

## Audi Middle East Communications

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## Khaled Al Qubaisi



Khaled Al Qubaisi has a permanent place in the motor racing record books as the first Emirati driver to be part of a team achieving outright victory in the Dunlop 24 Hours of Dubai. Also, Al Qubaisi is the first Emirati Arab to make history in circuit racing as he braves the 2014 World Endurance Championship (FIA WEC) for a complete season.

Al Qubaisi achieved his breakthrough win at Dubai Autodrome in January 2012, and went on to score a repeat victory in the event with Team Abu Dhabi by Black Falcon last year.

Al Qubaisi has established himself as one of the UAE's leading racing drivers since entering the sport in 2009, starting by contesting the UAE GT series, and progressing to the Porsche Carrera Cup, the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Middle East, and the Mobil 1 Supercup in which he made 25 starts up to 2012.

He scored his breakthrough victory in the Porsche GT3 Cup series on home territory at Abu Dhabi's Yas Marina Circuit in the 2010-11 season.

Al Qubaisi, who is Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Racing, achieved his top-20 target on his competitive debut in the Nurburgring 24 Hours in May 2013 when he linked up with Britain's Vimal Mehta and Germans Daniel Keilwitz and Christian Bracke in the Black Falcon No.2 car to finish 19th.

A month later he became the first Emirati driver to compete in the legendary 24 Hours of Le Mans.



Al Qubaisi's record-setting performances continued at Yas Marina Circuit in December 2013 with Team Abu Dhabi by Black Falcon where he became the first Emirati to taste victory in the Gulf 12 Hours, and the first to start from pole position in the race.

#### **About Abu Dhabi Racing:**

Abu Dhabi Racing is an Abu Dhabi-based company working on a number of initiatives designed to bolster the emirate's presence in global motorsport.

Via strategic relationships with Abu Dhabi-based motorsport stakeholders – including Abu Dhabi Motorsport Management, Yas Marina Circuit and Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Authority - the primary objective for Abu Dhabi Racing is to increase Emirati participation in various global motorsport series, including off-road and circuit-based disciplines.

For further information please visit: [www.adr.ae](http://www.adr.ae)

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The Audi Group delivered approximately 1,575,500 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2013. As one of the most successful models, the Audi A3 has been awarded the title of "World Car of the Year 2014" by an international jury of journalists (combined fuel consumption in l/100 km: 7.1 – 3.2; combined CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in g/km: 165 – 85). In 2013, the company reported revenue of €49.9 billion and an operating profit of €5.03 billion. The company operates globally in more than 100 markets and has production facilities in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Brussels (Belgium), Bratislava (Slovakia), Martorell (Spain), Kaluga (Russia), Aurangabad (India), Changchun (China) and Jakarta (Indonesia). Since the end of 2013, the brand with the Four Rings has also been producing cars in Foshan (China). In 2015, Audi will start production in São José dos Pinhais (Brazil), followed by San José Chiapa (Mexico) in 2016. Wholly owned subsidiaries of AUDI AG include quattro GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy), the sports motorcycle manufacturer. The company currently employs more than 73,500 people worldwide, of which more than 52,500 in Germany. Total investment of around €22 billion is planned from 2014 to 2018 – primarily in new products and sustainable technologies. Audi is committed to its corporate responsibility and has anchored the principle of sustainability for its products and processes in its strategy. The long-term goal is CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral mobility.

AUDI AG's commitment to the region was confirmed through the foundation of its fully owned subsidiary in 2005. The current Middle East model range comprises the Audi A1, A3 and S3 Sedan, A4 and RS 4 Avant, the A5 Coupe, Sportback, Cabriolet and RS 5, the A6, S6 & RS 6 Avant, A7, S7 & RS 7, A8 L & S8, the Audi Q3, Q5 and Q7, the Audi TT Coupe/Roadster and TT RS Coupe, the Audi R8 Coupe and R8 Spyder as well as R8 V10 plus.