

For Immediate Release
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Bridgestone Announces 2017 Motorsport Plan

Tokyo (March 6, 2017)—Bridgestone Corporation (Bridgestone) today announced its 2017 motorsport plan. In 2017, Bridgestone supports numerous teams, drivers, and riders in a variety of events from top-level races to grassroots motorsports.

Among branding and marketing initiatives through various sports events, Bridgestone views motorsports as an important communication platform that is directly linked to its tire business. Participating in motorsports, Bridgestone aims to create higher competitive tires while working together with car and motorcycle manufacturers and other related parties to contribute to the development of the automobile industry and motorsport culture.

Through on-track knowledge and experience during tough and competitive top-level races, Bridgestone is able to enhance its tire development capability.

In Japan, Bridgestone will supply tires to teams competing in the SUPER GT for cars as well as in the All Japan Road Race Championship and the Suzuka 8hours Endurance Race for motorcycles. Bridgestone will also supply tires to teams participating in FIM* Endurance World Championship series (EWC) which is the world's foremost series of endurance motorcycle races held in Europe and Japan. In addition, as the official tire supplier, Bridgestone will continue to provide Firestone brand tires to the IndyCar Series in North America.

Bridgestone also supports various grassroots motorsports, including the TOYOTA GAZOO Racing 86/BRZ Race, the ROADSTER Party Race III, and gymkhana races. These are examples of Bridgestone's activities to increase the number of car fans. Through these grassroots motorsports, Bridgestone hopes to deliver enjoyable driving experiences. Moreover, Bridgestone continues to supply tires to cars competing in Nürburgring 24 Hours Endurance Race held in Germany that gathers crowds of more than 200,000 spectators.

Bridgestone will primarily supply POTENZA brand tires for car races and BATTLEAX brand tires for motorcycle races in pursuit of collaborative victory with teams, drivers, and riders.

Also in 2017, Bridgestone continuously supports the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge (October 8 to 15), a solar car race of teams from around the world competing on a route that

spans across Australia. The company provides environmental technologies to support the student engineers taking part in this grueling race, which covers a 3,000 km course stretching from the north to the south of Australia.

To communicate the pleasure of cars and motorcycles to many people through these motorsport activities, Bridgestone will hold events both inside and outside of racing circuits and provide information via the Internet and other sources.

*FIM: Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme

<Car Races>

1. SUPER GT

- This is an immensely popular top-level race series.
- Tires will be supplied by multiple tire manufacturers, and participation to such competition will enhance Bridgestone's technology.
- Bridgestone will supply tires to nine teams in GT500 class and four teams in GT300 class.
- Bridgestone is committed to contributing to the victory of the teams.

SUPER GT GT500 Class Tires: POTENZA RACING TIRE

Team	Driver	Vehicle
LEXUS TEAM SARD	Heikki KOVALAINEN	DENSO KOBELCO
	Kohei HIRATE	SARD LC500
LEXUS TEAM LEMANS WAKO'S	Kazuya OSHIMA	WAKO'S 4CR LC500
	Andrea CALDARELLI	
LEXUS TEAM au TOM'S	Kazuki NAKAJIMA	au TOM'S LC500
	James ROSSITER	
LEXUS TEAM KeePer TOM'S	Ryo HIRAKAWA	KeePer TOM'S LC500
	Nick CASSIDY	
LEXUS TEAM ZENT CERUMO	Yuji TACHIKAWA	ZENT CERUMO LC500
	Hiroaki ISHIURA	
TEAM IMPUL	Hironobu YASUDA	CALSONIC IMPUL GT-R
	Jann MARDENBOROUGH	
KEIHIN REAL RACING	Koudai TSUKAKOSHI	KEIHIN NSX-GT
	Takashi KOGURE	
TEAM KUNIMITSU	Naoki YAMAMOTO	RAYBRIG NSX-GT
	Takuya IZAWA	
AUTOBACS RACING TEAM AGURI	Tomoki NOJIRI	ARTA NSX-GT
	Takashi KOBAYASHI	

