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Reiterberger: "I am more than happy with this season."

- An interview with two-time winner of the BMW Motorrad Race Trophy, Markus Reiterberger.
- First Race Trophy winner with the maximum number of points possible.
- Reiterberger's goal for 2018 is to battle for the title in the FIM Superstock 1000 European Championship.

Munich. The first winner of the BMW Motorrad Race Trophy in its debut year in 2014 was Markus Reiterberger. And this season the young German repeated this success, and in doing so clinched another first. Reiterberger was the first ever Race Trophy participant to pick up the maximum of 500 points. This saw him crowned the best BMW Motorrad privateer in the world once again in 2017. This time, the 23-year-old was dominant in a field of a total of 159 Race Trophy participants from 26 different nations.

Reiterberger started the 2017 season in the MOTUL FIM Superbike World Championship (WorldSBK), in which he has been a regular rider since 2016. But he didn't have the start to the season he had hoped for in the elite class. So Reiterberger made a decision: He quit the world championship to join his previous Van Zon-Remeha-BMW Superbike team and contest the German International Motorcycle Championship (IDM) instead. In team principal Werner Daemen's squad he found his former strength, dominated the season and clinched his third IDM championship title with four races to go.

And he enjoyed other successes: At the race weekend at the Lausitzring (GER) he returned to the world championship with a wildcard and finished in ninth place. In the FIM Endurance World Championship (EWC) he finished in second place on the podium at the legendary 24-hour race Bol d'Or in France, in action for BMW Motorrad Penz13.com. He also made a guest appearance in the FIM Superstock 1000 European Championship (STK1000) at the season finale in Jerez (ESP) – and dominated with pole position, a new lap record and race victory. Next season









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Reiterberger will contest the STK1000 as a regular starter for Van Zon-Remeha-BMW.

In an interview, the young German talks about his second BMW Motorrad Race Trophy win, his 2017 season and his goals for next year.

Markus, congratulations. In its debut year in 2014 you won the BMW Motorrad Race Trophy, and now you've won it again – this time with the maximum number of points possible. What does this mean to you?

Markus Reiterberger: "It means a great deal to me. It was fantastic to be the first Race Trophy winner in 2014. I'm over the moon that now I am the first to get the maximum number of points. At the start of the season I didn't think things would go so well. I am more than satisfied. As every year, it was great to be at the awards ceremony. This time we were given a tour of the BMW Motorrad factory in Berlin. It was really interesting to see how the series vehicles and the new HP4 Race are manufactured. It was also great to meet up with the other BMW racers from around the world again. I hope that I will be able to attend again next year."

The season didn't get off to an ideal start for you, then you decided to return to the IDM. With hindsight, did this prove to be the right decision?

Reiterberger: "It was a really difficult time. Naturally, it is every racer's dream to contest the world championship. It took me a long time to get there. It wasn't easy to then risk taking a step back. But now it's fair to say that it was the only real solution. We won the championship title in the IDM, finished on the podium in second place in the world endurance championship, finished in the top 10 in a World Superbike Championship race and won on our guest appearance in the FIM Superstock 1000 European Championship- The season really turned out positive. I am as good as before, if not better, and I hope that we will get the opportunity to compete at a higher level."

Your motto is "Only teamwork makes the dream work". How is that reflected in your team?









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Reiterberger: "Yes, I had this motto printed on my pit wall in spring. I had always appreciated what I had with Werner Daemen's team, but it only really became clear to me this season. It is not only the team, but everyone around me that has helped me. The team, sponsors, family, friends – everyone supported me. Which is how together we made it back to where we belong."

Next season you will contest the FIM Superstock 1000 European Championship. What is your objective?

Reiterberger: "After the fantastic guest appearance in Jerez this autumn, naturally our aim is to be up there at the front and battling for the title. We might even have the opportunity to contest the world championship with a wildcard again. And we will give it our all with the hope of being promoted to the world championship in 2019."

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