



Romain Grosjean in Formula 1 Return at Mugello with MoneyGram Haas F1 Team

Frenchman to pilot Haas VF-23 in TPC outing at Italian circuit

September 25, 2025 – MoneyGram Haas F1 Team is pleased to announce that its former driver, Romain Grosjean, will return to the cockpit of one of its Formula 1 cars for the first time since the 2020 Bahrain Grand Prix as the Frenchman is set to participate in a TPC (Testing of Previous Car) test at the Autodromo Internazionale del Mugello on Friday 26 September.

The 39-year-old spent a total of five seasons competing for MoneyGram Haas F1 Team from 2016 to 2020 – his time in Formula 1 ending abruptly following a horrific opening lap accident in his VF-20 at the Bahrain Grand Prix on Sunday 29 November 2020. Grosjean survived both the barrier impact – measured at 67G, as well as the fire that followed, extracting himself from the wreckage with his injuries limited to burns to the back of his hands – testimony to the tireless safety measures that continue to be implemented in Formula 1.

Back in Haas colors on Friday in Italy, Grosjean will strap into the cockpit of the VF-23 at Mugello – a track where he holds a 12th place finish from Formula 1's sole visit to the picturesque and sweeping 15-turn circuit – the Tuscan Grand Prix, held Sunday 13 September 2020 during the sport's reduced COVID-impacted season.

Overseeing Friday's track activities will be members of Grosjean's original Haas crew – many of whom now work on the TPC and heritage programs being run by the American squad. Team Principal, Ayao Komatsu, who was Grosjean's race engineer when they previously worked together at Lotus F1 Team scoring 10 podiums – will serve as race engineer once again at Mugello, Komatsu having followed the Frenchman to Haas as Chief Race Engineer back in 2016.

Dominic Haines will also be on-site to oversee proceedings – the Englishman was formerly Grosjean's race engineer from 2019-2020 and he currently serves as Heritage Chief Engineer. Grosjean's long-serving No.1 Race Mechanic, Ian Staniforth, will also be present at Mugello in his current capacity as Race Team Support Chief Mechanic – with several additional team members on the operational and garage side also in attendance having worked with Grosjean throughout his 98 race starts with MoneyGram Haas F1 Team.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to be welcoming Romain Grosjean back into a Formula 1 car for the first time in five years but especially proud he's returning in one of our cars – it's only fitting," stated Komatsu, Team Principal of MoneyGram Haas F1 Team. "Romain and I have worked together throughout his entire Formula 1 career so this test at Mugello is of particular significance to us both. I'm delighted he embraced the opportunity to come and get back behind the wheel with us, a day that's going to be made extra special by having so many members of the original crew back together to witness it. It should be a fun day and knowing Romain as I do, I know he'll want to give it his all as usual – I'd expect nothing less, not least as we've talked about making this happen for a long time now."

"I'm incredibly grateful to Gene Haas and to Ayao Komatsu for inviting me to participate in the TPC at Mugello," stated Romain Grosjean. "To say I'm excited to get back behind the wheel of a Formula 1 car would naturally be an understatement. I really can't believe it's been almost five years, but to come back and have this outing with my old team is truly something special. I'm excited to see everyone, I'm sure we'll spend a bit of time reminiscing about the old days, but I'm also keen to be of use regarding the trackside agenda with the VF-23 – it's great the team now has the TPC program as part of its on-going development. Finally, my kids had designed my helmet for what was meant to be my final grand prix in Abu Dhabi back in 2020 – I'm at last going to be able to give it a go in a Formula 1 car on Friday."

Friday's TPC test will also see ex-IndyCar driver James Hinchcliffe (38) making his debut in a Formula 1 car – the Canadian F1TV broadcaster, a six-time IndyCar race winner and former Indy 500 pole sitter, getting a test of the VF-23 as part of a feature for Formula 1's official TV channel – set to air during the United States Grand Prix weekend next month.

About MoneyGram Haas F1 Team:

2025 sees MoneyGram Haas F1 Team celebrate its tenth season in the FIA Formula 1 World Championship. The first American Formula 1 team to compete in the sport since 1986, MoneyGram Haas F1 Team made an immediate impression with a memorable points-scoring debut at the 2016 Australian Grand Prix. Founded by industrialist Gene Haas – owner of Haas Automation, the largest CNC machine tool builder in North America with over 80 outlets globally – MoneyGram Haas F1 Team is headquartered in Kannapolis, North Carolina in the United States with additional operations in Banbury, England and Maranello, Italy. Technical partnerships with Scuderia Ferrari and Toyota GAZOO Racing further underline MoneyGram Haas F1 Team's commitment to excellence within Formula 1. Domestically Gene Haas remains a stalwart of the American motorsport scene having started his own NASCAR team in 2002. A 2008 partnership with champion driver Tony Stewart led to the renamed Stewart-Haas Racing becoming a powerhouse operation winning two NASCAR Cup titles and two NASCAR Xfinity championships through to the end of the program in 2024. Haas's personal dedication to NASCAR continues with the creation of Haas Factory Team for 2025 – running in both the Cup and Xfinity series.

Info – www.haasf1team.com

MoneyGram Haas F1 Team Contacts:

Stuart Morrison – Head of Communications

Email: smorrison@haasf1team.com / Tel: +44 7779 773466

Jessica Borrell – Senior Communications Manager

Email: jborell@haasf1team.com / Tel: +44 7851 33296