

**LE MANS SERIES 2010**

**Bad luck keeps ProSpeed from achieving great result in Portimao  
(R3 – LMS)**

**PORTIMAO, 17/07/2010.** This weekend the third race of the Le Mans Series was on the programme in the Portuguese Algarve. Following an interruption of some two months, the last race was the 1000 Km of Spa at the beginning of May, the Prototypes and GTs are back together once again for a 1000 Kilometre evening race. The Belgian ProSpeed Competition Porsche 911 GT3 RSR with the Anglo-German duo of Marco Holzer and Richard Westbrook had a great start, but a damaged wheel rim saw their podium hopes vanish. The next coming Le Mans Series race takes place on 21<sup>st</sup> August in Budapest.

**Free practice/qualifying**

As from the first free session ProSpeed Competition was in with the right rhythm, with an excellent best lap time during the second session on the eve of the race. Marco Holzer at the wheel of the Porsche 911 GT3 R registered the best lap time and on the Saturday morning the young German clinched a tenth place in the qualifying session. "I was especially surprised by the speed of the competition, but I reckon that our car will be perfect in the race, very steady and ideal for the longer runs."

**Race**

"The car was really great; I was truly enjoying myself at the wheel. The car wasn't only fast, but also well balanced and I was able to clock up constant lap times. This car was perfect to achieve a first podium here in the Le Mans Series", were Richard Westbrook's words just after the retirement of the Porsche 911 GT3 RSR in Portimao. "The spokes on the left rear wheel rim broke and our race was over. We are really missing out here on a strong result."

Westbrook took the start in tenth place, but during his strong stint climbed up into third place, "we then carried out a very quick pitstop and Marco was soon back out on track." Marco Holzer came within a few seconds of the second placed Ferrari and was only twenty seconds down on the leader in LM GT2 when the rim gave way. "I immediately knew that it was *over and out*", Marco Holzer commented. "A great pity, because we could have achieved so much more here. A broken rim means that you lose all drive and it is therefore impossible to get back to the pitlane. Evidently everything seems to work out successfully for us except in the Le Mans Series."

"We will be sending the rim back to the manufacturer for analysis and hopefully to prevent any repetition of such a problem", Luc Goris, the ProSpeed Competition technical director explained. "There are several possible explanations, but we don't want to experience this again."

<b>PORSCHE</b>			
<b>911 GT3 RSR</b> <b>911 GT3 R</b>	OFFICIAL TEAM <b>PROSPEED</b> COMPETITION	OFFICIAL PARTNER <i>Penders</i> PORSCHE-CENTRE LIÈGE	

Rudi Penders: "Notwithstanding the retirement overall I am pretty satisfied. The car was good, as proven during the practice session lap times and especially during the opening phase of the race and this weekend was in no uncertain terms a great step forward. The team also produced some great work. Had it not been for the problem with the rim we would have achieved an excellent result. This upward trend must surely come to fruition with a strong result in Hungary and England."

After the race in Portugal ProSpeed Competition can now enjoy a restful weekend prior to going back into action as from Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July for the 24 Hours of Spa. On Wednesday the traditional parade is on the programme, followed by the timed laps on Thursday.

## Results

1	BRUNI / MELO	AF Corse	Ferrari F430 GT
2	ALESI / FISICHELLA / VILANDER	AF Corse	Ferrari F430 GT
3	LIEB / LIETZ	Felbermayr Proton	Porsche 997 GT3 RSR
DNF	HOLZER / WESTBROOK	ProSpeed	Porsche 997 GT3 RSR

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