

Porsche LMP Team scores dominant one-two race win in Mexico

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04/09/2017 At the fifth round of the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) at the Autódromo Hermanos Rodríguez in Mexico City, the Porsche LMP Team took another big step in their mission of title defence by achieving a dominant one-two victory. The Porsche GT Team scored its fourth podium result this season with the new 911 RSR.

As a dark cloudbank moved over the Autódromo Hermanos Rodríguez and a few drops of rain began to fall, the race seemed to be at a tipping point. With just 40 minutes left to the flag on the tradition-steeped 4.304-kilometer racetrack in Mexico City, a rain shower so close to the finish would have opened the door wide to chance. Luckily, the track remained mostly dry in the final laps of yet another entertaining and gripping race, particularly in the GTE classes.

For the third time this season, Richard Lietz and Frédéric Makowiecki climbed the podium. Third place

at the season-opener in Silverstone, second at the home race on the Nürburgring and now third again – the drivers of the #91 car are well placed to tackle the second half of the season, which continues in a fortnight in Austin, Texas. With this success, they have moved up the points table to now rank second in the GT Drivers' World Championship and are once again within striking distance of the title. The Porsche GT Team has also moved into second place in the team classification.

The second 911 RSR (#92) ended up on fifth place

For their teammates Michael Christensen (Denmark) and Kévin Estre (France), things didn't work out quite as well in Mexico. In the second 911 RSR (#92) fielded by the Porsche GT Team, the pair ended up on fifth place after a far from ideal race. When Michael Christensen tried to overtake an amateur-class Ferrari in the first hour of racing, the Ferrari shunted the #92 car from the side. This incident was one of several for the third-place getter from the Nürburgring. When a caution phase towards the end of the race thwarted their strategic plans, all hopes of catching up were dashed.

The strong Porsche showing in Mexico, where the WEC raced only for the second time, was made perfect by the customer teams in the GTE-Am class. Dempsey Proton Racing with the Porsche Young Professional Matteo Cairoli and his German teammates Christian Ried and Marvin Dienst, celebrated their second win of the season after the Nürburgring victory in the 911 RSR. The joint partner Patrick Dempsey congratulated the team via Twitter immediately after they crossed the finish line. The British drivers Ben Barker and Michael Wainwright as well as Australia's Nick Foster climbed the podium for the first time after securing their best result of the season for Gulf Racing with third place.

Comments on the race

Dr. Frank-Steffen Walliser, Vice President Motorsport and GT Cars: "We achieved this podium result at this extremely competitive race thanks to the reliability of our 911 RSR and a perfect performance from team and drivers. This has earned us important points and we're now sitting second in the world championship. The fight for the title is still wide open and exciting. In the GTE-Am class, our Young Professional Matteo Cairoli once again underlined his talent and contributed to our customer squad Dempsey Proton Racing achieving their second straight victory. I'm also particularly thrilled about Gulf Racing's first WEC podium this season."

Find quotes of the drivers in the press release (downloads).

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