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Nurburgring, September 2nd 2011

BMW MOTORRAD ITALIA SUPERBIKE TEAM - NURBURGRING - PRACTICE DAY 1

On the first day of practice for the Nurburgring weekend, **James Toseland** and **Ayrton Badovini**, were 15th and 18th respectively, after working to find the right balance for their bikes. The Superstock team are provisionally on the front row with Sylvain Barrier third and Lorenzo Zanetti fourth. □

The two riders from the **BMW Motorrad Italia Superbike Team**, James Toseland and Ayrton Badovini, found this afternoon's qualifying difficult, and after the session their lap times were near the bottom of the time sheets. □ Both riders had been slow in the morning practice. The bike had a balance problem that affected it especially in the first sector. The engineers are discussing this with the riders, and are working on solutions that will hopefully see improvements for tomorrow's sessions. □

In **Superstock**, **Sylvain Barrier** and **Lorenzo Zanetti** are close to the Ducati that set the fastest time in first qualifying. In the afternoon both riders improved significantly compared to the morning session, which was on a wet track. Sylvain was only four tenths slower than Giugliano, who is on provisional pole, while Lorenzo is about eight tenths slower. □

Serafino Foti, Sporting Director of the BMW Motorrad Italia Superbike Team said at the end of qualifying: "It was a difficult day today, because we have not yet got the right balance for the bike. Both James and Ayrton complained about the same problem, and this has allowed us to understand what it is. In fact we believe we have identified the area the technicians need to work on and we are trying to make the necessary major changes. Tomorrow we will see if we have made an improvement. □ In Superstock we went quite well, with Sylvain's third place and Lorenzo in fourth. We will try to do better tomorrow. " □

The times from first qualifying:

□ **Superbike**: 1, M. Biaggi (Aprilia) 1'55"524 – 2° C. Checa (Ducati) + 0.149 3° M. Melandri (Yamaha) + 0.295 ... 15° J. Toseland (BMW) + 1"113 ... 18° **A. Badovini (BMW)** + 1"377.

□ **Superstock**: 1, D. Giugliano (Ducati) 1'59 "998 – 2° D. Petrucci (Ducati) + 0031 - 3° **S. Barrier (BMW)** + 0491 - 4° **L. Zanetti (BMW)** + 0803 - 5° M. Reiterberger (BMW) + 0983.

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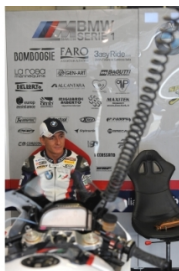
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