New FIA Standard 8853-2016 “Safety Harnesses”

Dear Sir or Madam,

We would like to inform you that the FIA recently published a new FIA standard for safety harnesses which can be found on the FIA website at the following link (http://www.fia.com/sites/default/files/8853-2016_safety_harnesses.pdf).

The goal was to create a new FIA standard with several improvements in relation to the current FIA Standard 8853/98 (safety harnesses).

The main improvements are to:

i) increase the crash pulse severity from 30 g to 60 g;
ii) increase the webbing strength load to 25 kN for all the straps;
iii) increase the buckle strength load from 9.8 kN to 15 kN;
iv) increase the oblique load strength test load from 24 kN to 30 kN;
v) increase the strength load for adjusters and attachments to 15 kN;
vi) authorise harnesses with 7, 8 and 9 attachment points.

The new standard will be valid for all types of cars and will be implemented step by step in FIA championships in accordance with the schedule below:

- Formula 1 as from 2017
- WRC (RC1) cars running in the FIA WRC as from 2017
- Super 2000 Circuit (TC1) cars running in the FIA WTCC as from 2017
- Super 2000 Rally (RRC), R5 and RGT cars running in the FIA WRC as from 2018
- Formula E as from 1 July 2018
- All the cars running in FIA Cross-Country events as from 2021
- LMP1 and LMP2 [TBC]
- Formulas 2 and 3 as from 2018 [TBC]
- Formula 4 [TBC]
- Recommended for all cars as from 2017
The FIA will stop the homologation of harnesses in accordance with FIA 8853/98 on 31.12.2016 and the manufacturers will stop the production of FIA-approved 8853/98 harness on 31.12.2017. As a consequence, the FIA-approved 8853/98 harnesses will no longer be valid as from 31.12.2022.

We would like to inform you that the FIA standard 8854/98, which sets the requirements for harnesses with four straps, remain valid until further notice. Please note that the FIA-approved 8854/98 harnesses are only accepted in some historical cars as defined in Appendix K to the FIA International Sporting Code.

We remain at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Yours faithfully,

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