



PORSCHE

Press Release

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Nürburgring 24 Hours, 2nd interim report

Porsche 911 GT3 R continues amongst the frontrunners at the Nürburgring

Stuttgart. The Porsche 911 GT3 R with the starting number 912 is maintaining its promising course at the Nürburgring 24-hour race. Manthey-Racing's 911 is currently running in second place after two-thirds of the race distance. After a puncture cost Richard Lietz (A), Patrick Pilet (F), Frédéric Makowiecki (F) and Nick Tandy (GB) almost four minutes at the beginning of the 24-hour marathon, the quartet launched an impressive pursuit through the field. Even the rain that set in during the night couldn't halt the charge of the 500 hp racer, which delivered a gripping head-to-head battle against its rivals at the front of the pack.

Bad luck hit the teammates in the #911 sister car. The second of three Manthey-run Porsche 911 GT3 R racers led the field as the pole-setter right from the start of the Eifel classic. During the night the car hit oil, slid from the track and crashed into the barriers, putting an end to the strong, dominant charge of Kévin Estre (F), Romain Dumas (F), Laurens Vanthoor (B) and Earl Bamber (NZ).

Falken Motorsports Porsche 911 GT3 R (#44) has come through the night unscathed and is running on ninth. The driver crew of Klaus Bachler (D), Sven Müller (D), Martin Ragginger (A) and Dirk Werner (D) is hoping for dry conditions to mount an attack on the leaders.

With more than 200,000 spectators, the Nürburgring 24-hour race is one of the largest motorsport events in the world. At the Eifel classic, more than 500 drivers in 148

cars are competing. With 43 vehicles, Porsche is the most strongly represented marque at the Nürburgring 24 Hours.

Patrick Pilet (Porsche 911 GT3 R #912), Manthey-Racing: “We lost almost four minutes due to the puncture at the beginning of the race. But the car is running very well so we were able to make up ground. Things look good at the moment, but the race is still long and anything can happen here at the Nürburgring.”

Nick Tandy (Porsche 911 GT3 R #912), Manthey-Racing: “The conditions are extremely difficult. When the rain lets up, the track is very fast and we can push. But in heavy rain, you’re happy if you can just keep the car on the track. However, our vehicle is very fast in all conditions and we’ve set our sights on victory. That’s why we’re here.”

Sven Müller (Porsche 911 GT3 R #44), Falken Motorsports: “Things have gone very well so far. We made it through without any problems and we had no incidents or nudges with other vehicles. In the rain, however, we weren’t quite able to maintain the pace to the teams at the front. We’re hoping for dry conditions, then we’ll be able to regain several positions.”

Kévin Estre (Porsche 911 GT3 R #911), Manthey-Racing: “The race is going well for us. We were always in the lead and we drove a fast and flawless race. In the end, Romain overtook and unfortunately there was an oil spill in that passage and he lost the car. It’s a bitter pill to swallow but that’s racing.”

Laurens Vanthoor (Porsche 911 GT3 R #911), Manthey-Racing: “Romain couldn’t do a thing about the accident. We saw the oil spill in the footage. This retirement is painful. With the pace and advantage that we had, you only get such a chance once in ten years probably.”

Earl Bamber (Porsche 911 GT3 R #911), Manthey-Racing: “The Manthey squad have done a great job. The balance of the car was very good, we were fast and we were in the lead. Unfortunately, the accident happened and we had to relinquish a possible victory. But that’s the Nordschleife. We’re now hoping that one of the other fast Porsches makes it to the top of the podium.”

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