

Motorsport News

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Japan

Congratulations to the Goodsmile Racing team for its 3rd title

Sponsored by FUCHS JAPAN through its distributor since 2015, Tatsuya Kataoka (38) and Nobuteru Taniguchi (46) of the Goodsmile Racing team won the title of the prestigious 2017 Autobacs Super GT series for the third time in the 300 GT class. A season full of victories and podiums. // Page 9.

Czech Republic

Tributes for Václav Milík Jr. and FUCHS

On October 1, 25,000 fans acclaimed FUCHS rider Václav Milík Jr. in the Svítkov speedway stadium. The 22-year-old racer delivered an outstanding performance winning the prestigious Golden Helmet Trophy 2017 in one of the most difficult speedway races in the world. // Page 8.



Benelux

Another podium for the De Keyser team

Tim and Tom De Keyser won 3rd place of the MCLB Sidecar-cross Championship thanks to consistently good results achieved throughout the season's rounds. The excellent coordination between the two brothers also played an essential role in this achievement. // Page 6.



Australia

Two championships for BCP Honda at the Tasmanian Off Road Series

BCP Honda Off Road Team riders Baylee Davies and Kyron Bacon capped off an amazing championship campaign over the weekend as the Tasmanian Off Road Series concluded its final round at St. Helens.

Young gun Kyron Bacon drove his BCP Honda CRF150R to an undefeated season winning each and every round throughout the series to stamp his authority on his class for 2017.

“We have had a really good year on board the Honda CRF150R four stroke, both here in Tasmania and on the mainland at the AORC,” said Bacon. “The bike has been a rocket-ship and has not missed a beat! I am over the moon to have kept the winning streak going throughout the whole series. I am keen to get on board the new 2018 CRF250R and start training for the upcoming season where I will be riding for BCP Honda once again.”

Multi-time state champion and national front runner Baylee Davies put together an incredible series to take the honors in the Ironman category where he took on Tasmania’s best off-road riders throughout a tough eight round championship.

“It is a good feeling to get back on top in my home state and claim our Ironman Off Road Championship on board the Honda CRF250R,” said Davies. “I won the Ironman title back in 2013 and 2014 with Honda and then again in 2015. We had some struggles last season with a different brand of motorcycle but this year the bike was excellent and helped me to get the job done. I cannot thank Lee Hogan from BCP and all of our supporters and sponsors enough for helping me to make all of this possible.”

“I am really proud of both boys,” said team manager Lee Hogan. “Kyron has been unstoppable this year and Baylee seems to get better with age like good wine! I am really happy to be keeping Baylee and Kyron on board once again for our 2018 BCP Honda Off Road campaign where both boys will tackle the Australian Off Road Series along with defending their home state titles.”

The team is sponsored by Warriar Enterprises, the Australian and New Zealand distributor for FUCHS Silkolene.



Photo credit: Sports Code Images



Germany

A podium for BLACK FALCON at the 24H COTA USA

Team BLACK FALCON achieved a fantastic 2nd position finish overall at the end of the inaugural 24H COTA USA, which was held at the home of the US Formula 1 Grand Prix, the Circuit of The Americas. This new- for-2017 24-hour race was staged over two parts. The 14-hour opening session run deep into darkness on Saturday. The race finished off with the 10-hour daylight blast to the flag starting early on Sunday morning. In the thick of the lead battle over the course of the entire race, team BLACK FALCON also finished as the highest place representative of the Mercedes-AMG brand. BLACK FALCON entered a pair of cars with a solo #3 Mercedes-AMG GT3 in the headline A6-Pro class and their development #2 Mercedes-AMG GT4 in SP2 class. The 41 entries blasted uphill to the first not visible turn, signalling the start of the 14-hour opening part of the race on this 5.49 km circuit. #3 GT3 completed the opening 14-hour in a solid 2nd position, having led for 124 of 353 laps and setting the quickest lap overall. An accident for the #2 GT4 put the car on the back foot. But the performance of both, the car and its

drivers, was never in question, having set the fastest lap in SP2 and working their way up close to top 10 overall. Sunday morning, the teams restarted their cars in the condition they had finished the day before. Unfortunately #2's participation came to a premature end with an electrical problem. The #3 crew resumed their chase of the lead. Jeroen Bleekemolen started the day with a whole lap between him and the leader and all four drivers fought throughout the 10-hour day. Frustratingly, repairing a suspension issue took Mercedes four laps. The mechanics put in a massive effort to turn the car around quickly and full commitment from Jeroen Bleekemolen, Ben Keating, Abdulaziz Al Faisal and Luca Stolz made the make up for vital seconds lap after lap possible, but the gap to the leader was a little bit too large to bridge. #3 finished 2nd and although the victory was within reach, the team and the drivers were happy about BLACK FALCON's successful debut on American soil.