SUPER GT GT300 Class Tires: POTENZA RACING TIRE

Team	Driver	Vehicle
apr	Koki SAGA	TOYOTA PRIUS apr GT
	Rintaro KUBO	
LM corsa	Yuichi NAKAYAMA	JMS P.MU LM corsa
	Sho TSUBOI	RC F GT3
AUTOBACS RACING TEAM AGURI	Shinichi TAKAGI	ARTA BMW M6 GT3
	Sean WALKINSHAW	
K2 R&D LEON RACING	Haruki KUROSAWA	LEON CVSTOS AMG
	Naoya GAMO	

2. CIK-FIA World and European Championships, and All Japan Karting OK Championship

- These races are prime venues for cultivating young promising racers.
- In CIK-FIA World Karting Championship and CIK-FIA European Championship, Bridgestone will supply tires exclusively for KZ and KZ2 class races, the top classes, as well as for Academy Trophy class races, which are a venue for cultivating drivers.
- In 2017, we will continue to work toward victory together with the numerous teams and drivers in the OK class of the All Japan Karting Championship, the top class of this competition.

Tires: BRIDGESTONE RACING KART TIRE

Class	Team	Driver
CIK-FIA World/European KZ Championships	Bridgestone will supply tires to all teams and drivers as the exclusive tire supplier	
CIK-FIA European KZ2 Championship/ International KZ2 Super Cup		
CIK-FIA Karting Academy Trophy		
All Japan Karting OK Championship	TONYKART RACING TEAM JAPAN	Daiki SASAKI Haruyuki TAKAHASHI
	INTREPID JAPAN CORSE	Takumi SATO
	TOYOTA YAMAHA RT	Atsushi MIYAKE Sota OGAWA
	FA-KART RACING TEAM	TBD
	TEAM BIRELART	Teppei NATORI

And other racers

3. All-Japan Gymkhana Championship

- In All-Japan Gymkhana Championship, Bridgestone will supply POTENZA RE-05D Type A, POTENZA RE-71R, and POTENZA RE-11S tires, hoping to achieve victory together with the drivers in various classes.

Tires: POTENZA RE-05D Type A, POTENZA RE-71R, and POTENZA RE-11S

Class	Driver	Vehicle
PN2	Tetsuya YAMANO	ABARTH 124 Spider
PN3	Yu	TOYOTA 86
SC	Masaki NISHIHARA	SUBARU Impreza
SA4	Masafumi HISHII	MITSUBISHI Lancer Evolution

And other racers

4. TOYOTA GAZOO Racing 86/BRZ Race

- Bridgestone will supply POTENZA RE-06D tires for the PROFESSIONAL Series and POTENZA RE-71R tires for the CLUBMAN Series.
- This grassroots motorsport has been attracting attention and numerous teams are expected to participate in the 2017 season again. Bridgestone positions this event as part of our initiatives for increasing car lovers by communicating the joy of motorsports to a wider audience.

Tires: POTENZA RE-06D

Class	Team	Driver
PROFESSIONAL Series	Ogura Clutch with Revolution	Masahiro SASAKI
	AUTOBACS G7 86 POTENZA	Takao OONISHI
	Netz TOYOTA HYOGO Racing Team	Naoya GAMO
	CUSCO Racing	Eiji YAMADA
	CG ROBOT RACING TEAM	Takuto IGUCHI Rintaro KUBO

And other racers

Tires: POTENZA RE-71R

Class	Team	Driver
CLUBMAN Series	Car Watch with Revolution	Yohei HASHIMOTO
	CUSCO Racing	Masafumi HISHII
	Old Timer Sport	Yuya TEZUKA

And other racers

5. ROADSTER Party Race III

- Bridgestone will supply exclusively tires to all cars in this race sponsored by Mazda Motor Corporation.
- Bridgestone strongly support this race which is an opportunity to experience the driving pleasure of motorsport.
- Bridgestone will also provide tires to the Mazda Women in Motorsport Project, which was launched in 2015, in order to support women drivers' participation in motorsports.

Tires: POTENZA RE-71R, POTENZA Adrenalin RE003

6. IndyCar Series

- The IndyCar Series is one of the premier formula car racing series in North America.
- Bridgestone is the official tire supplier for this event, providing Firestone brand tires for the 25 cars of all 10 teams.

