

Media Information
FIA Formula E Championship
13th January 2018

Points for Tom Blomqvist on his Formula E debut with MS&AD Andretti.

- **Eighth place for Tom Blomqvist at Marrakesh E-Prix.**
- **António Félix da Costa ends difficult day in Morocco in 14th place.**
- **Blomqvist: “My focus was on getting some laps under my belt.”**

Marrakesh. Tom Blomqvist (GBR) picked up his first points in the ABB FIA Formula E Championship on his debut race in Morocco. The Brit finished in eighth place at the Marrakesh E-Prix. However, his MS&AD Andretti team-mate António Félix da Costa (POR) had a difficult day. After an accident in qualifying, he delivered a strong catch-up performance which went unrewarded. Félix da Costa crossed the finish line in 14th place. The event at the “Circuit Automobile International Moulay El Hassan” marked the third round of the 2017/18 Formula E season. While qualifying took place in foggy and cool temperatures, it was sunny and warmer with temperatures of 16 degrees Celsius during the race.

The qualifying

Blomqvist completed his first Formula E qualifying session in group 1. He came into slight contact with the wall, but was able to continue his fast lap and qualified in 12th on the grid with a time of 1:20.870 minutes. Félix da Costa on the other hand was unlucky: He was on the way to a good lap time when he locked the brakes as he braked for turn 7 and he slid into the tyre wall. Subsequently, the man from Portugal had to settle with 19th, the penultimate spot on the grid.

The race

Formula E rookie Blomqvist made up two positions in the opening phase of the race and had moved into the top 10 after two laps. At the same time, Félix da Costa set off on his race to catch up from the back of the grid, which saw him gain position after position. On lap 14 the team-mates were embroiled in a battle, and Félix da Costa overtook Blomqvist. After 17 laps, the man from Portugal entered the pit in tenth place and yet again fell victim to misfortune; just as he was changing

car, race control announced a “full-course-yellow” phase. This saw Félix da Costa lose time, and he was back in 14th place after his pit stop. Blomqvist entered the garage a lap later and returned to the field in tenth place. He moved up a position and crossed the finish line in ninth place. After a driver in front of him received a retroactive penalty, Blomqvist moved up into eighth place in the final rankings. Félix da Costa was unable to move up the field again and remained in 14th place. The win went to Felix Rosenqvist (SWE).

The reactions

Tom Blomqvist, MS&AD Andretti Formula E: “The race was a bit of an eye-opener. I was also a bit lucky to finish in eighth position in the end. My focus was on getting some laps under my belt because I literally had no idea what to expect. I had tested and worked in the simulator, but it is very different in the race environment. There is definitely some work that needs to be done on my side to try and figure out how to better manage the race. It is so different from what I have done in the past, and every time I get in the car it will get better and I will learn more and more. I will work on my energy management, or the communication with the engineers. There are so many things that you really need to be on top of here in Formula E. I have got some way to go but we can be very happy with eighth place in my first race.”

António Félix da Costa, MS&AD Andretti Formula E: “It was one of those days that you call character building but we need to stay strong and I have big faith in my team. My mechanics did a great job and got the car repaired after my crash in qualifying which I apologize for; it was my mistake. The first stint of the race looked really good, we were fast and we got a lot of positions back. Unfortunately, when we decided to change cars the ‘Full Course Yellow’ came right in that moment. Basically, we boxed under green and the others after me came to the pits under FCY which made us lose a lot of time. The race was practically over from there. In the second stint I was driving on my own all of the time so there was not much I could do. So today nothing went our way but we keep smiling and I know that we have the potential to be in the points in every race so this is what we need to aim for.”

The BMW i Fleet

BMW i is once again “Official Vehicle Partner” of the ABB FIA Formula E Championship in Season 4. The BMW i8 (combined fuel consumption: 2.1 l/100 km; combined CO2 emissions: 49 g/km)* continues to take to the track as a

powerful and efficient Safety Car. The same goes for the new BMW i3s (combined energy consumption: 14.3 kWh; combined CO₂ emissions: 0 g/km)* as “Medical Car” and “Race Control Car”, and the BMW X5 xDrive40e (combined fuel consumption: 3.4 – 3.3 l/100 km; combined CO₂ emissions: 78 – 77 g/km)* in its role as “Rescue Car” and “Extrication Car”.

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* The fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions figures shown were determined according to the European Regulation (EC) 715/2007 in the version applicable at the time of type approval. The figures refer to a vehicle with basic configuration in Germany and the range shown considers the different size of the selected wheels and tires.

The CO₂ efficiency specifications are determined according to Directive 1999/94/EC and the Pkw-EnVKV, and based (for classification) on the fuel consumption and CO₂ values as per the NEDC cycle.

Further information on official fuel consumption figures and specific CO₂ emission values of new passenger cars is included in the following guideline: “Leitfaden über Kraftstoffverbrauch, die CO₂-Emissionen und den Stromverbrauch neuer Personenkraftwagen” (Guideline for fuel consumption, CO₂ emissions and electric power consumption of new passenger cars), which can be obtained free of charge from all dealerships and at <https://www.dat.de/en/offers/publications/guideline-for-fuel-consumption.html>.