



Media Information

DTM

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017

### **Three BMW M4 DTMs in the points at the Red Bull Ring.**

- **15<sup>th</sup> race of the season against picturesque alpine backdrop in Spielberg.**
- **Marco Wittmann and Maxime Martin finish fifth and sixth.**
- **Timo Glock also in the top ten with tenth.**

**Spielberg. Race 15 of the DTM season saw three BMW M4 DTMs finish in the points at Spielberg (AUT) on Saturday. Marco Wittmann (GER) was the best-placed BMW driver, finishing fifth in the Red Bull BMW M4 DTM. He was followed over the line by Maxime Martin (BEL) in sixth. Timo Glock (GER) came home tenth at the Red Bull Ring to take the final place in the top ten. Bruno Spengler (CAN) was twelfth, Tom Blomqvist (GBR) 16<sup>th</sup>, and Augusto Farfus (BRA) was forced to retire with a damaged car.**

#### **The qualifying:**

After the morning's free practice was delayed due to thick fog, qualifying took place under a cloudless sky at noon. Once again, it came down to mere thousandths of a second: Marco Wittmann was fourth fastest with a time of 1:22.054 minutes, but only missed out on pole by 0.081 seconds. Maxime Martin (SAMSUNG BMW M4 DTM), Timo Glock (DEUTSCHE POST BMW M4 DTM) and Augusto Farfus (Shell BMW M4 DTM) followed in eighth, ninth and tenth. Bruno Spengler (BMW Bank M4 DTM) ended qualifying in 13<sup>th</sup> place, while Tom Blomqvist (BMW Driving Experience M4 DTM) qualified 16th.

#### **The race:**

A tight battle for the lead saw Marco Wittmann lose one position and drop to fifth at the start. Augusto Farfus came off the track during his battle with Lucas Auer (AUT, Mercedes) and hit the gravel trap at high speed, causing his car to leave the ground. The Brazilian was initially able to continue the race at the back of the

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field, but subsequently had to return his car to the BMW Team RMG garage as it was too severely damaged to finish the race. Five of the six BMW drivers came in for their pit stops within the first eleven laps. Only Bruno Spengler stayed out for a longer first stint, opting not to come in for a tyre change until the 27<sup>th</sup> lap. Wittmann and Martin ultimately finished fifth and sixth. Glock was tenth, Spengler 12<sup>th</sup>, and Blomqvist 16<sup>th</sup>.

### The reactions:

**BMW Motorsport Director Jens Marquardt:** “That was a tough race, in which we made the best of the situation today. We were definitely not able to match the pace of the three Audis out in front, but the entire field was relatively evenly matched behind the those three. You could see how difficult it was to overtake; nobody even managed to pass Robert Wickens in a damaged car. We will take the points for fifth, sixth and tenth and concentrate on preparing for tomorrow. We will push hard again.”

**Stefan Reinhold (Team Principal, BMW Team RMG):** “We had a mixed qualifying result, and were then unable to step it up in the race. We have to be happy with what we achieved. I will have to take another close look at the crash involving Augusto Farfus. In any case, we have a lot of work to do to repair his car. We will try to improve tomorrow. We must first get to the front of the field in qualifying, and then fight to defend our positions in the race.”

**Marco Wittmann (#11, Red Bull BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 4<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 5<sup>th</sup> place – 71 races, 8 wins, 18 podiums, 8 pole positions, 648 points, 2 drivers’ titles):** “Fifth place is pretty much the best we could have hoped for today. I had a nice scrap with Robert Wickens. He was quick and had good traction, which made it extremely difficult to attack him, even with DRS. It did not work out in the end, but we have another chance tomorrow.”

**Augusto Farfus (#15, Shell BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 10<sup>th</sup> place, race result: retired – 81 races, 4 wins, 12 podiums, 6 pole positions, 374 points):** “That was not our day. I had to swerve to avoid a collision right at the start. The ensuing trip into the gravel damaged my car so severely that we

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eventually had to retire. I am happy that nothing more serious happened in the incident. I was able to save a set of tyres today, so will attack again tomorrow.”

**Timo Glock (#16, DEUTSCHE POST BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 9<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 10<sup>th</sup> place – 71 races, 4 wins, 8 podiums, 3 pole positions, 322 points):** “The start was okay. Unfortunately, I was on the wrong side in turns one and three, which resulted in me losing places. After that, we basically just drove around in a line for the rest of the race. There was no chance to overtake. In the end, we had to settle for one point.”

**Bart Mampaey (Team Principal, BMW Team RBM):** “We had a good race. It is not so easy to make up positions in this field and, as you could see, a few cars got in our way. However, we got on with our race, kept a cool head and fought hard. Our pit stops were very good and Maxime climbed two positions. We are happy with that.”

**Bruno Spengler (#7, BMW Bank BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 13<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 12<sup>th</sup> place – 154 races, 15 wins, 48 podiums, 18 pole positions, 832 points, 1 drivers’ title):** “The race strategy was actually a good one. Maybe we could have stopped a little earlier but, on the whole, it was okay. It was very difficult to overtake and I had a whole train of cars in front of me. We could not do any better than twelfth, as you simply could not overtake.”

**Tom Blomqvist (#31, BMW Driving Experience M4 DTM – Grid position: 16<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 16<sup>th</sup> place – 51 races, 1 win, 5 podiums, 2 pole positions, 194 points):** “That did not go particularly well for us. We stopped on lap one and pinned our hopes on a safety car. Unfortunately, that was not to be. We have to move on from that race and improve tomorrow.”

**Maxime Martin (#36, SAMSUNG BMW M4 DTM – Grid position: 8<sup>th</sup> place, race result: 6<sup>th</sup> place – 61 races, 3 wins, 10 podiums, 3 pole positions, 341 points):** “Sixth place is not too bad. We did as well as we could have hoped. Audi was simply very strong today. All in all, it was a good race for me. It was not easy, but I had a few great battles. I am happy with the result. We scored some good points.”

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**The standings:**

**Drivers:** 1. Mattias Ekström (162 points), 2. Jamie Green (134), 3. Lucas Auer (131), 4. Marco Wittmann (125), 5. René Rast (124), 6. Mike Rockenfeller (116), 7. Robert Wickens (112), 8. Maxime Martin (110), 9. Timo Glock (109), 10. Paul di Resta (97), 11. Gary Paffett (76), 12. Bruno Spengler (74), 13. Nico Müller (66), 14. Maro Engel (51), 15. Edoardo Mortara (49), 16. Augusto Farfus (29), 17. Tom Blomqvist (22), 18. Loic Duval (18).

**Teams:** 1. Audi Sport Team Rosberg (258 points), 2. Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline (228), 3. Mercedes-AMG Motorsport Mercedes me (188), 4. BMW Team RBM (184), 5. Mercedes-AMG Motorsport BWT (180), 6. BMW Team RMG (154), 7. Mercedes-AMG Motorsport SILBERPFEIL Energy (148), 8. Audi Sport Team Phoenix (134), 9. BMW Team RMR (131).

**Manufacturers:** 1. Audi (620 points), 2. Mercedes (516), 3. BMW (469).

**The service:**

BMW Motorsport offers an innovative Chatbot service for journalists 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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