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Extreme E Electrifies Bicester and Motorsport Valley M40 Oxfordshire

Extreme E (www.extreme-e.com), the brainchild of the founder behind the Formula E racing series, is set initiate a radical new off-road racing series, showcasing electric Sports Utility Vehicles (SUV's) and futuristic technologies in some of the most remote areas and extreme environments in the world.

Extreme E has acquired logistics and distribution premises in Bicester, Oxfordshire, with the transaction handled by White Commercial. The premises have been taken in addition to an existing facility at Donnington Raceway, as the series prepares to set sail for Season 1 on board the former Royal Mail Ship 'St Helena', which has been commissioned and fully-refurbished for the expedition, acting as the operations, freight, logistics, accommodations and floating garage hub for the series.

Extreme E will be hosting its inaugural season in early 2021, staged across five environments, where climate change challenges across different ecosystems will be the focal point of each race. Locations include Greenland in the Arctic, Brazil's Amazon, the Saudi Arabian Desert, Argentinan Patagonia, and Senegal on the West Coast of Africa.

Extreme E will be working closely with a Scientific Committee of experts in each region to raise global awareness and highlight such factors as rising carbon emissions, melting ice-caps, deforestation, desertification, droughts, plastic pollution and rising sea levels – whilst encouraging the way to a lower carbon future, as well as providing a world-first gender equal motorsport platform.

Likened to 'Star Wars Pod racing meets Dakar Rally', the races are designed to display short, sharp wheel-to-wheel racing action. Each race, known as an X Prix, will incorporate two laps over a distance of approximately 16 kilometres. Four teams, with two drivers – one male, one female – completing a lap apiece in-car, will compete head-to-head in each race over the two-day event.

The championship car is a fully electric SUV, named ODYSSEY 21. In order to withstand the harsh conditions, the car's peak 400kw (550hp) output is capable of firing the 1650-kilogram, 2.3-metre wide electric SUV from 0-62mph in 4.5 seconds, at gradients of up to 130 percent.

Extreme E is also markedly the first event organiser to utilise hydrogen fuel cell power generators, in collaboration with AFC Energy, to charge its race cars by using this pioneering zero emission technology.



White Commercial Surveyors act on behalf of clients in Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire and Warwickshire along the London to Birmingham M40 motorway.

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In 2020 the series started to attract attention by having Ken Block race the Extreme E car at the final stage of the Dakar Rally in January, and in September Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton announced the creation of his own Extreme E team, called X44. A six-day drivers test was held in Château de Lastours in France in late September and early October, featuring some well-known racing drivers like Valtteri Bottas, Sébastien Loeb and Jean-Éric Vergne.

The premises taken in Bicester are situated within the heart of the 'Motorsport Valley' and close to both Bicester Heritage, the first business campus dedicated to historic motoring, based at the former WW2 bomber station; RAF Bicester, as well as the famous Silverstone Circuit, which provides a significant and world leading cluster in the UK for automotive technology uses.

The Motorsport 'industry' situated in the region supports a substantial workforce and encourages investment into the area. The Motorsport Valley employs around 41,000 people and is also a hub of small and medium-sized businesses; with around 4,300 businesses based in the area. Estimates suggest that the world's top engineers working in Motorsport Valley total approximately 25,000 people, equating to 80% of the world's top motorsport engineers

The races are due to commence in early 2021 – Audiences will be invited to tune into the action remotely through global broadcast, which will include the BBC in the UK, and via social media channels rather than attend the events in person, and wherever possible, gates, branding and other usual track features will be implemented virtually rather than physically, in a bid to reduce the championship's carbon footprint.

The race calendar can be viewed at www.extreme-e.com calendar below:-

Extreme E Season 1 (2021) provisional calendar:

20-21 March 2021: Desert X Prix: Al Ula, Saudi Arabia
29-30 May 2021: Ocean X Prix: Lac Rose, Senegal
28-29 August 2021: Arctic X Prix: Kangerlussuaq, Greenland
23-24 October 2021: Amazon X Prix: Para, Brazil
11-12 December 2021: Glacier X Prix: Patagonia, Argentina

James Taylor, Chief Championship Officer at Extreme E commented: "Thanks to White Commercial, we are settling into our logistics and distribution premises in Bicester very well. The area itself is well-known as a motorsport hub, so it made perfect sense for Extreme E to have part of its operation based there."



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