Finland

2018 new partnership for FUCHS FINLAND

FUCHS FINLAND is honored to support Finnish Motocross MX1 rider Miro Lehto for the upcoming season 2018 with FUCHS Silkolene products. The cooperation was launched mid-season 2017 with product support for the final races in the MX1 and Cross Country National Championships. Miro finished 4th in the National Championship in MX1 class. On his Honda CRF450R he delivered a solid performance in the Cross Country Series, gained 1st place and became national champion. Miro and his father (who is also his mechanic) have chosen a broad range of FUCHS Silkolene products they will use in their future racing program. "After switching to FUCHS Silkolene products we noticed improved performance in clutch operation and engine cleanliness," said Miro after the end of the outdoor series. Participating in two race series in 2017 takes its toll on the bikes and they want to have the best products available to ensure maximum reliability and superior performance. After a strong season ending up in a CC Championship, Miro is looking forward to improve his result in the SML Motocross Championship MX1 class in 2018.

During the winter Miro will race at the indoor Tampere Supercross Event. "We wish the whole team lots of luck in the finals," said Otto Friberg, Sales Manager Automotive FUCHS FINLAND. "We look forward to having constant feedback on our superior FUCHS Silkolene products in the most demanding racing application."

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 10W-40 XP, Silkolene PRO 4 SAE 15W-50, Silkolene PRO CHAIN LUBE, Silkolene WASH-OFF, Silkolene PRO RG2, Silkolene PRO RACE BRAKE FLUID, Silkolene FOAM FILTER OIL, Silkolene FOAM FILTER CLEANER





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Austria

Josef Frauenschuh crowned European Supermono vice-champion 2017

The Austrian FUCHS Silkolene rider, Josef Frauenschuh, excelled in the Supermono European Cup and won the vice-champion title 2017 on board his KTM. The championship took place on four different European circuits (Austria, Hungary, Croatia and Germany) and the eight last rounds hosted on the racetrack of Frohburg Dreieck (Germany). Facing 19 competitors from the Netherlands, Italy, France, Austria and Germany, Josef "Epp" Frauenschuh had an amazing season with a lot of podiums and victories.

This European Supermono Cup for single cylinder race bikes was founded by Sir Alan Cathcart in 1995. Since 2002 the European Supermono organization (ESA) has been responsible for organizing the competition. All Supermono race bikes are prototypes, often handcrafted and built by their riders, which makes the race class so interesting for true lovers of technique and speed. 56-year-old Josef Frauenschuh also won the Austrian Supermoto Hill Climb Championship this season.

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 10W-60 XP, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene PRO PREP





Photo credit: Rudy Van Mol

Benelux

3rd place for the De Keyser team

The fans of sidecar-cross gathered once again for one of the most spectacular races of the discipline. This season the De Keyser team played an essential role during the championship. As in 2015, Tom and Tim De Keyser won 3rd place of the MCLB Championship after a season full of suspense. In this category, raced in teams of two, the driver guides the bike and the co-driver balances the weight of the machine to steer it. The De Keyser's brothers are excellent when it comes to this. In these sidecar-cross races, the two competitors combined their expertise and their dexterity to win themselves a new podium in 2017. Their talent and excitement gave the spectators a lot of pleasure. "There are many traps on the track and we must stay vigilant," said the drivers.

"We started sponsoring the team in 2010," said Frank Francois, Product Manager – Technical Sales Support FUCHS BENELUX.

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO RG2, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene CHAIN LUBE



Great Britain

Well played Joe!

Joe Collier has had a fantastic season 2017, claiming the Ducati Tri options Cup with a round to spare after 12 race wins out of 16. "FUCHS has helped me to win two British titles with the products they have supplied. The engine oil is one of the most important products I use and all of my bikes have been reliable on that front. I highly recommend these lubricants to everyone."



Great Britain

Ryan Cook scrapes 1st place

FUCHS UK sponsored Ryan Cook had a set-back in the last round of the British Cross Country Championship but was not denied 1st in class over a battling season. Poised not far behind the championship leader heading into the last round at Walters, the rider of the CRC Offroad Motorsport unfortunately suffered a broken steering column and was forced to retire. Regardless, Ryan and his Milner LRM-1 did enough to claim 1st in class after a tough year.



Great Britain

Marcus Hudson: MSA NKF Super 4 250 British Championship

Marcus Hudson, who ran against some of the best in the country, had a tough but enjoyable season. The FUCHS Silkolene driver finished his last final of the season in a respectable 8th position, giving him 6th place overall in the championship. As the points gained from the rider's worst three heats and worst final are subtracted, Marcus dropped down to 8th place in the overall ranking.





Czech Republic

Outstanding performance from Václav Milík Jr.

