

Junior Rally Championship

SUZUKI
MotorSport

SUZUKI Motor Sport NEWS



17th August 2007

RALLY DEUTSCHLAND Start

The Rallye Deutschland - round five of the Junior Rally Championship - is the first asphalt event of the season, held on a wide variety of challenging roads around the historic city of Trier in Germany. The event got underway this evening with a spectacular ceremonial start in the city centre, but the real action starts tomorrow at 1013, with the first of 19 demanding special stages totalling 356 competitive kilometres. New to the Suzuki squad for this event is 23 year-old Englishman James Wozencroft, deputising for Junior Championship leader P-G Andersson who is unable to compete in Germany. Wozencroft is joined by regular Suzuki driver Urmo Aava from Estonia, who is currently second in the Junior Championship. While Germany marks the Suzuki Swift's sealed-surface debut this year, the conditions are far from normal asphalt. Uncertain weather means that grip levels constantly change, and there are some broken up sections of concrete road that make punctures a constant risk. This morning, the Junior competitors all completed a short shakedown test near Trier. Both Suzuki drivers were happy with their cars and reported no problems.



News from Urmo (2nd in JRC points table):

"This rally is naturally a very good opportunity for us to move up into the lead of the championship, so we have to drive very carefully to be sure of making the finish. The key to this event will be to stay out of trouble and avoid punctures, but this is much more easily said than done. Germany is very different to most asphalt events, and it will be extremely easy to be caught out by the tricky conditions. I know that both myself and the Suzuki Swift can be very strong on asphalt from the past, but you also need a bit of luck as well. The weather, as always, will be unpredictable here in Germany - we need to make sure that we stay on the road if it gets slippery."

News from James:

"Getting this drive is a fantastic and unexpected opportunity for me, so I have to make the most of this very big chance. Obviously, to do well you first have to be sure of making the finish, which will be my absolute priority here. I am very lucky to have the experienced Jonas Andersson co-driving for me, whom I am sure will help me a lot. Everything is new to me, so my objective will be to start gently and build up to speed. I would like to repay the faith that Suzuki has shown in me by finishing to the best of my abilities. It's a very long event and anything can happen."

News from Nobuhiro 'Monster' Tajima, team principal:

"I feel disappointed that P-G is unable to compete in Germany, but it gives us the chance to give James an opportunity to show his talents on the world stage. We do not want to put any pressure on him though: the aim is for him to enjoy himself and make sure he gets to the end. The same objective applies for Urmo too: he does not need to take any unnecessary risks on what is one of the most complex rallies of the year. We have every confidence in the potential of the Swift on these varied surfaces, and I trust our drivers to do a sensible job in these uncertain road conditions."

Deutschland
Time +2UCT (summer time)

For more information please contact:

SUZUKI SPORT PR Dept. +81 538 66 6040 pr@suzukisport.com

<http://www.suzuki-motorsport.com>

<http://www.suzukisport.com>

<http://www.globalsuzuki.com>



www.globalsuzuki.com



Copyright 2007 Suzuki Sport. All rights reserved.