the team for the first time, while local favorite Steve Johnston managed the Aussie side. Stead paid tribute to Woffinden and GB's future stars, saying: "That is a great result for the lads, who all adapted themselves very well to a track which is pretty alien to what they are used to. They were led impeccably by Woffinden, who was brilliant, and the team spirit in the pits was fantastic. I'm really proud of what the boys did."

GB shooting star Dan Bewley proved he's at home on the tiny Pinjar Park track as he put in an all-action display. For event 2, Great Britain also dominated proceedings, finishing with a 54-36 victory over Australia making it 2-0 to Great Britain over the two legs.

Great Britain Speedway Team Managing Director, Rob Painter, said: "It's not easy to arrange a test match on the other side of the world but this is very much part of how we see the future. We could not do this without backing; we are delighted at the overall outcome and to be able to give our young riders this invaluable experience."

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene CASTORENE R50S, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE SPRAY, Silkolene BRAKE AND CHAIN CLEANER SPRAY, Silkolene CHAIN LUBE SPRAY, Silkolene PRO PREP SPRAY, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL SPRAY



France

FUCHS presents at the Dakar 2020 with Alexandre Giroud

For more than a decade, FUCHS Silkolene has sponsored the rider Alexandre Giroud, 2015 world quad champion. The rally-raid specialist competed in the Dakar for the fourth time. This legendary race took place for the first time in Saudi Arabia with 5,000 km over twelve stages, for a total of 7,800 km of driving.

To train for this international competition, Alexandre bet on intense preparation, notably taking part in the Morocco Rally. Supported by his partners and fans, Alexandre felt confident for the 42nd edition of the Dakar, the most difficult race in the world. The first stages gave him some technical problems with his Yamaha Raptor YFZ 700 quad, but Alexandre quickly joined up with the leaders and secured 6th place. His excellent 1st and 3rd places in the following stages allowed him to post a beautiful 4th overall in his category.

Forced to retire following an engine failure in the seventh stage, Alexandre and his mechanic were disappointed but put all their energy into repairing the quad overnight. He then continued as part of the

“Dakar Experience”, refining his learning and bouncing back from defeat to achieve his objectives.

“We took the opportunity to test a new chassis and engine, and to continue the adventure on the Saudi tracks.” In the last stages, Alexandre followed in the footsteps of the champions, did not let down his guard and posted very good times. His motto: never ever give up and always give your best.

“I use FUCHS Silkolene PRO 4 15W-50 XP because this lubricant is ideal for larger displacements, especially in extreme heat and cold – in Saudi Arabia the morning is freezing. This 100% synthetic lubricant recommended for air-cooled or water-cooled 4-stroke engines is perfect for the Dakar. XP technology allows power gain and its high shear stability provides extended engine protection.”

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 15W-50 XP, Silkolene CHAIN LUBE, Silkolene WASH-OFF, Silkolene PRO WASH, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL



Zimbabwe

Dakar: Ross Branch took the honors with a 1st place in the second stage

For the second time in a row, Ross Branch raced the very demanding Dakar Rally. Last year in Latin America, the young rider surprised everyone with his performance. He won the best rookie prize after finishing 13th in his class.

In 2020, this long-distance desert-racing specialist dished up more surprises during the second stage in Saudi Arabia. Riding his KTM, Ross got the best time and won the first 1st place of his career in this famous rally.

Day three wasn't as kind to him. Ross took a spill, destroying his navigation tower as well as hurting his shoulder. He was medically cleared but started stage 4 with a dislocated shoulder. He was in pain but still wanted to give it a go and made an amazing comeback. From starting last, he finished in 3rd place. At the end of the twelve stages, the 33-year-old rider managed an overall 21st place. For comparison, 136 bikes started but only 96 finished the rally.



"The best was definitely winning stage 2, it was the dream of my life. For this race, I have no real strategy, just to go out, do my best every day, and try to limit mistakes. We use a wide range of the FUCHS Silkolene lubricants and the quality was really good. I hope to return to Dakar in 2021 but it is a very expensive race!"

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 SAE 10W-50, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene WASH-OFF, Silkolene PRO RG2