Tires: FIRESTONE FIREHAWK RACING TIRE

Team	Driver
A.J. FOYT ENTERPRISES	Conor DALY
	Carlos MUNOZ
ANDRETTI AUTOSPORT	Marco ANDRETTI
	Ryan HUNTER-REAY
	Takuma SATO
ANDRETTI HERTA AUTOSPORT w/CURB-AGAJANIAN	Alexander ROSSI
CHIP GANASSI RACING	Max CHILTON
	Scott DIXON
	Tony KANAAN
	Charlie KIMBALL
DALE COYNE RACING	Sebastien BOURDAIS
	Ed JONES
DREYER & REINBOLD KINGDOM RACING	Sage KARAM
ED CARPENTER RACING	Ed CARPENTER
	JR HILDEBRAND
	Spencer PIGOT
RAHAL LETTERMAN LANIGAN RACING	Graham RAHAL
	Oriol SERVIA
SCHMIDT PETERSON MOTORSPORTS	Mikhail ALESHIN
	James HINCHCLIFFE
TEAM PENSKE	Helio CASTRONEVES
	Juan Pablo MONTOYA
	Josef NEWGARDEN
	Simon PAGENAUD
	Will POWER

7. Nürburgring 24 Hours Endurance Race

- Bridgestone will supply tires to TOYOTA GAZOO Racing participating in this top-level grassroots motorsport.
- The Nürburgring 24 Hours Endurance Race will be held from May 25 to 28.

Tires: POTENZA RACING TIRE

Class	Team	Driver	Vehicle
SP3T (planned)	TOYOTA GAZOO Racing	Takuto IGUCHI	LEXUS RC
		Takamitsu MATSUI	
		Naoya GAMO	
		TBD	

<Motorcycle Races>

1. FIM Endurance World Championship (EWC)

- Bridgestone supplies tires to two teams participating in this series.
- The FIM Endurance World Championship is the only motorcycle road race world championship that multiple tire manufacturers supply tires. The 2016–2017 season kicked off in September 2016 and will consist of a total of five races, the last of which will be the Suzuka 8hours Endurance Race.

Tires: RACING BATTLEAX TIRE

Class	Team	Rider	Vehicle
EWC	F.C.C. TSR Honda	Damian CUDLIN	HONDA
		Alan TECHER	
		Gregg BLACK	
	YART Yamaha Official EWC Team	Max NEUKIRCHNER	YAMAHA
		Broc PARKES	
		Kohta NOZANE	
		Marvin FRITZ	

The riders who will compete in the Suzuka 8hours Endurance Race have yet to be decided for both teams.

2. FIM EWC, Suzuka 8 Hours Endurance Race

- The teams Bridgestone supported have won this race for 11 consecutive years leading up to 2016.
- In the 2017 season, Bridgestone will supply tires to the top-level teams with the aim of celebrating victory together with the teams and riders at the Suzuka Circuit in summer.

Tires: RACING BATTLEAX TIRE

Class	Team	Rider	Vehicle
EWC	YAMAHA FACTORY RACING TEAM	TBD	YAMAHA
	YART Yamaha Official EWC Team	TBD	YAMAHA
	Kawasaki Team GREEN	TBD	KAWASAKI
	Yoshimura Suzuki MOTUL Racing	Takuya TSUDA, TBD	SUZUKI
	F.C.C. TSR Honda	TBD	HONDA
	MuSASHi RT HARC-PRO	Takumi TAKAHASHI, TBD	HONDA
	Honda Team Asia	TBD	HONDA
	ATS	Takahiro NAKATSUHARA, TBD	HONDA
	Honda Dream Racing	Tatsuya YAMAGUCHI, TBD	HONDA
	Honda Suzuka Racing Team	Takashi YASUDA	HONDA
		Yudai KAMEI	
		Daijiro HIURA	
	Sakurai Honda	TBD	HONDA
	BMW Motorrad 39	Daisaku SAKAI, TBD	BMW
TEAM SUGAI RACING JAPAN	Yoshiyuki SUGAI, TBD	APRILIA	

And other racers

3. MFJ All Japan Road Race Championship

- In 2016, riders using Bridgestone tires were named the series champions in two classes (JSB1000 and J-GP3). In particular, the rider that won in the top JSB1000 class delivered an exceptionally impressive performance, winning all races and standing alone at the winners' podium of each race as they claimed the title of champion for the seventh consecutive year.
- Bridgestone has continued to support the ST600 class races by supplying RACING BATTLAX R10 (NHS) tires exclusively to all teams and drivers since 2015.
- We will also continue to supply tires to the JSB1000, J-GP2, and J-GP3 classes with the hopes of sharing victory with the teams and riders.

