



PAUL MARINELLI – Career Backgrounder

Few commentators bring as much motorsport media, team and athlete management based experience to the airwaves as Paul Marinelli. (Age 51)

Paul's 25 year career in the motor racing media includes motor racing event radio reporting with Australian national capital city and regional radio stations and specialist racing and automotive publications from events as far ranging as the Formula One World Championship, the IndyCar and former Champ Car World Series, the World Rally Championship, the German Touring Car Championship (DTM), the Australian V8 Supercar Championship Series and the XCAT (Extreme Catamaran) World Series.

Paul started his professional radio career in 1990 with Melbourne radio station 3AK as an announcer. Paul then joined sports radio station 3UZ in 1992 and worked as the station's motorsport reporter and as a general announcer until 1995, when he established his own motor racing media services and public relations company, Marinelli Motorsport Media. This company then produced and presented radio reports presented by Paul Marinelli from V8 Supercar, Super Touring, Australian Nascar and selected international Formula One and World Rally events over the next five years to a group of more than 25 capital city commercial radio stations across the country along with several regional affiliates.

Over the next five years, Marinelli Motorsport Media grew to provide motorsport based media reporting and public relations services to several local and international publications, major racing teams, drivers, sponsors and event organisers both in Australia and abroad.

Paul would implement the media communications and PR strategies he saw used at international Formula One and American IndyCar races to local motorsport. This set new benchmarks for teams and drivers to deliver media exposure results to their sponsors through PR services that generated unprecedented radio, television and print media coverage.

Along the way, Paul continued to provide selected national commercial radio stations with motor racing reports and in 2000 was honoured with an Australian Radio Industry RAWARD for his industry leading motor racing radio reporting and PR services. (Award for best radio station sports event coverage with 2BS & B ROCK FM Bathurst, for his live radio commentary of the 1999 Bathurst 1000).

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Paul's last major motor racing PR role (before being offered to join V8 Supercars as Event Commentator for 2008) was heading the publicity management services for the Australian division of the world's largest independent motor racing engineering company, Prodrive, for their Australian motorsports and vehicle manufacturing operations, which included the factory Ford Performance Racing (FPR) team across a five year tenure.

Along with his appointment as the V8 Supercar Championship Series Commentator at all events, Paul also made his return to the airwaves in 2008. This was in the form of a national radio reporting service for V8 Supercars Australia that provided news bulletin and sports program reports on the Australia wide Macquarie and Fairfax News Networks following each track session on each day of every V8 Supercar Championship event.

In both 2009 and 2010 Paul was contracted to provide event PA and GPTV commentary services for the Australian Formula One Grand Prix and has done the same since 2008 for the Bahrain Formula One Grand Prix and World Endurance Championship events, along with having provided commentary at events such as the Spanish and Singapore Formula One Grands Prix in more recent years.

In 2013 after being heard in commentary at the Bahrain Grand Prix by Motorsport Asia, organisers of the JK Racing India Series, Paul provided ten episodes of event commentary that was broadcast throughout the Asian continent by ESPN Asia and India's Star Network.

A welcome addition to Paul's select number of international event commentary roles was his appointment as world feed television commentator for the XCAT (Extreme Catamaran) World Series, upon the series' exciting first visit to Australia in 2015. He also re-joined the series as lead world TV feed commentator at its second round of 2016 in Dubai and plans to continue working with this most exciting of watersports which he enthusiastically describes as "Formula One on water". This was totally new and invigorating experience that saw him enjoy adapting from car racing to offshore powerboat racing.

Paul has since re-joined the XCAT World Series from 2015 to 2019 at selected major events around the world as lead commentator.

In both 2015 and 2016, Paul was contracted by the Northern Territory Major Events Company to be the host commentator of the Darwin V8 Supercar event, the largest sporting event in Australia's Northern Territory. He signed a multi-year agreement with the NTMEC to continue in this role for the next three years.

In 2016 Paul was appointed as the host of a weekly international Formula One based television program, GP Racing, produced and distributed worldwide by TTGMG. Broadcast across Asia, the Middle East, parts of Europe and in the USA, this program is now in its fourth year of production. Paul continued in this role until the end of 2019.

2018 saw Paul selected as the Singapore Grand Prix Paddock Club commentator, providing the largest and most expensive suites with their own dedicated commentary and information, along with interviewing celebrity visitors and musical acts.

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Based in Melbourne, Australia, Paul has been actively seeking to use his local and international sports event experience to establish a fresh sounding and well learned presence in local and international sporting event PA, television or online based event commentary, anchoring / hosting and reporting. He is keen to develop the scope of his commentary and hosting work beyond being mainly motorsport based in the future.

The PR and media management services division of his company boasts some of Australia's and the world's largest automotive component brands including Monroe, Dayco, Capricorn and Bapcor. Paul has also managed a number of motor racing and general sports athletes including 2015 V8 Supercars Champion Mark Winterbottom (2009 – 2015), International GT driver and Nissan Supercar driver David Russell (2010 – present), Winter Olympic Gold Medallist Lydia Lassila (2013-14) and 2016 Dunlop Supercar Series Champion Garry Jacobson. (2015).



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