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For immediate release

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Car fitted with YOKOHAMA ADVAN tires achieves a 5th consecutive class win at Rally Japan, Round 7 of this year's WRC

Hiratsuka, Japan—The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd., is pleased to announce that a car fitted with its global flagship ADVAN brand tires was the winner in the JR2 Class* at WRC FORUM8 Rally Japan 2026, Round 7 of this year's FIA World Rally Championship (WRC). WRC FORUM8 Rally Japan 2026 was held May 28-31 on a course running through Aichi and Gifu prefectures. Yokohama Rubber's ADVAN A051T tarmac rally tires supported the winning car by providing the excellent grip, control, and wear resistance crucial for success in a rally race with numerous challenging stages on a technical course with high surface temperatures.

* The JR2 Class is one of the WRC's national and regional vehicle classes. In Rally Japan, it includes vehicles with engine displacements more than 1600cc up to 2500cc.

The JR2 class winning car was K-ONE RACING TEAM's TOYOTA 86, driven by Yuta Yamamoto and Shizuka Takehara. The pair executed well-coordinated and precision driving, taking advantage of the performance of their ADVAN A051T tires to record the fastest time in every stage except SS10, for which a Notional Time was allocated. The team's masterful driving got their TOYOTA 86 to the finish line more than 17 minutes ahead of the second-place car. Yuta Yamamoto has now finished first in the JR2 Class at Rally Japan for five consecutive years, with ADVAN rally tires contributing to his success each year. Yamamoto also competes in the Japanese Rally Championship, where he has won the series championship in the JN-3 class for three consecutive years, also supported by ADVAN rally tires.

Rally Japan is the Japan round of the WRC, which ranks with the F1 and FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) as one of the world's top race car competitions. Rally Japan is run completely on tarmac (asphalt) roads. This year's WRC will have 14 rounds in different countries around the world.

The consumer tire strategy in Yokohama Rubber's three-year (2024–2026) medium-term management plan, Yokohama Transformation 2026 (YX2026), aims to maximize the sales ratios of high-value-added tires by expanding sales of YOKOHAMA's global flagship ADVAN brand, the GEOLANDAR brand of tires for SUVs and pickup trucks, winter tires, and 18-inch and larger tires. Yokohama Rubber positions participation in motorsports activities as crucial to its effort to further strengthen the ADVAN and GEOLANDAR brands. Yokohama Rubber therefore is again participating in a wide variety of motorsports events around the globe, from top-category to grassroots events.



Class winning K-ONE RACING TEAM's TOYOTA 86



Drivers Yuta Yamamoto (center-left) & Shizuka Takehara (center-right) celebrate their victory



ADVAN A051T