



Hyundai Unveils Upgraded i20 WRC at Geneva

- New specification Hyundai i20 WRC launched at Geneva marks another important step in team development schedule
- Latest spec includes upgrades to aerodynamics, chassis and suspension to improve cooling, enhance suspension kinematics and chassis stiffness
- Development of Alzenau facility is proceeding rapidly and to plan with focus on key staff recruitment
- Private testing of i20 will begin later in the year at various locations in Europe

Geneva, 5 March 2013

Hyundai Motorsport GmbH has taken another significant step towards its forthcoming participation in the FIA World Rally Championship with the unveiling of its latest specification i20 WRC car at the Geneva Motor Show today.

Hyundai is gearing up for its debut season in the challenging FIA World Rally Championship in 2014 with a year of private testing and development as it progresses towards a competition-ready WRC-specification of its i20 model. A first iteration of the car made its debut at the Paris Motor Show back in September but this latest model incorporates notable updates to the exterior bodywork and suspension. The upgrades are the result of collaborative work between Hyundai's R&D facility in Namyang, Korea and the newly formed Hyundai Motorsport GmbH in Alzenau, Germany, headed up by veteran WRC man Michel Nandan.

The new specification Hyundai i20 WRC also reveals a striking look thanks to a redesigned livery which blends a dynamic treatment of Hyundai's corporate blue together with an innovative use of characters from the native Korean script,

Hunminjeongeum. The livery matches the excitement and dynamism of WRC with the Korean heritage of the Hyundai brand.

In the two months since his appointment, Team Principal Michel Nandan has focussed on establishing the core Hyundai WRC team at the bespoke facility in Alzenau with key technical, logistics and motorsport specialists joining the new manufacturer team. The team will soon be embarking on a more intensive test programme with the i20 WRC to ramp up development of the car ahead of its maiden season.

Hyundai Motorsport Team Principal, Michel Nandan commented: “We are still in the infancy of our exciting WRC programme so the development curve for the car and team is steep. This latest version of the i20 WRC has centred on aerodynamics with the objective of improving the car’s cooling systems. A new rear wing and front spoiler give the i20 WRC a new external appearance while, under the bodywork, improvements have also been made to the suspension kinematics and chassis stiffness as we gear up for a more structured test programme later in the year. We have lots of important foundations to lay both with the car and the team at Alzenau.

“Building up a new motorsport facility from scratch is an ambitious and rewarding challenge. We have begun the recruitment process but already have a number of key people in place who bring with them a wealth of rally and motorsport experience. We are rapidly building up the team infrastructure and are pleased that everything is running to schedule.

“Hyundai has returned to the World Rally stage to demonstrate its technical capabilities on one of the world’s most competitive stages. Our ultimate goal is to be

victorious but we know that we have a lot of tough competition ahead of us. We will use this year to lay the solid foundations but hope to advance quickly as 2014 approaches.”

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About Hyundai Motor

Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Co. has grown into the Hyundai Motor Group, with more than two dozen auto-related subsidiaries and affiliates. Hyundai Motor – which has seven manufacturing bases outside of South Korea including Brazil, China, the Czech Republic, India, Russia, Turkey and the U.S. – sold 4.4 million vehicles globally in 2012. Hyundai Motor, which employs over 80,000 worldwide, offers a full line-up of products including small to large passenger vehicles, SUVs and commercial vehicles.

Further information about Hyundai Motor and its products is available at www.hyundai.com.

About Hyundai Motorsport GmbH

Established on 19 December 2012, Hyundai Motorsport GmbH is responsible for Hyundai’s global motorsport activities and primarily for its recently announced World Rally Championship programme. Based in Alzenau on the outskirts of Frankfurt in Germany, the company is in the process of establishing Hyundai’s return to WRC with a bespoke team of skilled staff developing a WRC-specification i20. Media information can be found at www.hyundai-ms.com.

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