

## Bercella and Romeo Ferraris set to bring natural fiber-based composites in the Giulia ETCR project

Varano de' Melegari (Parma) – After having supported Romeo Ferraris in the design and construction phases of the first version of the Giulia ETCR carbon fiber bodywork, Bercella and the Milanese manufacturer bring a great technical innovation for the final stage of the PURE ETCR championship on the Pau-Arnos track, on the weekend of 15 -17<sup>th</sup> October: the Giulia ETCR of the Opera manufacturer will use for the first time a hemp fiber bodywork, an eco-sustainable material, perfectly in line with the latest market trends and with the growing attention to the environment, the very vocation of the PURE ETCR championship.

This is a project that also involves other Italian companies, including Fibertech Group, based in Mornago (Varese) as a supplier of materials in collaboration with the Linificio and Canapificio Nazionale.

The Giulia ETCR by Romeo Ferraris driven by Rodrigo Baptista, Luca Filippi, Philipp Eng and Oliver Webb in Pau-Arnos will now mount some parts of the bodywork made of the MJ 404/100 fabric. Natural fiber-based composites are experiencing increasing applications also in the automotive sector, thanks to their eco-sustainability combined with properties of weight, elasticity and resistance comparable to carbon, which in the last forty years has become a standard in the world of racing, imported from the aerospace sector.

Romeo Ferraris is perfectly in line with the philosophy of PURE ETCR, the series for electric touring cars inaugurated this season to explore new propulsion technologies linked to the mobility of the future. Discovery Event, the organizer of the championship, has thought from the beginning of various initiatives in favor of sustainability, including the choice of race venues, logistics, car refilling systems or the reduction of consumables.

Also thanks to this historic milestone, Romeo Ferraris aims to end this first edition of the PURE ETCR in the best way possible, in which the team also managed to win the stage on the Copenhagen street circuit. Baptista, currently fifth in the overall standings with 197 points, is among the contenders for the 2021 title.

**Massimo Bercella, CEO of Bercella Srl:** *"We are proud to have done our part in the transition that will lead to a greener future, from which even Motorsport can no longer ignore, as a laboratory of the highest level of the trends that will later constitute the road mobility of tomorrow. Composites constitute our corporate expertise and seeing this change towards increasingly sustainable materials and processing techniques, confirm us as pioneers of the new initiatives that represent our present and that we will have the opportunity to develop even more deeply in the future."*

**Michela Cerruti, Romeo Ferraris Team Principal:** *"We are really proud to be able to announce this technical innovation for the season finale in PURE ETCR. The use of hemp fiber for some bodywork components demonstrates, on one hand, our constant search for improvements and innovations for the Giulia ETCR project and, on the other hand, the desire to offer a concrete contribution to eco-sustainability, a terrain on which motorsport itself plays an important part of its future."*

*Here at Romeo Ferraris, we immediately decided to accept the challenge of a championship like the PURE ETCR, with fully electric cars that act as a test bed for solutions that we will soon be able to find on our everyday vehicles. In addition to this, we are proud of having developed cutting-edge materials, just like the hemp fiber on which we worked together with Bercella and Fibertech Group, two Italian excellences".*



## ABOUT BERCELLA

BERCELLA is a dynamic and innovative Italian company driving since 25 years the design and engineering of cuttingedge solutions using Advanced Composites and Light Alloys. Bercella is specialized in large and complex structures, providing critical industries with tailored high-performance systems, through a 360° service: from early design to engineering development to Advanced Manufacturing, all being vertically integrated in-house, for final turnkey solutions enhancing process control, costs reduction and efficiency.

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