

ABB FIA Formula E Championship 2019/2020
First round: Diriyah E-Prix

***A perfect start to Formula E's 'Season 6' for the
connected MICHELIN Pilot Sport***

The two races of the 2019/2020 ABB FIA Formula E Championship's opening meeting in Diriyah, Saudi Arabia, saw Michelin deliver another demonstration of the overall performance of the MICHELIN Pilot Sport which made its debut in the series in 2018/2019. This season sees the MICHELIN Pilot Sport become the first connected tyre to be used in motor racing thanks to Michelin Track Connect which features a sensor positioned inside the cover.

The weekend in Saudi Arabia effectively saw Michelin inaugurated a new system to monitor the tyre pressures ran by the championship's all-electric single-seater race cars. Michelin Track Connect for Formula E allows tyre pressures to be monitored automatically and reliably – whether hot or cold. This new solution addresses a demand expressed by motorsport's governing body, the FIA (Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile), which has incorporated its use into Formula E's regulations, as well as by the teams and the championship's promoter. Michelin Track Connect for Formula E uses a Michelin-designed and developed sensor located in a specific housing inside the MICHELIN Pilot Sport tyres that feature in the series. The data it collects is transmitted in encrypted form to the FIA and Michelin, who are the only recipients. Not only does this ensure that the information remains confidential, but it also allows the FIA to check minimum tyre pressures are adhered to. In addition to saving time, it is additional reassurance for the teams and helps to streamline the running of race days. The two e-prix in Diriyah marked the technology's first competitive outing.


"This was our first opportunity to ratify Michelin Track Connect's performance in an actual race," says **Jérôme Mondain**, the manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "We were able to check the accuracy of the data it provided by comparing it with the results obtained with the gauges we used previously. The figures were identical. The MICHELIN Pilot Sport itself performed perfectly in Diriyah where ground temperatures ranged from 10°C to 25°. Its versatility meant the drivers could put the tyre factor to the back of their minds throughout both race days. We couldn't have wished for a more successful start to the 2019/2020 season."

Season 6's first race was won by Sam Bird (Envision Virgin Racing), ahead of André Lotterer (Porsche Motorsport) and Stoffel Vandoorne (Mercedes EQ). Winner of the second e-prix in Saudi Arabia was Alexander Sims (BMW i Andretti), chased by Lucas di Grassi (Audi Sport Abt Schaeffler) and Stoffel Vandoorne (Mercedes EQ). Both clashes produced plenty of exciting action, with the versatility and performance of the MICHELIN Pilot Sport making an active contribution to the quality of the weekend's entertainment.



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The next round of the ABB FIA Formula E Championship will take teams to Santiago, Chile, on January 18, 2020.



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