**Press release**

**Hankook is the exclusive tyre partner of the 100% electric NXT Gen Cup from the first season onwards**

* **Hankook Ventus TD already performing convincingly in the first tests**
* **LRT NXT1 racing car is based on the MINI Cooper SE with a 230 hp electric motor**
* **All-electric junior racing series starts its first season**

**Neu-Isenburg, Germany, 14 February 2023** – Premium tyre manufacturer Hankook is the exclusive tyre supplier of the new Swedish racing series NXT Gen Cup. The all-electric Junior Touring Car Cup offers young karting talents aged between 15 and 25 the opportunity to take the next step towards a professional career. From the debut season in 2023, the LRT NXT1 race cars, based on the electric MINI Cooper SE, will run on the Hankook Ventus TD. The tyre was developed as an original equipment option for the Mini John Cooper Works GP and offers the best performance both on the road and in racing. Hankook also supports the drivers and teams directly on site at the race track.

The race car, designed specifically for the circuit, was built by the founders of the NXT Gen Cup, the Lestrup Racing Team; and features a 230 hp liquid-cooled electric motor and a 30 kWh battery.

The NXT Gen Cup will be held in Sweden alongside the Swedish Touring Car Championship (STCC). 18 drivers will contest the championship on six race weekends from July to October. The season starts on 8/9 July in Falkenberg. The overall winner will become the official Swedish Junior Champion in partnership with the Swedish Motorsport Federation (SBF).

"We are looking forward to working with the all-electric NXT Gen Cup. Their impressive programme fits perfectly with our commitment not only to all-electric motorsport but also to junior racing. We hope to inspire more young talents with the NXT Gen Cup and give them an exciting motorsport career," said Manfred Sandbichler, Hankook Motorsport Director Europe.

"Hankook's extensive experience in Formula E and road racing will play a key role for the NXT Gen Cup as we set out to create a viable and sustainable racing career platform for up-and-coming drivers. Our first tests with the tyres have been exceptional in terms of performance and durability - whether in the wet or dry," added Christian Axelsson, Head of Partners and Event at NXT Gen Cup.

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**About Hankook**

Hankook Tire manufactures globally innovative, award-winning radial tyres of proven superior quality for passenger cars, light trucks, SUVs, RVs, trucks, and buses as well as motorsports (circuit racing/street circuits/rallies).

Aspiring to bring consumers the utmost excellence in product quality, technological excellence and driving satisfaction, Hankook Tire continuously invests in research and development maintaining five R&D centres and eight production facilities around the world. Bespoke tyre solutions for the European markets as well as European Original Equipment according to the requirements of leading premium car manufacturers, are developed in the company’s regional Technical Centre in Hanover/Germany. Production for the European region is taking place in the state-of-the-art manufacturing site in Rácalmás/Hungary which was inaugurated in June 2007 and is continuously being expanded. Currently around 3,000 employees produce up to 19 million tyres a year for passenger cars, SUVs and light trucks.

Hankook Tire’s European headquarters are located in Neu-Isenburg near Frankfurt am Main in Germany. The manufacturer operates further branches in several European countries and sells its products through regional distributors in other local markets. Hankook Tire employs approximately 20,000 people worldwide and sells products in over 160 countries. The company has been selected as the technical partner and exclusiv tyre supplier of the Generation 3 for the FIA ABB Formula E World Championship, starting 2023. Internationally leading car manufacturers rely on tyres made by Hankook for their original equipment. Approximately 38 percent of the company's global sales are generated within the European and CIS-Region. Hankook Tire has been represented in the renowned Dow Jones Sustainability Index World (DJSI World) since 2016.

For more information please visit [www.hankooktire-mediacenter.com](http://www.hankooktire-mediacenter.com) or [www.hankooktire.com](http://www.hankooktire.com)

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