The Golden Helmet, created in 1929, is the oldest motorcycle speedway race in the world. It is annually hosted in Pardubice (CZ) and welcomes the world's most talented riders. For this 69th edition, competitors came from Poland, Australia, Great Britain, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Russia, the USA, the Czech Republic and other countries. All the competitors are professionals given the high level of skill needed to participate in this speedway racing. The highly popular Golden Helmet 2017 race took place on October 1. 25,000 fans came to the Světlav speedway stadium to watch this famous event and cheer the riders while a lot of Czech motorsport fans followed the rounds live on the nationwide TV coverage.

FUCHS rider Václav Milík Jr. won the 2017 Golden Helmet. It was the first time in 21 years that this international trophy was won by a Czech racer, so the crowd was very enthusiastic.

"We have sponsored Václav since he started his career in 2009. Straight away, he became a member of our Speedway FUCHS Silkolene Racing team," explained Stanislav Heršálek from FUCHS CZECH REPUBLIC. "We chose this rider for his extraordinary talent in the junior category but also because he was formed by his father, the famous Czech speedway rider Václav Milík Sr."

Speedway bikes are built with components from different suppliers. Václav uses GM (Italian brand) engines, Stuha framework and Mitas tires.

Engine characteristics: single cylinder, 500cc, methyl alcohol fuel, power output about 75 bhp.

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene CASTORENE R 50 S, Silkolene CHAIN LUBE, Silkolene BRAKE CLEANER, Silkolene CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene PRO PREP



Pictured Mr. Kataoka (left), Mr. Katayama (middle), Mr. Taniguchi (right)

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Japan

Goodsmile Racing wins its 3rd GT300 class season title!

Motegi GT Grand Final, the 8th round of the 2017 Autobacs Super GT series, was held at the Motegi Twin Ring circuit (4,801km x 53 laps) in Tochigi Prefecture on November 12. Tatsuya Kataoka and Nobuteru Taniguchi drivers of Goodsmile Racing team and Team UKYO sponsored by FUCHS JAPAN through its distributor, Abe Shokai, took part in this important sporting event.

Thanks to his great result in the semi-final, Tatsuya Kataoka started from pole position and held a ten point lead in the season ranking. The team was running on a race strategy that called for an early routine pit stop, but unfortunately it turned out to be a disadvantage. After taking the lead in the early stages, Taniguchi dropped to 4th at one point but managed to recover for a 3rd place finish at the end of the race. Anyway, this result gave the team this year's championship title. Furthermore the team's mechanics received the "ZF technical award". Kataoka commented: "I am very happy. Today, our job was to start from pole position and hold on to it.

As I was able to communicate with the GT500 class drivers, I was in a very comfortable position to drive and get to the finish as hoped. We won in the opening round and then, by struggling through the development work, we were able to win the championship."

"To tell the truth, I feel more relieved than happy. We came to Motegi as the ranking leader, but in fact we were struggling and had no confidence in our advantage at all. While our team happened to be in the best position, in fact we have been working hard to avoid the worst possible situations. Today as well, things turned bad and we had to work hard with a strategy of hanging on to finish 3rd. But in the end the result was fortunate and we won the championship," said Taniguchi.

"It is a pleasure for both FUCHS JAPAN and Abe Shokai to have been supporting the team for three years and FUCHS looks forward to future success for the team," said Yuko Kawamura from FUCHS JAPAN.

Car: Mercedes-AMG GT3

FUCHS lubricants: TITAN Supersyn LONGLIFE SAE 0W-40, TITAN SINTOPOID LS SAE 75W-140, MAINTAIN FRICOFIN



France

A great weekend for FUCHS customers

The sixth and last round of the French Rally Championship organized by Terre de France finished with the Vaucluse Rallye in mid-November. 120 modern cars including six WRC and seven R5 delivered a show over the ten 'specials' and 445 km of this sports car event. Renowned drivers such as Jean-Marie Cuoq (eight-time French champion and favorite of this rally), Lionel Baud (winner of Cardabelles), Romain Dumas (winner of the 24-Hour Race of Le Mans) and also a lot of contenders for the victory lined up on the departure line. The suspense was extremely intense with the title in reach for five of the presented protagonists. Close to 50,000 fans had come to watch one of the most exciting races of the season.

FUCHS FRANCE seized the opportunity of this major automobile event to invite about forty customers and prospects. These guests were

welcomed at the Château of Ruth, a historic, 16th century estate situated in the heart of the 'Côtes du Rhône' and with a great view of the race. Coming from various industries (Public Works Enterprises, transport and car-dealers) all these privileged guests enjoyed a presentation of wine making, visited the cellars of the castle and tested the exquisite wines of the owner.

At the end of the two days of competition and a lot of twists like flat tires, break-downs and surrenders – the season finished with none of the big favorites winning the title. The winner of the championship is Jordan Berfa, a 22-year-old driver, at the wheel of a Hyundai i20 R5, who was a rookie in dirt-track racing at the beginning of the season.

A much appreciated spectacle for all of FUCHS' guests.