



Media Information

DTM

5<sup>th</sup> May 2018

### **Timo Glock finishes third on the podium for BMW in the season opener at Hockenheim.**

- **Part 1 of the BMW M Motorsport weekend with DTM, FIA WEC and IMSA series.**
- **Timo Glock picks up a total of 16 points in the driver's standings for finishing third in both qualifying and the race.**
- **Bruno Spengler also finishes in the top ten, in sixth place.**

**Hockenheim. The BMW M Motorsport weekend got underway with a podium. At the DTM season opener at Hockenheim (GER), Timo Glock (GER) in the DEUTSCHE POST BMW M4 DTM, finished in third place on the podium. Bruno Spengler (CAN) also picked up points, finishing sixth in the BMW Bank M4 DTM. Marco Wittmann (GER) had to make do with eleventh place after starting from second on the grid in the BMW Driving Experience M4 DTM. Right behind him was Joel Eriksson (SWE), who finished twelfth in his maiden DTM race. The second DTM rookie Philipp Eng (AUT, SAMSUNG BMW M4 DTM) crossed the finish line in 16<sup>th</sup> place, right behind Augusto Farfus (BRA, Shell BMW M4 DTM). The win went to Gary Paffett (GBR, Mercedes).**

#### **Reactions to Saturday's race at Hockenheim:**

##### **Rudolf Dittrich (BMW Motorsport):**

"It was a fantastic start to the season for fans and spectators. The field was extremely close and we saw great duels on the track. Congratulations to Timo Glock on a well-deserved podium in the first race of the season after a flawless performance. It's a great opener for him. The same applies to Bruno Spengler in sixth place. I'm also very pleased with the performance of our rookies Joel Eriksson and Philipp Eng. Joel was in the points for much of the race, only narrowly missing out in the end in twelfth place. On the whole, it was a good start to the season; we can build on it. Congratulations to Mercedes on the one-two finish."



### **Stefan Reinhold (Team Principal BMW Team RMG):**

“Overall, we are pleased with the first race. There are a lot of new faces this year, and the car has changed quite a bit too. We got off to a pretty good start, but we also saw that we were unable to hold the qualifying positions with all the cars. We need to work on that.”

### **Marco Wittmann (#11 BMW Driving Experience M4 DTM, BMW Team RMG – qualifying result: 2<sup>nd</sup> place, race result: 11<sup>th</sup> place, points: 2):**

“I’m not sure myself what the issue was today. I didn’t have the pace, and there was a great deal of tyre wear during the race. It was a difficult race; instead of moving up, I just dropped down the field. It is pretty disappointing to end up with no points when you start from second on the grid.”

### **Augusto Farfus (#15 Shell BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMG – qualifying result: 6<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 15<sup>th</sup> place, points: -):**

“We had a good pace in qualifying. We had problems with the rear axle in the race which affected our performance. Now we need to look at the data and keep on working. Tomorrow is another day.”

### **Timo Glock (#16 DEUTSCHE POST BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMR – qualifying result: 3<sup>rd</sup> place, race result: 3<sup>rd</sup> place, points: 16):**

“I’m very happy with the whole day. My mechanics and engineers gave me a great car; many thanks to them! And our strategy of changing the tyres slightly earlier, putting the Mercedes ahead of me under pressure, worked out really well. I tried to get past Lucas Auer, but he defended cleverly. After that, I focussed on getting the tyres to go the distance in the warm temperatures and bringing the important podium home.”

### **Bart Mampaey (Team Principal BMW Team RBM):**

“We saw Bruno Spengler’s potential in qualifying. He didn’t have the easiest start; it was pretty close going into turn one with René Rast and Mike Rockenfeller, but Bruno handled it really well. Thanks to our strategy and good pace, we were able to make up a few positions. We can be pleased with sixth place. Joel Eriksson had a good pace, but we were unable to get the most out of the start. Over the course of the race, he fought his way through the field and was able to make up a few positions. Philipp had a difficult start. So it’s not so easy to fight your way up the field

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from the back but we are still learning. We will use the insights from today to do better tomorrow.”

**Philipp Eng (#25 SAMSUNG BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RMR – qualifying result: 15<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 16<sup>th</sup> place, points: -):**

“Unfortunately, I totally messed up the start. It was my mistake. It shouldn’t happen again tomorrow. Apart from that, I am pleased. I made a few good overtaking manoeuvres, including passing Mattias Ekström. That was something special, because he is really difficult to overtake.”

**Bruno Spengler (#7 BMW Bank M4 DTM, BMW Team RBM – qualifying result: 8<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 6<sup>th</sup> place, points: 12):**

“We were really good over the distance, but we still have some work to do before tomorrow so that we are even stronger. With a little more pace in the second stint, we definitely could have been within reach of the podium. However, it is a positive result overall, we were able to pick up a few points.”

**Joel Eriksson (#47 BMW M4 DTM, BMW Team RBM – qualifying result: 10<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 12<sup>th</sup> place, points: -):**

“I didn’t have the best start, because I dropped down the field. Then I got stuck in traffic, which cost me a lot of time. I tried to make up a few positions, but the charge took its toll on the front tyres. Things felt a lot better after the pit stop. Overall, I feel that my driving and performance in the race were pretty good.”

**Next race:**

Currently, the BMW M8 GTEs are in action at the season opener of the FIA World Endurance Championship, the 6-hour race in Spa-Francorchamps (BEL). The race finishes at 7:30 p.m. CET.

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