

News

Motorsports

The Carrera Cup Makes History

How time flies! The Carrera Cup was launched less than twenty years ago. And now a very special milestone has been celebrated at the EuroSpeedway Lausitz: the second race of the 2009 season in Germany was also the 1,000th contest worldwide of the successful Porsche Manufacturer's Cup. The very first winner in 1990 happened to be Olaf Manthey—and now this same man waved the checkered flag in the 1,000th race for the latest first-place winner, Thomas Jäger. "This is a win I'll never forget," the former DTM driver rejoiced.

The Carrera Cup generates new stories in every race. And not just in the pit rows. Even when it began in 1990, two Cups were held with the near-production 911—in Germany and France. The Carrera Cup Japan was launched in 2001, followed by the champi-

onships in Asia and the United Kingdom (both in 2003), in Scandinavia (2004), and in Italy (2007). Currently the contest for points goes on in thirteen series around the globe. For years Porsche has ranked as the largest producer of racing cars—mainly for the Carrera Cup: whereas 150 units of the 911 GT3 Cup were built in 2004, the production of 911 racing versions for the 2008 season rose to 265 units.

The Cup's success is rooted in the racing rules, which promote equal opportunity and focus on the importance of the driver. A victory in the Carrera Cup has consequently launched the career of many of the best drivers—Bernd Mayländer, for one. The 1994 winner continues to pile on miles in many Formula One races as a safety car driver. "Winning the Carrera Cup was my transition from amateur to pro," says Mayländer.



From one to one thousand: Even at the first race in 1990 there were exciting battles for position (right); this hasn't changed a bit, as shown during the 1,000th race at Lausitz

