



press release

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Hera Group's sustainable energy at the World Cycling Championships

The multiutility will be present at the Imola Race Circuit with a space dedicated to e-mobility. The environmental services have been improved to ensure the sustainability of the event

Bike mobility is the most sustainable type of mobility and the Hera Group fully supports it as main sponsor of the World Road Cycling Championships that are to be held in Imola from 24 to 27 September.

But the multiutility has developed numerous sustainable mobility projects ranging from charging points for private and company vehicles, to vehicles that travel with biomethane produced from the separate collection of organic waste by citizens, and even garbage collection trucks powered by the vegetable oils collected in the area in which they operate. These are examples that bear witness to a vision of mobility that often goes hand in hand with the concept of circular economy, creating virtuous circuits.

Try the E-Bike in the Hera area and find out more about e-charging

During the World Cycling Championships, the multiutility will be present at the Enzo e Dino Ferrari Race Circuit, where the races start and finish, with an exhibition space to help the public better understand e-mobility through Hera's products.

In the exhibition area, visitors can try the E-Bikes Hera offers, through its business partnerships, and find out more about the electricity and gas deals and its range of e-mobility products. An initiative that has attracted great interest from customers in recent months. It will be possible to cycle electrically, thanks to the bikes distributed, among others, by a company of Castel San Pietro Terme. Hera's charging points will also be on display in the exhibition area.

The environmental services have been improved to ensure the sustainability of the event

For the World Cycling Championships, together with the Administration of Imola, Hera has also improved the waste collection and cleaning services along the race routes to keep the city clean and ensure the sustainability of the event.

In particular, specific cleaning operations have been planned along the routes of the time trial races and mass start events: sweeping with a driven sweeper and by an operator before the races and manual cleaning, before and after each race (even in the area around the circuit), collecting waste that has been abandoned or thrown on the ground and cleaning out dumpsters. At Imola, in the Circuit area, dumpsters will be unlocked for use by the public that attends the race. From 24 to 27 September, the times of certain waste collection services will differ, due to traffic restrictions. On 24 and 25 September these changes will also be applied in the municipalities of Borgo Tossignano and Casalfiumanese through which the time trial race route passes.

Even in Riolo Terme, where the mass start events will be held on 26 and 27 September, as agreed with the municipal administration, Hera has improved the cleaning services before and after the races along the race route roads and in the neighbouring areas, also collecting waste that may be abandoned or thrown on the ground. The times of the dumpster emptying service



will change, and door-to-door collection of paper and cardboard on Saturday will also be brought forward. After the World Championships, the roadside along the race route will be cleaned.

Hera Group's commitment to e-mobility

The Hera Group has for years actively searched for solutions to make e-mobility a concrete and viable option. That is why it is gradually developing an extensive public charging network that includes the installation by 2023 of over 300 charging points, 150 of which in Emilia-Romagna alone. There are currently 60 charging points but this number will double by the end of the year. Imola was one of the first cities served by Hera, together with Modena, with a total of 10 public charging points installed in the municipal area as early as 2011.

The Group is also committed to facilitating the implementation of a charging network beyond the national borders. To do so, it has signed an agreement with the Hubeat interoperability platform, which will allow Hera Comm customers to use the infrastructure present on the European platform and customers of other operators to recharge at Hera Comm's charging points, thus ensuring a barrier-free and increasingly interconnected network of infrastructure. In order to maximise the use of the available network, Hera Comm is also working to enable a direct payment service at the charging points, that will allow users to recharge without having to sign a contract.

Hera's e-mobility projects include private e-charging: Wallboxes are available for the home, that allow users to recharge without having to increase the power normally available for domestic use. For companies, Hera offers a rich portfolio of modular solutions covering a wide range of needs.

Hera biomethane and biodiesel: a renewable resource produced from waste

Sustainable mobility is also achieved with the use of biomethane produced at the Hera Group's plant in S. Agata Bolognese (BO), which is 100% renewable and generated by the treatment of mowed grass, pruning and organic waste from separate collection by citizens. Emissions from internal combustion engine vehicles are the largest source of air pollution in urban areas. Hera biomethane saves 6,000 tons of oil per year, equal to 14,000 tons of CO₂ emissions avoided, with each cubic metre certified, thus guaranteeing a totally transparent supply chain. In the Bologna province anyone can refuel with biomethane at certain filling stations in the territory, including Imola at Via Lasie 9D. Fuel may also be extracted from vegetable oils. Hera has signed a partnership with Eni for the transformation of used domestic vegetable oil, such as frying oil, that is recovered by the multiutility through road containers and drop-off points, into biodiesel, which in turn is used to fuel the vehicles used for urban waste collection.