

Hayden Paddon to run Rallye Sanremo with New Generation i20 R5

- Hyundai Motorsport World Rally Championship (WRC) driver Hayden Paddon will contest Rallye Sanremo in a New Generation i20 R5
- The event will form part of Hayden's preparations for the Tour de Corse, as he continues to improve his consistency on tarmac
- He will be joined by co-driver Seb Marshall who will be his full time co-driver after Rally Finland.

Alzenau, Germany

March 15, 2017 - Hayden Paddon will drive a New Generation i20 R5 on the Rallye Sanremo later this month (March 29-April 1). This will be his first taste at the wheel of Hyundai Motorsport's latest R5 design.

The event, the second round of the premier Italian national championship, will form part of Paddon's preparations for the Tour de Corse, the first pure tarmac rally of this year's WRC season. Prior to that, the Kiwi will complete his pre-event testing in the Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC.

The event will offer Paddon the opportunity for more time behind the wheel on tarmac, furthering his continuous preparation and improvement plan on the surface. Much of the 177km of special stages will take place on a similar type of road to those which make up the WRC stages on the French island.

He will be joined on the event by co-driver Seb Marshall, who has more experience with the New Generation i20 R5, having worked with the Customer Racing department throughout the development phase of the project last year. It was announced recently that Hayden and Seb will work together in WRC after Rally Finland and Rallye Sanremo will be a good way to train the crew in real rally conditions.

As well as the WRC pair, the crew of Chewon Lim and Martijn Wydaeghe will also enter the event. The rally will be their third event in less than a month at the start of a busy year for the pairing as part of the Hyundai Motorsport Driver Development Program.

Paddon said: "It'll be my first time at Rallye Sanremo and I'm really looking forward to it. Competing the week before the Tour de Corse should be the perfect warmup for that event. It will be a good opportunity to get some more mileage on tarmac on very twisty and demanding roads that are similar to Corsica. The Italian drivers who know the stages will be very fast, while it'll be our first time there so we're not focusing on results, but instead concentrating on development and improvement for the future. The whole purpose of the rally is just to get more time behind the wheel and to get more comfortable on tarmac. The speed will be a little bit different but I'm excited to be able to drive the New Generation i20 R5 for the first time. With Seb sitting in the car with me, it's also a chance for us to develop our partnership with an eye on the future."

Hyundai Motorsport Customer Racing department manager Andrea Adamo said: *"Competing in the Rallye Sanremo with Hayden is a great opportunity for the Customer Racing department to add to some interesting mileage on tarmac, as we continue to make advancements with the project in order to support our customers. We will have a number of teams running with the New Generation i20 R5 at the*

New Generation i20 R5 Official Suppliers



event, so it will be a busy weekend, one we hope will be successful for our customers, as well as Hayden and Chewon. For Hayden, it will be also a great opportunity to prepare for the Tour de Corse. As testing is limited in WRC, he will be able to get some more time behind the wheel of another type of i20, and under the conditions of another tough event.

-Ends-

About Hyundai Motorsport's Customer Racing department

Hyundai Motorsport GmbH established its Customer Racing department in September 2015 with the aim of enhancing Hyundai's motorsport image around the world – in parallel to its WRC programme. The company began work on a new R5 car based on Hyundai's New Generation i20 WRC and carried out the first test and rollout of the vehicle in January 2016. Led by Andrea Adamo, the Customer Racing department delivered the first New Generation i20 R5s to customer in September 2016. The car is available to semi-professional and amateur drivers for use in WRC2 and national / regional Championships.

Further information about Hyundai Motorsport is available at: <http://motorsport.hyundai.com>

About Hyundai Motor Company

Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Company is committed to becoming a lifetime partner in automobiles and beyond. The company, which leads the Hyundai Motor Group, an innovative business structure capable of circulating resources from molten iron to finished cars, offers top-quality bestsellers such as Elantra, Sonata and Genesis. Hyundai Motor has eight manufacturing bases and seven design & technical centres worldwide and in 2014, sold 4.96 million vehicles globally. With almost 100,000 employees worldwide, Hyundai Motor continues to enhance its product line-up with localized models and strives to strengthen its leadership in clean technology, starting with the world's first mass-produced hydrogen-powered vehicle, ix35 Fuel Cell.

More information about Hyundai Motor and its products can be found at: <http://worldwide.hyundai.com> or <http://www.hyundaiglobalnews.com>

To download high resolution photos for editorial use, full driver's profiles, as well as other useful press information about the team please refer to:

<http://press.motorsport.hyundai.com/home>

Username : HMSGMedia

Password : Alzenau

(NEW LOGIN DETAILS)

For individual information please contact:

Thomas Vilette – PR Manager

Phone: +49-151 1 135 4339

tvillette@hyundai-ms.com

James Broomhead – Press Officer

Phone: +49-173 729 0398

jbroomhead@hyundai-ms.com