

The 36 most interesting facts and figures about Porsche and Le Mans

What has the 919 Hybrid in common with the power supply of a village?

Stuttgart. The record of 18 overall wins is the most popular figure about Porsche and Le Mans. Double it, and this is how many further interesting facts you will find here. Discover what the Porsche 919 Hybrid has in common concerning the power supply of a small village, at what time did Mark Webber complete his first-ever lap in an LMP1 car and when Porsche celebrated its first hybrid race car success.

1

The initial roll-out of the first 919 was done by Porsche works driver Timo Bernhard on June 12 in 2013 at the Weissach test track. A little over two years later, he became world endurance champion with the further developed Le Mans prototype.

3

Hollywood stars entered Le Mans with Porsche. Steve McQueen's attempt made it in to the cinema in 1971, Paul Newman came overall second in 1979 while Patrick Dempsey also climbed the 2015 podium, finishing second in the GTE-AM class.

3.2

hours is the average time each of the Porsche LMP drivers spend on a massage bed during the 24-hour race.

4

Porsche LMP team members were the small delegation visiting Le Mans in 2013 for research purposes one year before the return to the top category. They witnessed

the first win of a works Porsche since 1998 when the 911 RSR won the GT class.

5

people were on board at the end of 2011 when Porsche, under the guidance of Fritz Enzinger, began to prepare for the LMP return. Since 2015 the team's head count is 260 with 160 of them being engineers.

6

Porsche LMP drivers in three bedrooms: two drivers each share a container behind the pit box to rest and sleep. A shared bathroom is included. Quietness is not an option.

8

megajoules from energy recovery systems per lap in Le Mans is the highest category from the efficiency regulations. Porsche was the first – and for a long time – only manufacturer in that category. The trendsetting challenge behind this: the more electrical power the 919 uses, the less fuel it is allowed to burn.

10

At 10pm on 10 June 2015 Neel Jani set off for the first Le Mans qualifying session. He lapped the circuit in 3:16.887 minutes – which remains a record time.

12

men were the advance guard that began on 23rd May 2017, almost four weeks before the race, to build up the two-floor steel hall behind the Porsche LMP pit box. On May 30, a convoy of eight semi-trailers arrived containing the race cars and the entire equipment. For the test day on June 4, everything has to be in place.

14

gigabyte of data is sent by each 919 to the pits during the 24 hours.

15

minutes before the 919's maiden race, at Silverstone in 2014, Team Principal Andreas Seidl spun his tension into a funny quote: "That's one small step for mankind, but one giant leap for Porsche – we've got two LMP1 cars on the grid!"

19.9

kilograms is the weight of a rim with tyre. Mechanic Rainer Mühlhäuser manages to pick up a used wheel and attach a new one by using only one hand respectively. Since he did that at the opening WEC race in Silverstone, others down the pit lane are practicing this truly impressive feat.

20

20 hours in to the race when car number 20 took the lead in 2014. 20 minutes after Mark Webber had begun his final stint, he brought home this number 20 car on electric drive – engine failure. 20 minutes later the number 14 sister car suffered a gear-box failure.

20:32

was the time in complete darkness on December 9 in 2013 when Mark Webber started his first ever lap at the wheel of an LMP1 car on a circuit he had never driven on. This Portimão test was a turning point: The 919 Hybrid's initial V4 engine had caused heavy vibrations. By December, the problem was solved.

25

On October 10 in 2014, practice day in Fuji, the team congratulated Brendon Hartley for his 25th birthday – including presents. Unfortunately, it was one month early

30

stops for refuelling and ten stops for changing tyres and drivers is anticipated for

each Porsche 919 Hybrid during the Le Mans race.

54

consecutive laps Romain Dumas as well as Neel Jani were at the wheel of the win-

ning car at night during the 2016 Le Mans. Due to safety car periods, Dumas' stint

was exaggerated to the longest stint of all the Porsche LMP drivers. It lasted from

00:13 hrs until 03:38 hrs. That's almost the duration of two Formula 1 Grands Prix.

60/40

Around 60 per cent of the 919 Hybrid's recovered energy comes from the front

brakes, around 40 per cent is provided by the exhaust system.

65

people form the Porsche LMP Team's operational crew at a six-hour race. At the Le

Mans 24-Hours this number is 90.

