



**PORSCHE**

Press Release

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FIA GT World Cup in Macau/China – Race

### **Best 911 GT3 R second at the world's most spectacular city race**

**Stuttgart.** When the race for the FIA GT World Cup in Macau was stopped and not restarted, the New Zealander Earl Bamber was in the lead at the wheel of the Porsche 911 GT3 R. However, the stewards of the meeting awarded the prestigious win on the legendary city circuit in the former Portuguese colony to Belgium's Laurens Vanthoor – the very driver who had just been overtaken by the Porsche in a sensational manoeuvre, and had caused the race to be called off after his serious accident. Second place went to Kévin Estre (France) in the second 911 GT3 R. Earl Bamber, who was handed a five-second penalty after the start, was classified fourth.

There was much confusion amongst the fans in the packed grandstands along the 6.115-kilometre racetrack. They had come to experience the world's most spectacular city race, but the fascinating sports cars of the seven competing automobile manufacturers turned very few laps at race speed and instead spent most of the time waiting in the pit lane. And then the car that ended the race sliding along on its roof was declared the winner. Causing even more bewilderment amongst fans was the guessing game of who had now actually won the race.

What was clear at this time, however, was who was leading prior to the final red-flagging of the race – and that was Earl Bamber. At the wheel of the 500 hp customer sports racer, which was designed for worldwide GT3 series on the basis of the 911 GT3 RS production sports car, Bamber had posted second in the qualification race and had taken up the race from the first grid row. But after just four laps, the race for the FIA GT World Cup was halted for the first time after an accident. When the race

continued after a long break for repairs to the guardrails, only a good 15 minutes were left on the clock. At the restart, Earl Bamber put in a brilliant overtaking manoeuvre to sweep past the leading Laurens Vanthoor, who shortly afterwards made an error which caused his Audi to flip onto its roof. This handed Kévin Estre second place. Again, the race had to be interrupted. While drivers in the pits and the fans in grandstands waited for the race to restart, the officials announced that the event would be terminated.

In accordance with the regulations, to determine the result of the race, the classification of the lap before the halting of the race was applied.

### Race quotes

**Dr. Frank-Steffen Walliser**, Head of Porsche Motorsport: “Nobody will forget this race in a hurry. We saw a clear result on the track. Earl fought hard for the lead spot with a sensational overtaking manoeuvre, it all went without a hitch, without any cars touching. The accident with the Audi unfortunately led to the race being stopped. Our drivers and the team put in an extremely strong performance in Macau, but they haven’t been rewarded with the well-earned result. We have won everyone’s hearts, but in the face of such bitter moments, this is poor consolation.”

**Earl Bamber (911 GT3 R #911)**: “We drove a fair race and yet we were penalised. I don’t understand it. We deserved to win this race.”

**Kévin Estre (911 GT3 R #912)**: “I was looking forward to an exciting race and I thought I had good chances. Our 911 GT3 R was perfectly setup. Unfortunately it didn’t work out as I’d expected. It’s a shame that we couldn’t offer the enthusiastic fans a better show. I hope that I can come back to Macau sometime and fight for victory.”

**Race result FIA GT World Cup**

1. Laurens Vanthoor (B), Audi R8, 12:21.870 minutes
2. Kévin Estre (F), Porsche 911 GT3 R, + 3,500 second
3. Maro Engel (D), Mercedes GT3, + 5.605
4. Earl Bamber (NZ), Porsche 911 GT3 R, + 6.878
5. Adderly Fong (HK), Bentley, + 7.365
6. Renger van der Zande (NL), Mercedes GT3, + 10.492
7. Nicky Catsburg (NL), BMW M6, + 12.508
8. Fabian Plentz (D), Audi R8, + 14.486

The last factory outing for the Porsche 911 GT3 R this season is the twelve-hour race in Sepang/Malaysia on 10 December.

**GO**

Please note: Photo and video material of the 911 GT3 R and the race in Macau is available for journalists from the Porsche Press Database on <https://presse.porsche.de>. The Twitter channel @PorscheRaces provides live updates with the latest information and photos from race tracks around the world. Journalists also have access to the digital Porsche Motorsport Media Guide on <https://presse.porsche.de/motorsport>. Porsche Communication provides a new service for journalists, bloggers and online multipliers under [www.newsroom.porsche.com](http://www.newsroom.porsche.com). Up-to-date video news can be downloaded from [www.vimeo.com/porschenewsroom](http://www.vimeo.com/porschenewsroom).

911 GT3 RS: Fuel consumption combined 12.7 l/100 km; urban 19.2 l/100 km; extra urban 8.9 l/100 km; CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 296 g/km; efficiency class (Germany): G