Tires: RACING BATTLAX TIRE

Class	Team	Rider	Vehicle
JSB1000	YAMAHA FACTORY RACING TEAM	Katsuyuki NAKASUGA	YAMAHA
		Kohta NOZANE	
	YAMALUBE RACING TEAM	Takuya FUJITA	YAMAHA
	Yoshimura Suzuki MOTUL Racing	Takuya TSUDA	SUZUKI
		Sodo HAMAHARA	
	MuSASHi RT HARC-PRO	Takumi TAKAHASHI	HONDA
	F.C.C.TSR Honda	Alan TECHER	HONDA
	Honda Dream Racing / TOHO Racing	Tatsuya YAMAGUCHI	HONDA
	Honda Suzuka Racing Team	Daijiro HIURA	HONDA
		Takashi YASUDA	
	ATS	Takahiro NAKATSUHARA	HONDA
	Kawasaki Team GREEN	Kazuma WATANABE	KAWASAKI
		Katsuya MATSUZAKI	
Akira YANAGAWA			
Team Motorrad 39	Daisaku SAKAI	BMW	
TEAM SUGAI RACING JAPAN	Yoshiyuki SUGAI	APRILIA	
GP2	Team TARO PLUSONE	Taro SEKIGUCHI	HONDA
	MuSASHi RT HARC-PRO	Ryo MIZUNO	HONDA
	Team Kotake RSC	Kosuke SAKUMOTO	HONDA
		Ryosuke IWATO	
	Marumae PLUSONE	Masaki TOKUDOME	HONDA
S-PULSE DREAM RACING TEAM	Hideyuki OGATA	SUZUKI	
GP3	TBD		
ST600	Bridgestone will supply tires to all teams and drivers as the exclusive tire supplier		

And other racers

4. MFJ All Japan Motocross Championship

- In the 2016 season, riders using Bridgestone tires were named the series champions in the IA1 class, which is the pinnacle of competition in Japan, as well as in the Ladies' Class.
- For the 2017 season, Bridgestone will supply tires to three classes (IA1, IA2, and Ladies' Class) with the hopes of sharing victory with the teams and riders.

Tires: BATTLECROSS X10/X20/X30/X40 and other motocross racing tires

Class	Team	Rider	Vehicle
IA1	Team HRC	Akira NARITA	HONDA
	TEAM 887 with Honda Dream Ota	Dike BABA	HONDA
	T.E.SPORT SHOWA	Gota OTSUKA	HONDA
	Kawasaki Team GREEN	Hiroaki ARAI	KAWASAKI
	Team SUZUKI	Yohei KOJIMA	SUZUKI
		Kouichi FUKAYA	
	Team SSC	Tatsuki INAGAKI	SUZUKI
	SRF Kanto & Hideaki Dojo	Masaaki SUZUKI	SUZUKI
	YAMAHA FACTORY RACING TEAM	Yu HIRATA	YAMAHA
	YSP Hamakitaohashi Racing	Masanori ITO	YAMAHA
	KTM Uzushio Racing Fukuyama	Yuui HOSHINO	KTM
IA2	T.E.SPORT KYB	Yoshiki TAKANAWA	HONDA
	TEAM KOHSAKA	Ukyo MICHIWAKI	HONDA
	TEAM M:FACTORY	Kota TORIYABE	YAMAHA
		Hyoga KASAHARA	YAMAHA
LX	T.E.SPORT SHOWA	Juri HATAO	HONDA
	T.E.SPORT	Manaka KAWAI	HONDA

And other racers

<Race schedule>

【Car races】

SUPER GT

- Apr. 9 Rd.1 Okayama International Circuit
- May 4 Rd.2 Fuji Speedway
- May 21 Rd.3 Autopolis
- Jul. 23 Rd.4 Sportsland SUGO
- Aug. 6 Rd.5 Fuji Speedway
- Aug. 27 Rd.6 Suzuka Circuit
- Oct. 23 Rd.7 Chang International Circuit (Thailand)
- Nov. 12 Rd.8 Twin Ring Motegi

