



Media Information

DTM

10<sup>th</sup> September 2017

## **Wittmann finishes third in Sunday's race to reach the podium for BMW – Spengler, Glock, Farfus and Blomqvist also in the points.**

- **Marco Wittmann secures third place and makes up ground in the drivers' championship.**
- **First pole position for Wittmann this season.**
- **Five BMW drivers in top 10.**

**Nürburgring. Marco Wittmann (GER) claimed pole position and a podium finish at the Nürburgring (GER) on Sunday – and closed the gap to the leading pack in the drivers' championship. Thanks to his first pole position this season and the 15 points for third place in the race, the reigning DTM champion is in fourth place after 14 of 18 races. Bruno Spengler (CAN) put on a great chasing performance in Sunday's race and finished fourth, just behind Wittmann. In a tight finish, Timo Glock (GER), Augusto Farfus (BRA) and Tom Blomqvist (GBR) also scored points by finishing in eighth, ninth and tenth positions respectively. Maxime Martin (BEL) crossed the line in eleventh place.**

### **The qualifying:**

The qualifying session for Sunday's race took place in dry conditions and cool temperatures of around ten degrees Celsius. Marco Wittmann (Red Bull BMW M4 DTM) was the best-placed DTM driver, recording a best time of 1:20.936. He was rewarded with three points in the drivers' championship and started from pole position for the ninth time in his DTM career. It was the 63<sup>rd</sup> DTM pole position for BMW, and the seventh of the current season. Four more BMW drivers made it into the top ten in qualifying. Tom Blomqvist (BMW Driving Experience M4 DTM), Timo Glock (DEUTSCHE POST BMW M4 DTM), Augusto Farfus (Shell BMW M4 DTM) and Bruno Spengler (BMW Bank M4 DTM) were in

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fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth places respectively. Maxime Martin started the race from twelfth place in the SAMSUNG BMW M4 DTM.

## The race:

Marco Wittmann started from pole position, but was second best in the acceleration stakes to the first turn, dropping to second place after losing out to Paul di Resta (GBR, Mercedes). Maxime Martin made a jump start and received a drive-through penalty. After a few laps, Wittmann put pressure on di Resta and recovered the lead. He stayed out in front after his pit stop but cold tyres meant that he had to let Robert Wickens (CAN, Mercedes) pass. Spengler delayed his mandatory pit stop until the 25<sup>th</sup> lap and lead the race at that point. Timo Glock collided with Nico Müller (SUI, Audi) and damaged the front of his DEUTSCHE POST BMW M4 DTM but was able to continue. In the final stages of the race, Wittmann had to let di Resta by once again and crossed the line in third place, just ahead of Spengler. Victory went to Wickens. Glock, Augusto Farfus and Tom Blomqvist finished in eighth, ninth and tenth places respectively. Martin took the chequered flag in 11<sup>th</sup> place.

## The reactions:

**BMW Motorsport Director Jens Marquardt:** “The 78,000 spectators here at the Nürburgring experienced two unbelievably intense races. We cannot be happy with the outcome as we missed out on too many points. Our strategy was not ideal on Saturday, which meant that we were not involved in the battle for the win. We saw a tough fight out on the track on Sunday too. Marco Wittmann probably could not have done better than third place today under the given circumstances. He damaged the front of the car trying to overtake Robert Wickens and struggled with understeer afterwards. We got five BMWs in the top ten and scored some good points. Overall it was a hard race – sometimes too hard. We now need to concentrate fully on Spielberg. We will carry on pushing.”

**Stefan Reinhold (Team Principal, BMW Team RMG):** “We had hoped to get more out of our home race weekend. The podium for Marco Wittmann was a nice finish today but we are disappointed overall. We were unlucky on Saturday when the rain turned everything into a lottery and we could have done better

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today. Nonetheless, a big thank you is due to my team, who kept on fighting to the end as usual.”

**Marco Wittmann (#11, Red Bull BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 1<sup>st</sup> place, race result: 3<sup>rd</sup> place – 70 races, 8 wins, 19 podiums, 9 pole positions, 638 points, 2 drivers’ titles):** “We had a good first stint. Just before the pit stop, I was able to overtake Robert Wickens, move back into first place and extend my lead. I felt pretty good in the car. After the stop, I was behind him again. I started to try and overtake in turn one, but we touched. My car was damaged and I had some graining on the front tyres. I wasn’t able to maintain the pace. It is a bit disappointing to finish third after starting from pole position but at the end of the day, we scored some important points.”

