



1000km Silverstone

12th September 2009

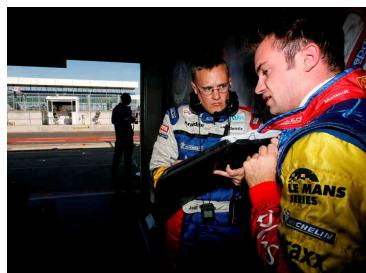
The Team ORECA-Matmut-AIM bags another pole !**Tomorrow, Nicolas Lapierre and Olivier Panis will start from pole position**

The ORECA 01 scored its first pole position on the Portimao circuit, and today the Team ORECA-Matmut team set the fastest time during qualifying at Silverstone, which is hosting the final round of the Le Mans Series. Nicolas Lapierre and Olivier Panis took advantage of the latest evolutions on the car to conform the prototype's performance improvement on Aston Martin's home turf!

Free practice saw the team putting in a lot of hard work, which allowed Olivier and Nicolas to familiarize themselves with the latest tweaks made to the ORECA 01 during the summer break. Following the debriefing after practice, the technical team made several modifications to the setup. These paid off as Nicolas dominated qualifying after a faultless session. He was almost a second quicker than his nearest rival! The team is tackling the Silverstone 1000kms with a single ambition – victory after a couple of podium finishes.

QUOTES :

Nicolas Lapierre (no.10: pole setter): "After our pole in Portimao we've confirmed our pace here. During practice yesterday we made a lot of progress, but it was more difficult this morning as the track lacked grip. The team made the right choices as proved by our pole. We've got the outright speed but we also have to have reliability and cope with the traffic properly. These are the two crucial parameters. We're not in the running for the championship so we're racing with a single aim – victory. We're going to push for six hours and not miss any opportunities! "



David Flourey, technical director: "It's our second pole on a circuit that's very different to Portiamo. So we're delighted, all the more so as we weren't completely happy after practice. The team buckled down and reacted very well making the right choices. This shows that we're getting to know the car better and better. We lacked grip in the morning session but we found the right balance. It's very important as it gives the drivers confidence. But qualifying's one thing: now we want to win!"

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