

Webber sets fastest lap of the day with the 919 Hybrid

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14/10/2016 On the first day of practice for the seventh out of nine rounds of the FIA WEC the Porsche works driver has lapped the 4.549 kilometre long Fuji International Speedway during a qualifying simulation in 1:24.074 minutes.

In constantly dry conditions and with ambient temperatures around 20 degrees Celsius, Mark Webber and his teammates Brendon Hartley (NZ) and Timo Bernhard (DE) covered 95 laps in total today. In the first session the reigning world champions were sixth (1:26.097 minutes).

The trio of Romain Dumas (FR), Neel Jani (CH) and Marc Lieb (DE) lost nearly an hour of track time for repairs during the first of two 90-minute practice sessions, and clocked up 64 laps. On the installation lap in the morning an oil leak occurred and the gearbox for the front axle's electro motor needed to be changed. The championship leaders came fourth in both sessions (1:25.962/1:25.078 minutes).

Team Principal Andreas Seidl said: “Thanks to the mechanics for the extremely quick gearbox change in the morning. We were still able to almost complete our planned programme in the two free practice sessions. Aside from the baseline set-up, the focus was on long runs for tyre evaluation and testing aerodynamic configurations. We have managed to constantly improve both 919 Hybrids. As expected, all six LMP1 cars are very close together, so we look forward to another exciting race weekend. Now we'll analyse our data and hope to make the next step tomorrow."

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