**Augusto Farfus (#15, Shell BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 7<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 9<sup>th</sup> place – 80 races, 4 wins, 12 podiums, 6 pole positions, 374 points):** “That was a strange race. We did our job but we couldn’t match the pace of Mercedes. We finished the weekend with just a few points. It is a shame as it could have been more. But that’s the way it is sometimes. We’ll continue to give our all and go back on the attack.”

**Timo Glock (#16, DEUTSCHE POST BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 6<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 8<sup>th</sup> place – 70 races, 4 wins, 8 podiums, 3 pole positions, 321 points):** “Just like yesterday, it wasn’t our day today. I had some clutch problems at the start. Then I ended up on the wrong side in turn two and lost some places on the outside. My race speed after that was actually very good and I was able to battle back. Then, it seemed to me that Nico Müller braked too early before the chicane. I was not able to react in time and drove into his rear end. That really damaged the front of my car and I was lucky to be able to finish the race and score a few points.”

**Bart Mampaey (Team Principal, BMW Team RBM):** “Bruno Spengler drove a very good race today. His strategy with the late pit stop worked well and he had very good pace. Tom Blomqvist did a good job, battled hard and scored a point. It was not a great weekend for Maxime Martin. The fact that he nearly made it into the points after a penalty for a jump start shows that he drove a fantastic race.

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But if you want to reach the podium in the DTM, everything has to be perfect. And this weekend, it was not perfect for us.”

**Bruno Spengler (#7, BMW Bank BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 9<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 4<sup>th</sup> place – 153 races, 15 wins, 48 podiums, 18 pole positions, 832 points, 1 drivers’ title):** “The team strategy today was outstanding. Tactically, we all did a great job. The car was fantastic in the race. I was able to move up from ninth place to fourth. I am delighted for the whole team. The lads have earned it.”

**Tom Blomqvist (#31, BMW Driving Experience M4 DTM – Grid position: 5<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 10<sup>th</sup> place – 50 races, 1 win, 5 podiums, 2 pole positions, 194 points):** “It was a big battle, right from the word go. The start was OK and I came into the pits early. My car was OK and there was a lot of action on track. There was only one thing going on: fighting, fighting, fighting. At least I managed to score a point. I am sure it was a great race for the fans to watch.”

**Maxime Martin (#36, SAMSUNG BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 12<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 11<sup>th</sup> place – 60 races, 3 wins, 10 podiums, 3 pole positions, 333 points):** “A jump start meant that I got a drive-through penalty that knocked me back a long way. After that, I just drove my own race. At the end, I was suddenly involved in the battle for points again. I gave my all but it wasn’t quite enough.”

## The standings:

**Drivers:** 1. Mattias Ekström (136 points), 2. Lucas Auer (127), 3. René Rast (124), 4. Marco Wittmann (115), 5. Jamie Green (113), 6. Mike Rockenfeller (110), 7. Timo Glock (108), 8. Maxime Martin (102), 9. Robert Wickens (100), 10. Paul di Resta (97), 11. Gary Paffett (76), 12. Bruno Spengler (74), 13. Maro Engel (51), 14. Nico Müller (49), 15. Edoardo Mortara (47), 16. Augusto Farfus (29), 17. Tom Blomqvist (22), 18. Loic Duval (18).

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**Teams:** 1. Audi Sport Team Rosberg (237 points), 2. Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline (185), 3. BMW Team RBM (176), 4. Mercedes-AMG Motorsport Mercedes me (176), 5. Mercedes-AMG Motorsport BWT (174), 6. Mercedes-AMG Motorsport SILBERPFEIL Energy (148), 7. BMW Team RMG (144), 8. BMW Team RMR (130), 9. Audi Sport Team Phoenix (128).

**Manufacturers:** 1. Audi (550 points), 2. Mercedes (498), 3. BMW (450).

### The service:

BMW Motorsport offers an innovative Chatbot service for journalists for the first time in the 2017 DTM season. This allows users to receive the latest information directly to their smartphone via WhatsApp Messenger. The information available includes driver statistics, statements and photos. You can register for the BMW Motorsport Chatbot at the following link:

[http://bit.ly/BMW\\_Motorsport\\_Media\\_Broadcast\\_EN](http://bit.ly/BMW_Motorsport_Media_Broadcast_EN)

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