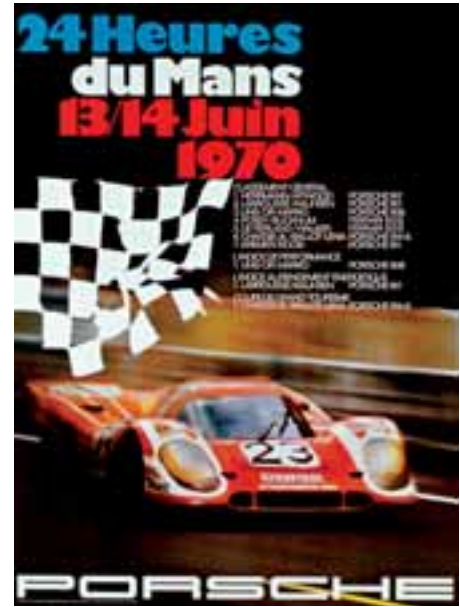


News

The RS Spyder set new standards in the LMP2 category



The poster celebrating the first Porsche victory



MOTORSPORTS

THE RETURN TO LE MANS

Porsche has decided to return to Le Mans, and it plans to start with a newly developed, factory-sponsored LMP1 sports prototype race car in 2014.

With 16 overall victories, Porsche is the most successful automaker in Le Mans history. “Motorsport has always been an essential ingredient of the Porsche brand,” explains Matthias Müller, CEO and president of Porsche AG. “So it was only a question of time until we’d compete again as a factory in auto racing’s topmost league. The triumphs of Porsche in Le Mans are unrivaled. We want to build on that and race to our seventeenth overall victory.”



Porsche head of motorsports Hartmut Kristen

With the RS Spyder sports prototype, which was used with eminent success from 2006 through 2008 by the factory-supported Penske Racing Team in the United States, and till 2010 by several other customer teams around the globe, Porsche has more recently set new standards in the LMP2 category. “With the RS Spyder we demonstrated that our motorsport engineers in Weissach are top-notch,” says Wolfgang Hatz, Porsche board member for Research and Development. “As a case in point, we were the first to use direct fuel injection in a high-rev racing engine, setting new standards in performance and efficiency.”

Porsche head of motorsports Hartmut Kristen is also ready for one of the most complex engineering programs in the company’s history: “We’re looking for-

ward to the challenge of continuing the success story of the RS Spyder by developing new technologies. We’ll begin comprehensive testing that will enable us to evaluate different design alternatives for our new car. Of course, these will depend on specifics that will emerge in the new technical rules for the year 2014. Those rules are also of particular interest to us because one of the possible options will be the integration of hybrid technology into vehicular design.”

The first Porsche overall victory was earned by Hans Herrmann and Richard Attwood in 1970 with the legendary 917 short-tail. The sixteenth and most recent overall win was brought in by Laurent Aiello, Stéphane Ortelli, and Allan McNish in 1998 with the 911 GT1. In the LMP2 class, the RS Spyder triumphed in 2008 and 2009.



Anticipation: Scan this code with the QR reader of your smartphone to watch the official Porsche trailer about the decision to return to Le Mans. See page 8 for more information.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zh0sDzSJ0bk