



PRESS RELEASE:

Fourth at Silverstone as Primat completes best-ever Le Mans Series campaign

Geneva-based racing driver Harold Primat ended the 2009 Le Mans Series season with a fourth place finish at Silverstone to clinch fourth in the standings and complete his best-ever campaign.

The Aston Martin works driver and team-mate Darren Turner were in the midst of the battle for the race win throughout the 1000km event in the #009 car before a late pit stop to top up on fuel, necessary because of a forced strategy change due to a mid-race puncture, cost them a place on the podium.

Coming on the back of a superb second place finish in the last round at the Nurburgring, the British race again showed the competitiveness of Primat, Turner and the Aston Martin LMP1 prototype. There were also post-race celebrations for Aston Martin Racing at the chequered flag as the team clinched first and fourth positions in the Le Mans Series standings.

"It's been a very strong finish to the season for us," said **Primat**. "The last two races have seen Darren and I up there fighting for the race win. We led for a while at Silverstone and without the splash and dash near the end we would definitely have finished on the podium.

"Unfortunately that came about because I had a puncture during one of my stints. By the time I had got back to the pits and the team had got me out again, we'd lost a lap. Without that and the late stop then we would have had a genuine shot at the win."

Despite his frustration at missing out on silverware at the final race, Harold admitted he was proud to have helped Aston Martin to the Le Mans Series title in the prestigious British marque's debut season in the premier LMP1 class.

"It's great for the team and I am proud to have played a part in it," he said. "The 007 car won the title and we finished fourth in 009 by just one point and I think we would have taken that at the beginning of the season. The team has done a great job and all the drivers have contributed to our success.





"Fourth equals my best ever placing in the championship and without a couple of problems earlier in the year we could have been fighting for the title ourselves. I view every year as a learning process and every year I have moved forward. I'm always looking to continue that improvement though so the winter will require even more hard work. Next season is a long way away, but I am very happy at Aston Martin. There's a good atmosphere and a strong will to do well and win races and championships."

While Harold's European season may be at an end, he will be back behind the wheel of the Aston Martin on October 31 / 1 November during the inaugural Asian Le Mans Series which begins with a double-header at Japanese circuit Okayama.

For more details on Harold Primat, please visit www.haroldprimat.com

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