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SCHAEFFLER AUTOMOTIVE AFTERMARKET GMBH & CO. OHG, LANGEN

First race of the season in Misano, Italy on 22 and 23 May 2010 / Mario Kress' team to start with all-new truck / LuK onboard with race clutch and power-steering pump

FIA European Truck Racing Championship (ETRC) – Schaeffler Automotive Aftermarket Sponsors MKR Technology Truck Racing Team

This year's FIA European Truck Racing Championship gets under way in Misano, Italy on 22 and 23 May, with 18 pilots from 10 nations fighting for pole position. Mario Kress, Technical Director of Team Buggyra through 2009, is fielding his own team this year as owner and Technical Director of the newly-founded MKR Technology Truck Racing Team. The team is supported by engine technology from Renault Trucks and know-how from LuK, the clutch experts, who are supplying a race clutch and power-steering pump to ensure power and precision on the track.

The team's two MKR Renault race trucks have an all-new design that promises best performance for pilots Markus Bösiger (Switzerland) and Markus Oestereich (Germany). Both vehicles are powered by a 1,100 PS DXi13 Renault Trucks racing engine that achieves a maximum speed of up to 160 km/h. With these drivers Mario Kress – one of truck racing's most successful design engineers with nine titles in 22 years on the circuit – has two former European champions in his stable.

But the pilots aren't the team's only source of power and precision: With the LuK race clutch and power-steering pump, Schaeffler Automotive Aftermarket brings state-of-the-art technology to this year's FIA European Truck Racing Championship. While normal clutch-driven plates are designed to take torque levels of 2,500 to 3,000 Nm, a race clutch plate must be able to transfer 5,200 to 5,500 Nm. The two MKR trucks with LuK race clutches employ a clutch-driven plate with rated torque that is even higher, at a massive 6,000 Nm, which represents a contact pressure of 4.9 tons. And if this were not enough, the MKR trucks also have sinter-metal clutch linings, which are ideal at achieving high friction levels combined with high heat resistance.

The LuK power-steering pump contributes to easy and precise steering in race situations, especially when making quick turns. It was developed specially for the race trucks, and is a high-performance component that delivers 15 to 20 percent more volumetric flow than a standard power-steering pump in a production vehicle.

Beside this technical support, Schaeffler Automotive Aftermarket can also be seen at this year's FIA European Truck Racing Championship with logos from its brands LuK (clutch and transmissions) and

FAG (experts for roller bearings) on the MKR race trucks, on the clothing of the pilots, the team, and in the hospitality area at the track. Schaeffler Automotive Aftermarket has a tradition of truck racing going back to 2003, when the company first supplied technical support for Team Buggyra.

A complete race schedule, results, team information, as well as a comprehensive service area with picture gallery will be available at [www.schaeffler-aftermarket.de/races](http://www.schaeffler-aftermarket.de/races) beginning with the first race of the season on 22 and 23 May 2010.

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- Press picture "00016D05.JPG"

Mario Kress (back row, fourth from the right) surrounded by his team, including two former European champions – Markus Bösiger (to his immediate left) and Markus Oestereich (to his immediate right).

- Press picture "00016D03.jpg"

Output of 1,100 PS, top speed of up to 160 km/h, an all-new design – the race trucks of Team MKR.

- Press picture "00016D04.jpg"

The LuK Race Clutch: contact pressure of up to 4.9 tons, Rated torque of 6,000 Nm

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The Schaeffler Group with its product brands INA, LuK and FAG is a leading manufacturer of rolling bearings and linear products as well as a renowned supplier to the automotive industry of high-precision products and systems for engines, transmissions and chassis applications. The group of companies stands for exceptional customer focus, innovative ability and the highest possible level of quality. Sales of over € 9.5 billion were generated at over 180 locations in more than 50 countries in 2010. With around 70,000 employees worldwide, the Schaeffler Group is one of the largest German and European industrial companies in family ownership.

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