BMW Motorrad Motorsport



Salt Lake City – Free Practice & Qualifying Practice 1. Saturday, 28 May 2011.

Weather conditions: Light clouds in the morning, overcast with some rain drops in the afternoon.

Temperature: Air: 18 – 21 °C, Track: 32 – 34 °C Number of riders participating: 21 from 13 teams

Fastest lap Free Practice: Carlos Checa (Althea Racing) 1:48.914 min Fastest lap Qualifying Practice 1: Carlos Checa (Althea Racing) 1:48.260 min

There is still room for improvement for Team BMW Motorrad Motorsport for Sunday's sessions for the 2011 Superbike World Championship in Salt Lake City (USA): At the end of an exciting day of track activity, works riders Troy Corser (AUS) and Leon Haslam (GBR) provisionally qualified in fifth and 16th respectively.

Troy Corser:

Fastest lap FP1: 1:50.051 min (P7) / Fastest lap QP1: 1:49.552 min (P5) "I am quite happy with today. P5 is not too bad. We did long-runs on both tyres, and actually both compounds seem to work. Nevertheless, the engine feels a bit slow due to the altitude, and we are still struggling with stopping the bike. The engine still pushes too much when braking, and I have to hold the brakes all the way into the corner. As a result, my corner exit speed is not good enough. We have improved a bit since the morning, and I am optimistic for tomorrow. It was important today to put us in a good, as the forecast predicts rain. As I said, P5 is not bad."

Leon Haslam:

Fastest lap FP1: 1:50.862 min (P14) / Fastest lap QP1: 1:50.159 min (P16) "I was really struggling today. The bike felt like it did a couple of months ago. It is strange, as we made some good progress over the last two race weekends. Today we faced some issues we thought we had overcome long ago. We really need to assess the situation and consider a different engine brake control for tomorrow. The weather forecast is not too good, and rain usually highlights our issues. Nevertheless, we cannot control the weather, and we will take it as it comes."

Rainer Bäumel (Head of Race Operations):

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"The second session was quite difficult. It was not easy to get lap times in the 1'49s. Troy really did a good job finishing the qualifying in fifth today. Leon struggled massively with the bike, which is a bit puzzling. However, it was important for tomorrow to secure a provisional Superpole position. We now have to analyse the data and see what we have to change for tomorrow."

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