

Beat: Sports

MAXMILIAN GOTZ AND MAXMILIAN BUHK TAKE THIRD RACE WIN OF 2014

BLANCPAIN SPRINT SERIES IN ZOLDER

Zolder, Belgium Oct. 19, 2014, 20.10.2014, 19:45 Time

USPA NEWS - The Belgian track of Zolder saw HTP Motorsport-drivers Maximilian Götz and Maximilian Buhk take their third Race win of the 2014 Blancpain Sprint Series on Sunday by beating their main rivals in the championship, Grasser Racing Team-drivers Jeroen Bleekemolen and Hari Proczyk.

Local favourites Laurens Vanthoor and Cesar Ramos in the #1 Belgian Audi Club Team WRT completed the podium. Their teammates Mateusz Lisowski and Vincent Abril scored another win in the Silver Cup, while Phoenix Racing-pairing Alessandro Latif and Marc Basseng secured the 2014 Pro-Am Trophy title by taking their fourth win of the season.

A sunny day for the semi final race of the Blancpain Sprint Series. The hot conditions would play an important role in the final part of the race, but the start turned out to be a pretty hectic affair as well. Buhk started from sixth, but was clearly determined to gain as many places as possible at the first corner with the result of being squeezed off the track going into turn 2.

But the German managed to escape from the contact and took fourth position behind the two Lamborghinis of Peter Kox and Hari Proczyk, who had beaten polesitter Cesar Ramos in the sprint towards the first corner, forcing the Brazilian Audi-driver to third. The first part of the race saw two Safety Car-interventions, the second when Alexey Vasiliev made contact with the wall at the chicane, heavily damaging his Mercedes SLS AMG. The Russian driver was unhurt.

Just before the pit window opened, the lights went back to green, and after 25 minutes of racing Proczyk was one of the first drivers to take his mandatory pitstop. One lap later leader Peter Kox drove into the pitlane, but the hydraulic jack on the #95 NSC Motorsports/Syntix Lamborghini failed and the Belgian Lamborghini had to retire.

Maxi Buhk continued for two laps longer and the time spent running in clean air turned out to be very advantageous for the Mercedes driver. When team-mate Maxi Götz took over the wheel of the HTP Mercedes, after a very quick pitstop, he managed to leave the pit lane just in front of leader Jeroen Bleekemolen in the #28 Grasser Racing Team Lamborghini.

Although the Dutchman tried his utmost best to pass the Mercedes immediately, Götz held on to the lead. This third main race win of the season gives Maxi Götz now a 27-point lead over Bleekemolen and Proczyk in the standings, with 34 points up for grabs at the final round in Baku. The Grasser Racing-duo are now the only drivers that can keep Götz from winning the 2014 driver title, since Enzo Ide retired the #2 Belgian Audi Club Team WRT Audi in the opening lap of the race, scoring zero points for himself and team-mate René Rast.

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-2820/-maxmilian-gotz-and-maxmilian-buhk-take-third-race-win-of-2014.html>

Editorial office and responsibility:

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): David Franciamore

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