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HSR Prototype Challenge presented by Michelin – New HSRPC Tire Meeting Overview

Updated 10/28/2025

Up to now, certain HSR Prototype Challenge vehicles (Class P1 DPi and Class P2 LMP2) have been utilizing a Michelin tire specifically designed for IMSA competition, therefore HSR teams could only acquire the tire through IMSA sources. As of September 9th, 2025, a new consumer tire based on the IMSA Competition tire was made available for HSR teams to purchase directly from SascoSports, HSR's tire provider.

After multiple HSR drivers used the new tire during the HSR Road Atlanta Classic 10 Hour, there were several issues creating significant discomfort among these drivers about the new tire. Notices of possible blistering, vibrations, strange tire feeling on-track, and an extreme amount of tire falloff caused this discomfort. Track and ambient temperatures were higher than normal at this event, which may have caused certain traits listed above.

Michelin performed multiple back-to-back tire tests just after the conclusion of the HSR Road Atlanta Classic 10 Hour and could not recreate the issues noted by the HSR drivers. Michelin found similar, if not identical results between the HSR tire and the IMSA Competition tire. These tests were performed with an LMP2 car by a professional LMP2 driver (Sebastian Alvarez). Michelin also overlaid lap time data from the HSR event and did not find any difference in overall lap time falloff across the event.

Michelin took HSR tire sets with issues from the HSR Road Atlanta Classic 10 Hour and cut them open to compare construction and look for defects in the sidewall or the tire wear. There were no findings of sidewall or carcass failure in the tire. Regarding the blistering, it was determined that the 'blister' was a tire lockup, since the damage to the tread was only in one area. Michelin also researched the production and delivery of the new HSR tire, and all was within correct parameters.

A meeting was held with the drivers and prep shop managers, HSR, and Michelin to go over all data findings. After the meeting concluded, there were still many discomforts about the new HSR tire going into the HSR Daytona Classic 24 Hour. Michelin has ensured that teams will get one set of IMSA Competition tires to use during the HSR Daytona Classic 24 Hour to perform their own side by side comparisons of the tire at the event. Michelin has also ensured all teams that the new tire's carcass construction is identical to the IMSA Competition tire.

A Michelin representative and engineer will be onsite at the HSR Daytona Classic 24 Hour to observe and answer questions about the new tire, as well as continue to report findings back to Michelin.

The overall goal of the new HSR tire for HSR Prototype Challenge is to give the teams competing in this series a consumer tire that is consistent with the IMSA competition tire, while making it easily accessible through HSR's tire provider. The overall production, performance and quality of the new tire is up to identical standards as the currently used IMSA competition tire. Michelin and HSR understand the frustration and fear of these competitors that bring these historically significant vehicles to the racetrack, and cannot afford failure while on track, both in vehicle health and driver safety. HSR and Michelin are determined to continue the discussions and necessary revisions of the new tire to ensure a safe and high-quality product for all HSR Prototype Challenge competitors.

For drivers and teams affected by the new HSR Michelin tire at HSR Road Atlanta Classic 10 Hour, or any HSR event going forward, please feel free to send any car and lap time data that you believe to be helpful in Michelin's data comparisons. Send this information to the following email addresses.

Jackson Fassett – Series Manager, Competition – jfassett@hsrrace.com

Raymond Cotton - North America Motorsports Director – raymond.cotton@michelin.com

We appreciate everyone who has brought these concerns to HSR and Michelin's attention. We are determined to continue this partnership with drivers and teams to ensure that HSR competitors continue to feel safe at HSR events and have fun showcasing some of the most powerful race cars in motorsports history.

Please review the previous HSR competition notice [here](#) for information about how to order the new HSR Michelin tire.