90

degree is the cylinder angle of the 919 Hybrid's V4 combustion engine. But its oper-

ating mode is one of a steep standing "boxer" engine.

100%

At the 2015 final WEC round in Bahrain, both throttle barrel levers broke on the Timo

Bernhard/Brendon Hartley/Mark Webber car. The fact that the three drivers still

reached the chequered flag and became world champions was thanks to a mechan-

ic's clever idea and quick thinking engineers: mechanics had locked the barrels on

full throttle - by putting two pliers into the engine, fixed with cable straps - while en-

gineers were busy programming in real time to keep the car running.

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239

On November 30 2014, Mark Webber was on lap 239 at the season's finale in São

Paulo when he suffered the worst crash of his entire career.

248

After 248 laps in São Paulo, Neel Jani in the sister car, scored the first race win of

the Porsche 919 Hybrid.

395

laps were covered by Earl Bamber/Nico Hülkenberg/Nick Tandy on their way to win

the 2015 Le Mans 24-Hours. The three LMP rookies agreed before the race that they

each drive the speed they were comfortable while trying to avoid hitting anything.

This way a podium finish should be doable. The plan resulted in the first overall victo-

ry for Porsche since 1998.

397

laps is the longest distance ever covered during the Le Mans 24-Hours. The 2010

winners all had a Porsche junior background (Timo Bernhard/Romain Dumas/Mike

Rockenfeller). They shared an Audi when they covered the 5,410.713 kilometres.

> 400

HP contribute the two different energy recovery systems (front axle brakes and ex-

haust). On demand, an electric engine powers the front axle and turns the 919 Hybrid

in to what is in effect, a temporary four-wheel drive car.

< 500

HP is the output of the 919's turbo charged petrol engine that drives the rear axle.

919

The 919 Hybrid is the only LMP1 that regains energy not only when braking but also

when accelerating, thanks to exhaust energy recovery.

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1900

was the year when Ferdinand Porsche created the first car with a serial hybrid drive.

Its name "Semper Vivus" translates to "always alive". Two wheel hub electric engines

(20 ampere at 90 volt each) and a battery were constantly serving two combustion

engines by a dynamo. At the 1901 Semmering hill climb race, an improved version of

the Lohner Porsche prototype comfortably achieved the best time of an electric car.

Afterwards a small series of two-seater electric compact cars were built.

2013

For two hours the smell would linger for if a driver broke wind in the car commented

Neel Jani – unhappy with the cockpit ventilation of the first test car back in 2013.

22,984

shifts (up and down shifting) of the winning Porsche 919 Hybrid's gearbox during the

2016 Le Mans 24-Hours.

62,000

kilowatt hours of electrical energy have been recuperated by Porsche 919 Hybrids

during a total mileage of 321,000 kilometres (testing and race weekends) from their

two energy recovery systems (brake energy from the front axle and exhaust energy).

If the 919 was a "power station", this energy would have been the capacity to power

a village of 15 houses, each occupied by four people, for an entire year.

120,000

revs and more per minute of the turbine that sits in the exhaust and drives a genera-

tor. To recover energy also at low engine revs, the turbine has variable geometry.

The turbo charger instead works without VTG.

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128,000

kilometres have been completed by various variants of the Porsche 919 Hybrid from

early 2014 until the end of May 2017 during race weekends (including practice and

qualifying).

193,000

kilometres from testing since 2013 add to this impressive tally.

243,000

kilometres had been clocked up by the identical specification of the Porsche 919 Hy-

brid's water pump with no issue when it suddenly failed at 23:13 hrs in 2016 at Le

Mans. At 01:56 hrs, Bernhard/Hartley/Webber returned to the race now 39 laps be-

hind the leaders.

Note: At https://presse.porsche.de text, image and video material on the LMP1 programme is freely accessible. The link https://presskit.porsche.de/motorsport/en/mediaguide/index.html takes you straight to the Porsche Motorsport Media Guide. The LMP1 twitter feed @Porsche_Team broadcasts information, photos and video material live from the race track. Further live features from the races are available at www.porsche.com/fiawec. For further press content, please visit the Newsroom at www.newsroom.porsche.com/. Video news is available at www.vimeo.com/porschenewsroom.

















