



PRESS RELEASE

Sunday 13 September 2009

FIA GT3 European Championship Rounds 7 & 8 – Algarve, Portugal

Double Porsche Win for Lanik in Portugal

Niki Lanik stood on the podium for both FIA GT3 European Championship races at the Autódromo Internacional Algarve in Portugal after scoring two wins in the Porsche Manufacturers Cup with teammate Marco Holzer. A determined drive in the second 60-minute race by Lanik saw the 22-year-old Austrian overtake the BMW Alpina B6 of Jens Klingsmann on the penultimate lap to take 4th, equaling his best overall finish this season.



Earlier in the day Niki Lanik started the opening race from 16th on the grid. His race was hampered by a loose rear window that acted like an airbrake on the long straights, slowing the Porsche down significantly and forcing the Austrian into the pits. Once repairs were completed the Porsche regained the track before handing over the car to Marco Holzer for the second part of the race. Holzer capitalised on Lanik's early efforts to move up the order to finish the race in 8th overall and claim one championship point. More importantly they were the first Porsche home enabling Lanik to close the gap to Porsche Manufacturers Cup leader David Ashburn by two points.

After a short break the cars were back on track for the second encounter of the weekend, with Marco Holzer taking the driving duties first from 11th on the grid. Holzer had moved up to 6th behind the Ferrari 430 of Lorenzo Bontempelli before coming into the pits to hand over the car to Lanik. He maintained this position until the final few laps when he benefitted from the demise of Csaba Walter in the #24 BMW Alpina B6, which had to pit with a slow puncture, before catching the second BMW one lap from home, sweeping past Jens Klingsmann to take 4th place at the

chequered flag. Once again the Prospeed Competition pairing were the top Porsche in the field.

Niki Lanik said: "I caught the BMW earlier in my race and I think I got a little knock from him and I lost about seven seconds to him but never mind. It was tough race because it got very hot in the end and the tyres went off, but otherwise I think I drove a good race and we've got another win in the Porsche Cup. I need to do this again in Paul Ricard but it will be a good fight with the Trackspeed car for the next two rounds. It's been a brilliant weekend and I couldn't have done it without Marco (Holzer)."

Niki Lanik is currently on 46 points in the Porsche Manufacturers Cup, just three points behind David Ashburn, who finished second in both races. Rounds 9 & 10 of the 12 round FIA GT3 European Championship is at Paul Ricard HTT in the South of France on 3rd and 4th October.

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For further information visit www.nikilanic.com

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