

Press Information

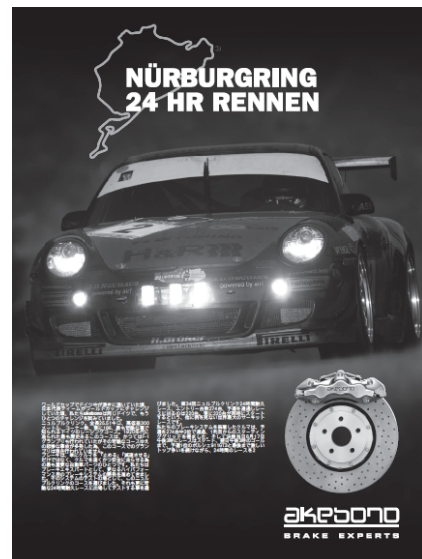
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Akebono Brake System-fitted Vehicle Secures Second Place at the 34th Nürburgring 24-Hour Endurance Race

A vehicle fitted with a brake system made by Akebono finished second at the 34th Nürburgring 24-hour road race in Germany over the weekend of June 17 and 18, 2006.

It was the first time for Akebono products to compete in a 24-hour endurance race, and the brake system was comprised of a six-pot front caliper and a four-pot rear caliper.

Nürburgring, considered one of the most rigorous endurance circuits around, has a track length of 25 kilometers, a rise differential of 300 meters, and 186 corners per lap. For this year's race, 220 vehicles qualified from the preliminary stages. The brake system developed by Akebono for high-performance application lasted the approximately 3,800 kilometers (150 laps over 24 hours) from start to finish without experiencing trouble of any kind, and delivered a performance of exceptional quality. As a result, the racing team fitted with Akebono's brake system, Jürgen Alzen Motorsport, took second place in superb fashion, while the potential of the Akebono brake system was fully confirmed.



Newspaper advertisement for Akebono featured on 28 July



Front brake system



Rear brake system

Shortly thereafter, on July 8, in a four-hour endurance race on the same circuit, and following adjustment of the disc brake pads, the vehicle fitted with Akebono's brake system took first place after leading from start to finish.

In addition to this, Akebono has also successfully participated in motorsports competitions beyond that of automobiles.

In mountain bike downhill racing (the JCF Japan Series), Akebono supplied the brake systems on three of the competing bikes. Last season, those three bikes monopolized the top three positions all year, and they have continued to dominate so far this season up to the second stage, while finishing first, second and fourth at the recent third stage race on July 16.

Moreover, in the world of motorcycling, Akebono's brake system participated in the all-Japan road race series (Japan Super Bike 1000 class) last year, and achieved great results, finishing first in four out of eight races, never retiring once, and ending up series champion.

Akebono will continue to steadily evolve and refine the brake systems it has developed so far, the potential of which has been fully substantiated by the recent endurance race result.

From here on, Akebono will utilize its participation in the world of motorsports to acquire various kinds of experience and insight through which we can further enhance our technologies and engineering prowess.

