



Matmut



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Performance

Le Mans Series – Spa 1000kms – Qualifying

## The IMSA Performance Matmut Porsche looking for the right set-up

Following the launch of this season's Le Mans Series in France with the 8 Heures du Castellet last month, the championship travelled to the famous Spa-Francorchamps circuit, nestled amongst the Ardennes forest, in Belgium.

The rain which posed a threat for several days, along with temperatures as low as eight or nine degrees, was replaced by shy sunshine for today's qualifying session.

*"Yesterday, during the two free practice sessions, we worked hard to find the best set-up for a race expected to be held in both wet and dry conditions,"* said driver and team owner Raymond Narac. *"The car behaves differently from one section of the track to another, which is one of the usual challenges of racing at Spa-Francorchamps. We've sacrificed pure performance in order to have a car that will work whatever the track conditions, as the race is going to be long and difficult thanks to the changeable weather."*

This morning's third practice session saw the team's #76 Porsche 997 GT3 RSR find encouraging pace after setting the GT2 class' third fastest time.

*"The car is better balanced on a dry track and we have been able to follow our working plan and improve the set-up. But there are areas where we can still make progress,"* explained driver Patrick Pilet.

Following this afternoon's qualifying session however, the Frenchman was a bit disappointed to have only set the eighth fastest time, and to have been slowed by a fellow competitor during his quick lap: *"We need to analyse the data and understand why, with the same set-up as this morning and a track temperature only one degree higher, we failed to replicate a similar level of performance and balance in the car. We could have been third had I had not been blocked on my flying lap by a certain Ferrari driver who is used to doing so."*



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