All Japan Karting Championship

- Apr. 23 Rd.1-2 Sportsland Sugo East Course
- Jun. 6 Rd.3-4 Honjyo Circuit
- Aug. 20 Rd.5-6 Festika Circuit Mizunami
- Sep. 24 Rd.7-8 Twin Ring Motegi North Short Course
- Oct. 22 National SL Kart Meeting Championship Festika Circuit Mizunami
- Oct. 29 Rd.9-10 Suzuka Circuit International South Course

All Japan Gymkhana Championship

- Mar. 26 Rd.1 Twin Ring Motegi South Course
- Apr. 23 Rd.2 Ebisu Circuit West Course
- May 21 Rd.3 Meihan Sportsland C Course
- Jun. 18 Rd.4 Auto Sportsland Sunagawa Gymkhana Course
- Jul. 16 Rd.5 Mikawa Sportsland
- Aug. 20 Rd.6 Sportsland TAMADA
- Sep. 10 Rd.7 Speedpark Koinoura
- Oct. 1 Rd.8 Suzuka Circuit International South Course
- Nov. 5 JAF Cup All Japan Gymkhana Bihoku Circuit

TOYOTA GAZOO Racing 86/BRZ Race

- Apr. 2 Rd.1 Twin Ring Motegi
- May 7 Rd.2 Autopolis
- Jun. 4 Rd.3 Fuji Speedway
- Jul. 2 Rd.4 Okayama International Circuit
- Jul. 30 Rd.5 Tokachi Speedway
- Sep. 2 Rd.6 Fuji Speedway
- Oct. 1 Rd.7 Sportsland SUGO
- Oct. 22 Rd.8 Suzuka Circuit
- TBD Rd.9 Fuji Speedway

IndyCar Series

- Mar. 12 St. Petersburg
- Apr. 9 Long Beach
- Apr. 23 Barber Motorsports Park
- Apr. 29 Phoenix International Raceway
- May 13 Indianapolis Motor Speedway
- May 28 Indianapolis Motor Speedway (Indy 500)
- Jun. 3-4 The Raceway at Belle Isle Park
- Jun. 10 Texas Motor Speedway
- Jun. 25 Road America
- Jul. 9 Iowa Speedway
- Jul. 16 Toronto
- Jul. 30 Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course
- Aug. 20 Pocono Raceway
- Aug. 26 Gateway Motorsports Park
- Sep. 3 Watkins Glen International
- Sep. 17 Sonoma Raceway

【Motorcycle races】

FIM Endurance World Championship

- Apr. 16 Rd.2 24 Heures Motos (Le Mans, FRA)
- May 20 Rd.3 Oschersleben 8 Hours (GER)
- Jun. 24 Rd.4 8 Hours of Slovakia Ring (SLO)
- Jul. 30 Rd.5 Suzuka 8 Hours (JPN)

MFJ All Japan Road Race Championship

- Apr. 9 Rd.1 Tsukuba Circuit
- Apr. 23 Rd.2 Suzuka Circuit
- May. 14 Rd.3 Sportsland SUGO
- Jun. 11 Rd.4 Twin Ring Motegi
- Jun. 25 Rd.5 Autopolis
- Aug. 20 Rd.6 Twin Ring Motegi
- Sep. 10 Rd.7 Auropolis
- Oct. 1 Rd.8 Okayama International Circuit
- Nov. 5 Rd.9 Suzuka Circuit

*Only JGP2/JGP3/ST600 classes in Rd.1. Only JSB1000 class in Rd.2, 6, and 7.

MFJ All Japan Motocross Championship

- Apr. 9 Rd.1 HSR Kyushu
- Apr. 23 Rd.2 Offroad Village
- May 21 Rd.3 Sera Green Park Korakuen
- Jun. 4 Rd.4 Sportsland SUGO
- Jul. 16 Rd.5 Fujisawa Sports Land
- Aug. 27 Rd.6 Sportsland SUGO
- Sep. 10 Rd.7 Meihan Sports Land
- Oct. 8 Rd.8 Offroad Village
- Oct. 22 Rd.9 Sportsland SUGO

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