



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **18. British Classic Car Meeting St. Moritz**

## **George Abecassis Mille-Miglia Car at the start**

**The 18th British Classic Car Meeting St. Moritz will be held from July 8 to 10, 2011. No fewer than six original Austin Healey 100S cars will be at the start - including the one in which George Abecassis finished 11th in the fastest ever Mille Miglia race in 1955. Jaguar is the event's new main sponsor; its E-Type model is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year and several of these cars will be in St. Moritz.**

A record number of participants, many enthusiastic spectators along the route and at the Concours d'Elégance, and perfect sunny weather for the entire weekend: all those who took part have superb memories of last year's British Classic Car Meeting St. Moritz, despite last-minute changes to the rally course due to another sporting event being held in Italy. Last year, the organisers moved the event to a tried-and-tested route. The originally planned La Drossa Rally – with highlights such as the Bernina Pass, Umbrail Pass, and the villages of Livigno and Bormio (both in Italy) – will now be held this summer on Saturday, July 9. Sunday's programme traditionally consists of the popular Concours d'Elégance, where the cars will be on display in the centre of the village of St. Moritz.

### **Six of 37 original Austin Healey 100S models to take part**

As has come to be expected, the St. Moritz event, which is fully booked with around 200 vehicles, boasts a splendid list of participants. The abundance of Austin Healey 100S "Sebring" models of 1955 is particularly noteworthy. Only 50 cars of this model plus five special test cars were ever built. There are still 37 original vehicles around the world. And six of them will be starting in St. Moritz, including the Austin Healey 100S special test car SPL 257BN, in which British driver George Abecassis finished 11th in the 1955 Mille Miglia. This was exceptional because this particular Milla Miglia race was the fastest ever, with Stirling Moss and Denis Jenkinson setting a new record by covering the distance of 1600 kilometres in 10 hours, 7 minutes and 48 seconds. Abecassis's 100S was the fastest British vehicle in the race and covered the route at an average speed of 92 miles per hour.

**Jaguar as new main sponsor, several "anniversary E-Types" to start**

The traditional British brand Jaguar (Switzerland) is the meeting's new main sponsor. Jaguar has built some of the world's most iconic cars. Celebrating its half century this year, the Jaguar E-Type, which was launched in the heady 1960s, has been called the most beautiful car ever built, and it defined a whole generation. Before production stopped in 1975, more than 75,500 E-Types were built. Some of these will be seen in St. Moritz in July. After all, there is probably no better event for E-Type enthusiasts to honour the fiftieth anniversary of their icon. These classic cars with their unique proportions and "possibly the world's longest engine hood" will - as in previous years - number among the spectators' favourites.

**Photos regarding this media release**

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**About the British Classic Car Meeting St. Moritz**

The British Classic Car Meeting St. Moritz - BCCM is the traditional highlight for friends of classic British cars. It combines elegance and class in the breathtaking Engadine Alpine landscape. Around 150 British old-timers and classic cars from the makes of Rolls-Royce, Bentley, Aston Martin & Lagonda, Jaguar & Daimler, Austin-Healey & Healey have met in St. Moritz every July since 1994 to take part in outings, reliability tests (Rallye) and the Concours d'Elégance. Other pre-1960 British cars are invited in a limited number to take part in the British Classic Car Meeting St. Moritz in the Open Class. The list of interesting classic cars at the BCCM thus becomes even more attractive.

[www.bccm-stmoritz.ch](http://www.bccm-stmoritz.ch)

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