



## “Official Car of MotoGP™”: BMW M starts the 2016 season with the new BMW M2 MotoGP Safety Car.

The new BMW M2 Coupé makes its debut as the MotoGP Safety Car in Qatar – BMW M Division starts its 18<sup>th</sup> year in a row as partner of MotoGP organiser Dorna Sports.

Munich/Doha, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Spearheaded by the new BMW M2 MotoGP Safety Car, the official BMW M fleet made its first appearance of the 2016 MotoGP World Championship last weekend. This year marks BMW M's 18<sup>th</sup> season as “Official Car of MotoGP”. BMW's successful partnership with MotoGP organiser Dorna Sports dates back to 1999. Since then, the fleet of M models and M Performance models has helped to ensure that race events run safely. The commitment of BMW M Division also features numerous other activities, including the presentation of the coveted BMW M Award. The 2016 MotoGP season kicked off at the weekend with the Qatar Grand Prix at the “Losail International Circuit” in Doha.

This year's new highlight from BMW M Division is the BMW M2 MotoGP Safety Car. The new lead car is based on the BMW M2 Coupé (combined fuel consumption with M DTC: 7.9 l/100 km; combined CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 185 g/km), which enjoyed a high-profile world debut in Detroit in January. In the BMW M factory in Garching, the production car was modified, optimised and prepared by hand for its new role in MotoGP. As well as exclusive tailor-made solutions and mandatory safety features, the engineers at BMW M Division also equipped the Safety Car with extensive BMW M Performance Parts. This not only gives the car an eye-catching appearance, but also plays a practical role in the areas of aerodynamics, cooling and lightweight design. Many of the M Performance Parts, including the lowered thread chassis and exhaust with flap system, are also available as retrofit components for the BMW M2 Coupé.

With its distinct racing genes, the BMW M2 Coupé provided the ideal basis for a MotoGP Safety Car. The new inline six-cylinder engine with innovative M TwinPower Turbo technology and three-litre capacity guarantees an extremely sporty performance. With a maximum output of 272 kW/370 hp and a maximum torque of 7,000 min<sup>-1</sup>, the extremely rev-happy powertrain really makes its mark out on the track. The intelligent, lightweight concept, low point of gravity and small, unsprung weight are further trump cards, which help ensure the maximum agility and dynamics of the high-performance coupé.

“We are proud to have been a part of this captivating world championship for almost two decades,” said Frank van Meel, President of BMW M Division. “We are pleased with the deep trust that Dorna Sports has placed in us. In us, Dorna Sports knows it has a strong partner on its side for who the safety of the riders on their high-performance racing prototypes has the utmost priority. We dedicate all of our know-how to this role. The BMW M MotoGP Safety Cars are innovative high-performance models with thoroughbred racing genes. In the 2016 season, we are presenting another genuine highlight. In the BMW M2 MotoGP Safety Car, we are now taking the purism of the new BMW M2 Coupé to the racetrack. We are looking forward to an exciting 2016 season,

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which is also a special one for our partner Dorna Sports. It is the 25<sup>th</sup> year, in which Dorna Sports has been responsible for organising and marketing MotoGP. During this period, Dorna CEO Carmelo Ezpeleta and his committed staff have managed to establish the motorcycle world championship as the pinnacle of two-wheeled motorsport, which holds millions of spectators around the world under its spell and sets benchmarks in terms of technology and safety. We would like to congratulate Dorna Sports on this anniversary.”

In the 2016 season, the fleet of official MotoGP vehicles includes a total of six different BMW M and BMW M Performance models. Alongside the new BMW M2 MotoGP Safety Car, the BMW M4 Coupé with water injection and the BMW M3 will also be in action as safety cars. The BMW X5 M and the BMW M550d xDrive Touring will be on track this season as medical cars. BMW M Division will provide the safety officer with a BMW M5. All vehicles were further optimised for their special use in the motorcycle world championship in the BMW M factory. Two BMW S 1000 RRs, which BMW Motorrad provides as safety bikes, complete the 2016 safety vehicle fleet. More information is available online at: [www.bmw-m-safetycar.com](http://www.bmw-m-safetycar.com)

Among the many other activities that make up BMW M Division's commitment to MotoGP is the BMW M Award, which will be presented for the 14<sup>th</sup> time in 2016. This award is presented at the end of each MotoGP season to the rider with the best overall result in qualifying. The winner receives an exclusive BMW M car. The BMW M MotoGP Experience sees guests of BMW M Division experience an unforgettable race weekend. They are given an exclusive glimpse behind the scenes by BMW M MotoGP experts Loris Capirossi and Alex Hofmann. Furthermore, BMW M Division presents its latest models and products with on-site campaigns on selected Grand Prix weekends.

BMW M Division.

BMW M Division is a 100 per cent subsidiary of BMW AG. With its products and services in the five business areas of BMW M Automobiles and BMW M Performance Automobiles, BMW Individual, M Sports Options and Packages, and BMW Group Driving Experience, as well as Safety, Emergency and Special-Purpose Vehicles, it is geared towards customers with particularly high aspirations in terms of the performance, exclusivity and individual style of their vehicle. Based in Munich, the company was founded in 1972 as BMW Motorsport Division. Since then, the letter M has become synonymous all over the world for success in motor racing and for the fascination of high-performance sports cars for road use.

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