

NEW TYRE SUPPLIER FOR TARGA

Hello Everyone,

The promoters of the VIP Petfoods 12 hour Endurance at Taupo last weekend cancelled it due to a lack of entries. This was yet another event that has suffered from the current economic climate and the shortage of motorsport dollars despite the backing of Tony Quinn and his team at VIP Petfoods. We understand how hard it is at present, so with this in mind we have been working on a number of ways to reduce your consumable costs to participate in Targa NZ and we are happy to announce our new tyre supplier relationship.

We have for the last couple of years come under increasing pressure from a number of competitors about the rising cost of the Dunlops versus other makes available in the market, so as some of you are aware we recently hired the Hampton Downs Race Circuit for the day to test different makes and models in order to give us a better understanding of the performance of the Dunlops versus other tyre options, including tyres specifically designed for wet-weather conditions. The results were surprising to say the least.

We enlisted the aid of Robert Van Gisbergen aka Cheese, dad of Shane if you didn't already know, Paul Manuell, Andy Booth and Aaron Harris to each drive one of the Turnkey Motorsport BMW E36s. They were all asked to give their opinion on each of the tyres without knowing which tyre was on the car at the time.

We also measured the lap times, abilities in both wet and dry conditions, variation in tyre wear and tyre pressure. Each car had different suspension settings to simulate as many variations as possible, from track to road and in between, because many Targa vehicles are set up for multiple forms of racing. It has also become very evident in recent years and particularly after this year's Targa Rotorua that we need to consider a wet weather tyre option to reduce the risk of serious incidents due to aqua-planing on the DOT rated tyres. With this in mind, we have decided to increase the tyre allocation for Targa NZ in October from six to eight tyres which will consist of a set of four dry tyres and four wet tyres. We will also be reducing the additional tyre penalties so check out the new Supplementary Regulations which we are hoping to be finalised next week as we are still waiting for final confirmation from Motorsport New Zealand regarding the turbo restrictor rulings.

As a result of the extensive testing, we are proud to announce that **Federal Tyres** are the new official control tyre for all Targa New Zealand events from now on.

The **FZ-201** is the dry weather tyre option:



The **595RS-R** is the wet weather tyre option:



Federal Tyres have been producing quality tyres for over ten years and sponsor a number of motorsport events worldwide.

The following is the press release direct from **Federal Tyres**:

Having made their racing debut as a control tyre at the famous Sepang F1 circuit in Malaysia, Federal Tyres went on to celebrate the ultimate performance of the new FZ-201 semi-slick tyre at the world famous international circuit of Nurburgring Nordschleife in Germany and Pikes Peak International Hill Climb (PPIHC) in the USA earlier this year. "These tyres also had to undergo an extensive series of tests to determine their durability and performance before they were officially introduced to both race winning teams and individual drivers to complete the overall Federal Motorsports experience. We believe the two tyre options are the best fit for all competitors who aim for a podium finish in such worldwide sporting events like the Targa NZ Rally," Taz Yeh, Director of Federal Motorsports.

Attached is a pricing comparative spreadsheet, the new order form will be sent in a separate email. To achieve these special Targa prices, Targa NZ has made a commitment by placing a substantial order directly from the factory to ensure we have supply as we will also be the

distributer for these tyres. Busy times ahead, however the good news is that if you return your order form with payment before 31 July, we will discount the price by 10% for Targa competitors. For those of you who have already organised Dunlops, we will allow use of them as your dry set for this year without penalty, but you will need to let us know before the 31st July to avoid the normal tyre penalty. This means you will only need to order your wet tyres.

We are all very excited to have **Federal Tyres** as our new control tyre and look forward to a long-term relationship. We know these tyres will perform and with the added benefit of a **large reduction to your on-going tyre cost**, we are sure that you will be pleased with this decision.

Regards
Peter and the Targa team.