|  |
| --- |
| **Hyundai Motor UK is Once Again**  **The Official Car Partner to Wales Rally GB**   * *Hyundai renews official support for Wales Rally GB for second year* * *Rally winning Hyundai i20 WRC to feature in all marketing campaigns* * *Fleet of the latest Hyundai vehicles for event officials and dignitaries*   **July 30, 2015 -** Building on last year’s successful affiliation, Hyundai Motor UK will be re-appointed as ‘Official Car Partner’ to Wales Rally GB – a move that reinforces the company’s growing presence at the forefront of the WRC.  The partnership between Wales Rally GB and Hyundai Motor UK will see the i20 WRC car once again featuring prominently on all the 2015 event’s promotional materials including posters, ticketing leaflets and publicity flyers as well as on the walesrallygb.com website and the cover of the official programme.  Hyundai Motor UK will also provide a fleet of liveried vehicles for use on the event by key members of the organisation team and FIA dignitaries.  Tony Whitehorn, President & CEO, Hyundai Motor UK Ltd commented, “We are delighted to be supporting the smooth operation of Wales Rally GB for the second consecutive year – what better way is there to showcase the robustness of our products than over the tough forest rally routes of North and Mid Wales in November.  He continued: “Over the years, rallying here in the UK has lost some of its profile but it still has a significant, engaged and massively enthusiastic audience. We hope that through our continued support we can engage with our consumers in a more dynamic way as well helping to further raise awareness of rallying in the UK and of Wales Rally GB in particular.”  Hyundai Motorsport’s ambitious team last year secured its first WRC victory, alongside several other podium finishes and so far this year, has secured podium finishes in Sweden and Sardinia.  The team also enjoyed an encouraging Wales Rally GB debut in 2014 when Thierry Neuville just missed out on a podium with a highly creditable fourth position. There was further success, too, in the National Rally with BBC *TopGear* magazine’s Oliver Marriage taking B2 Class Honours in his Hyundai i20.  This year, Hyundai Motorsport will be running a four car line-up in Wales Rally GB, which will feature British co-driver Sebastian Marshall, who will be joining promising Dutch driver, Kevin Abbring.  “It was a pleasure to join forces with Hyundai last year and we are delighted the company will extend its role as ‘Official Car Partner’ to Wales Rally GB in 2015,” said Ben Taylor, Managing Director of Wales Rally GB. “The staging of a major world championship event is a huge project, and we couldn’t possibly achieve it without the support of major partners like Hyundai. Their increased involvement is reflective of the greater commercialisation of the event and demonstrates the value that the rally can bring to partners.”  Wales Rally GB features four days of dramatic action, predominantly set on the legendary forest tracks of north and mid Wales in November. Full information and details of significantly discounted advance tickets can be found on the official [www.walesrallygb.com](http://www.walesrallygb.com) website.  -Ends-    **About Hyundai Motor** Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Company is committed to becoming a lifetime partner in automobiles and beyond. The company, which leads the Hyundai Motor Group, an innovative business structure capable of circulating resources from molten iron to finished cars, offers top-quality best-sellers such as Elantra, Sonata and Genesis. Hyundai Motor has eight manufacturing bases and seven design & technical centers worldwide and in 2014, sold 4.96 million vehicles globally. With almost 100,000 employees worldwide, Hyundai Motor continues to enhance its product line-up with localized models and strives to strengthen its leadership in clean technology, starting with the world’s first mass-produced hydrogen-powered vehicle, ix35 Fuel Cell.  More information about Hyundai Motor and its products can be found at: [http://worldwide.hyundai.com](http://worldwide.hyundai.com/) or [http://www.hyundaiglobalnews.com](http://www.hyundaiglobalnews.com/)  **About Hyundai Motor UK**  Hyundai has sold vehicles in the UK since 1982. In 2005, Hyundai opened its own UK subsidiary, Hyundai Motor UK Ltd, based in High Wycombe. Since 2008, the company has risen from 21st to one of the top ten car manufacturers in the UK and last year sold a record 77,500 vehicles. Hyundai Motor UK employs over 3000 people through its UK operations and dealer network. Hyundai offers a full range of vehicles from the award-winning New Generation i10 city car through to the capable Santa Fe SUV and iLoad LCV. All passenger cars come with Hyundai’s industry-leading 5 Year Unlimited Mileage Warranty package. Further information about Hyundai and its products is available at [www.hyundai.co.uk](http://www.hyundai.co.uk).  **About Wales Rally GB**  Since its inception in 1932, the International Rally of Great Britain has been run 70 times. Enforced stoppages have included World War 2, Suez Crisis (1957) and Foot and Mouth (1967).It is one of only two events (along with Finland) to have retained its status as both a qualifying and scoring round of the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) since the championship was established in 1973.  Wales Rally GB is the 13th and final round of this year’s WRC and is organised and promoted by International Motor Sports Ltd (IMS), the commercial arm of the Motor Sports Association, the governing body of UK motor sport. Branded as Wales Rally GB since 2003 when the Welsh Government became the principal funding partner, the rally is based out of a central Service Park in Deeside with competitive stages throughout north and mid-Wales. It was awarded the Best Event (Large) accolade at the National Tourism Awards for Wales 2015. |