2021 - THE DAWN OF A NEW ENDURANCE ERA WITH HYPERCAR
INTRODUCTION

HYPERCAR – THE NEW TOP CLASS OF ENDURANCE

From 2021, the new top class in the FIA World Endurance Championship – including the 24 Hours of Le Mans – will be called HYPERCAR. This new class will feature two types of car, LMH (Le Mans Hypercar, from 2021) and LMDh (Le Mans Daytona h, from 2022).

The ultimate aim of the ACO, FIA and IMSA is for these two types of car to compete against each other in the FIA WEC and in the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship and, therefore, to race in both the 24 Hours of Le Mans and the Rolex 24 at Daytona.
ACO AND FIA OBJECTIVES

#1 A premium class for remarkably spectacular cars with a sleek appearance and signature styling of the marques behind them. Technological prowess will continue to feature prominently and hybrid systems will remain an option.

#2 Fans who will get behind their favourite marques.

#3 A Balance of Performance guaranteeing a level playing field and controlled costs.

#4 Shared technical regulations enabling manufacturers to field the same car in FIA WEC and IMSA races.
In 2021, for the inaugural year of the Hypercar class in competition, only cars built in accordance with ‘Le Mans Hypercar’ technical regulations may compete. These regulations leave scope for a wide variety of architectures and allow a front-axle hybrid system to be fitted.

All cars competing in the Hypercar class will be shod with Michelin tyres (exclusive supplier) from 2021.

2021 entries include Toyota and Glickenhaus.

Lap times for the 24 Hours of Le Mans are estimated at 3:30.00. Consequently, the hierarchy in relation to the LMP2 class needed to be redefined.

The budget required to run two cars throughout a WEC season will be almost 80% lower than a similar LMP1 Hybrid programme.
In 2022, the Hypercar class will open to manufacturers choosing to compete under LMDh regulations.

In LMDh, the backbone of the car – i.e. the whole car minus the internal combustion engine, the body and the hybrid system – will be supplied by one of four chassis manufacturers: Dallara, Multimatic, Ligier or Oreca.

This chassis structure will also be that of the next-generation LMP2s.

The common rear-axle hybrid system is mandatory.

Like the hybrid LMH, the LMDh will have a total combined output (engine + hybrid system) of 500 kW and a minimum weight of 1030 kg.
Hypercar marks a turning point for Endurance. By reining in costs, this new top class is the dawn of a bright future for the discipline with the prospect of major manufacturers returning to engage in thrilling battles on the track.

PIERRE FILLON
PRESIDENT, AUTOMOBILE CLUB DE L'OUEST

"This class will be the domain of spectacular cars competing at the highest level of racing. We shall see greater variety among the contenders. Meanwhile, the regulatory approach geared to restricting development expenditure is a necessary move in the current economic climate."

RICHARD MILLE
PRESIDENT, FIA ENDURANCE COMMISSION
HYPERCAR

CLASS LEXICON

- **BALANCE OF PERFORMANCE**
  As the Hypercar class encompasses two types of car, a system will be introduced to ensure a level playing field and fair competition between the various competitors.

- **CLASSES**
  Four classes compete at the 24 Hours of Le Mans and in the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC): Hypercar, LMP2, LMGTE Pro and LMGTE Am. Hypercar is the top class.

- **HYBRID**
  Cars competing in the Hypercar class may or may not be equipped with a hybrid system. An optional front-axle system may be fitted on LMH models while a mandatory rear-axle system shall be mounted on LMDh cars.

- **LMH**
  Stands for Le Mans Hypercar. They will be produced entirely by manufacturers who may design a prototype in the style of a Hypercar or develop a racing car on the basis of a street-legal hypercar.

- **LMDh**
  Stands for Le Mans Daytona. These cars will compete against the LMH in the Hypercar class. They will share a common technical base, particularly the gearbox and the hybrid system. Each manufacturer entering the Hypercar class will however be free to design their own body and engine.

- **WEC**
  Founded in 2012 by the Automobile Club de l’Ouest (ACO) and the Fédération Internationale de l’Automobile (FIA), the World Endurance Championship stages some of the world’s most popular endurance races (Sebring, Spa-Francorchamps, Silverstone, Monza, Fuji, Bahrain and, its showcase event, the 24 Hours of Le Mans).