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**Date:** 27.10.2023 **Time:** 14:10 hrs  
**Subject:** STEWARDS DECISION No. 9 **Document No:** 2.10

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**From:** The Stewards  
**To:** B.M.P. S.r.l. – Supplier of Competitor No. 37 at Central European Rally 2023  
Licence Holder – ACI SPORT No. 466474

All Competitors / crew members

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The Stewards, having received a report from the Clerk of the Course, summoned the Competitor's Representative / Senior Representative of B.M.P. S.r.l., have considered the following matter and determine the following:

**Facts** The rally car civil registration documents of Car No. 37 were found falsified

**Offence** Breach of Article 12.2.1.c of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code

**Decision** (1) A **fine of € 10,000 to B.M.P. S.r.l. - Licence holder – ACI SPORT No. 466474**  
(2) The present decision to be forwarded to ACI (Italian ASN) for possible further action.

In accordance with Art. 12.8 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code, fines shall be paid within 48 hours of their notification. Any delay in making payment may entail Suspension during the period a fine remains unpaid.

**Reason** On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 the Clerk of the Course reported to the Stewards about Local Police checks regarding the registration papers of car No. 37 produced at the administrative checks.

The Police found that the registration documents of car No. 37 had “diverse Fälschungen” (translation: various falsifications).

These inaccuracies were recognised to include the following, not necessarily conclusive, items:

- a) The plate of the car had the number FO 891A and was the type of temporary plates issued in Germany for export.
- b) ‘FO’ are the initials for the place of issue ‘Forchheim’.  
In the Registration paper the issuing place Hildesheim is written.
- c) This type of plates can be valid for no more than one year, but in car 37 documentation the expiration date is 1 year and four days.

The car registration certificate was issued to B.M.P. S.r.l. based in Lumezzane (Italy). The B.M.P. S.r.l. is an Italian Licence Holder – Lic. No. 466474.

Furthermore, the car insurance certificate was found without insurance contract number and with some spelling errors in the contract page, which normally would not be seen in any official documentation.

In order to be authorised to start, on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 the car owner requested and obtained a new registration certificate, submitting a new insurance contract with a new car licence plate.

This plate was subsequently found as not usable for competition by the Police and Car 37 was stopped on Thursday night after SS2 at the Czech / German border.

However, following receipt of the documents initially produced by Competitor No. 37, on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October the Stewards decided to summon the Team Representative of car No. 37, Mr. Matteo Bottacin, who is also a Senior Representative of the car owner B.M.P. S.r.l., in order to investigate on the suspicious car registration papers found with some falsehood by the Local Police.

Mr. Matteo Bottacin appeared in front of the Stewards on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 09.45 hrs, together with Mr. Christian Generelli as a support for translation purposes.

Mr. Bottacin stated that he had contacted an agency called "Zollplates.com" in order to have all the documents from Germany for his competition car No. 37: German registration plate, German registration certificate for Short-term Registrations (Fahrzeugschein für Fahrzeuge mit Kurzzeitkennzeichen) and German traffic insurance.

He further declared to have acted in good faith and apologised for his lapse. He had also already contacted a lawyer to pursue this matter with the Agency.

As stipulated in the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code, Breaches of Rules include: **12.2.1.c** Any fraudulent conduct or any act prejudicial to the interests of any *Competition* or to the interests of motor sport generally.

**12.2.1.k** Any Misconduct towards, but not limited to:

- **licence-holders,**
- officials,
- officers or member of the staff of the FIA,
- members of the staff of the Organiser or promoter,
- **members of the staff of the Competitors,**
- **suppliers of products or services to (or contractors or subcontractors to) any of the parties listed above;**
- doping control officials or any other person involved in a doping control carried out in accordance with Appendix A.

Furthermore, Art. 12.3.1 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code stipulates: "Any breach of the Code, of the regulations of the FIA if appropriate, of the national rules, or of any Supplementary Regulations committed by any Organiser, official, Competitor, Driver, Participant, other licence-holder, **or other person or organisation may be penalised.**"

In this case, Competitor No. 37, Mr. Roope Korhonen, rent the car from an Italian Company, which submitted false car registration documents.

The Stewards informed Mr. Matteo Bottacin, legally representing the car owner B.M.P. S.r.l., about his responsibility on this incident, as he had to verify the validity of the agency and the documents received from that company.

Having presented documents with falsehood is a clear breach of Art. 12.2.1.c of the FIA International Sporting Code.

The Stewards further recognised that the Competitor of car No. 37, Mr. Roope Korhonen, was in good faith because he had only rent a service (car with service crew etc.) and therefore cannot be penalised for a serious infringement made by the car Owner B.M.P. S.r.l.

For all the above reasons, the Stewards determined to apply a fine on the car owner B.M.P. S.r.l., a penalty which is considered as proportional in this case. The Stewards, furthermore, refer the matter to the Italian ASN for any possible further action.

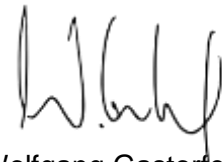
The interested parties are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.



Edoardo Delleani



Kai Tarkiainen



Wolfgang Gastorfer

The Stewards

**This decision was notified to the Competitor's officially nominated representative as below:**

<i>Name (in block letters):</i>	<b>MATTEO BOTTACIN</b>	<i>Date:</i>	<b>27.10.2023</b>
	<b>B.M.P. S.r.l.</b>	<i>Time:</i>	<b>14:12</b>

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