

## Bringing history back to life: the Alfa Romeo 12C Prototipo roars again



Hinwil, 8 July 2021 – One of the most important cars in the history of motorsport, the Alfa Romeo 12C Prototipo, returned to life after 80 years at the home of Alfa Romeo Racing ORLEN as the team celebrated the 111<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Alfa Romeo by hosting this iconic vehicle in Hinwil.

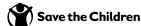
The Alfa Romeo 12C Prototipo, also known as Tipo C, is a 12-cylinder Grand Prix car originally built by Alfa Romeo in the 1930s, which made its debut in the 1936 Tripoli Grand Prix. Fitted with a revolutionary V12 engine, instead of the 3.8L straight-eight of its predecessor, the 8C, it marked a crucial juncture in the history of motorsport and inspired a generation of post-war racing cars that adopted its new 12-cylinder engine geometry, effectively shaping the way the concept of engine was imagined.

The 12C Prototipo, a one-off race car designed and built to compete in the Sport class, has not been seen in public for over 70 years: as its restoration came to an end at the same time as the milestone birthday of its Italian marque, the historical vehicle made a stop to visit the Alfa Romeo Racing ORLEN headquarters in Hinwil,

Switzerland, where its spiritual descendants, the Formula One cars competing in this year's world championship, are designed, built and operated.

After the Sauber crew completed a thorough inspection of the vehicle, painstakingly restored by Progetto 33 AG with Egon Zweimüller, the 12C Prototipo was installed in the Sauber wind tunnel for its final checks before the engine was turned on – a staggering 80 years since the last occasion it had roared in anger: time did nothing to dampen the beautiful sound.

Every party needs a special guest, after all, and this celebration of Alfa Romeo was no exception. A beautiful product of human ingenuity, technical skill and engineering prowess had come back to life – in the place where the Alfa Romeo name lives on at the highest level of motorsport, 111 years after the first cars from the marque saw the light. The racing DNA with which the Alfa Romeo and Sauber names are synonymous lives on. As the 12C Prototipo prepares to soon hit the track and reconnect to the roads it last tore up eight decades ago, we look in awe at the Alfa Romeo car which changed the course of motorsport history.



#### Media information:

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#### About Sauber Group of Companies:

The Sauber Group of Companies is composed of three operational entities: Sauber Motorsport AG, which operates and manages the Alfa Romeo Racing ORLEN Formula One team; Sauber Engineering AG, which focuses on prototype development and additive manufacturing; and Sauber Aerodynamik AG, which conducts full and model-scale testing in the factory's state-of-the-art wind tunnel and creates ground-breaking innovations in the field of aerodynamics. The companies collaborate closely and share know-how to apply the expertise of more than 500 dedicated individuals at the headquarter in Hinwil, Switzerland, to all internal and external projects. Since its founding in 1970, the passion for racing has been at the heart of Sauber.

For more than 50 years, the innovative Swiss company has been setting standards in the design, development and construction of race cars for various championship series, such as Formula One, DTM, and WEC. Following its own Formula One debut in 1993, Sauber Motorsport AG has established one of the few traditional and privately held teams in the sport. After 25 years of competition in Formula One, the company launched a long-term partnership with Alfa Romeo in 2018 and enters the 2021 championship under the team name Alfa Romeo Racing ORLEN.





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