## **MEDIA INFORMATION**



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# **Double pole for Bentley on ADAC GT Masters debut**

- Bentley to start both races on opening weekend from pole position
- Luca Stolz and Jeroen Bleekemolen book P1 on grid
- Races on Saturday and Sunday to be shown live on SPORT1, starting at 1pm CEST

Oschersleben: A Bentley car has made history on its debut in the ADAC GT Masters. The Bentley Team HTP duo of Luca Stolz (19, Germany) and Holland's Jeroen Bleekemolen (33) prevailed in qualifying for the season opener at the etropolis Motorsport Arena Oschersleben and will now start from pole position in both the Saturday and the Sunday race (live on SPORT1 starting at 1pm). For the first time in the history of the Super Sports Car League, a manufacturer making its ADAC GT Masters debut has claimed pole position. Bleekemolen then capped the achievement by wrapping up pole for Sunday's race, at the same time setting a new qualifying record for the ADAC GT Masters at Oschersleben. "It's hard to imagine a more perfect start to the season to have claimed both pole positions and thus have an open road in both races," said a delighted Stolz. "We have done a lot right in our preparations for the season; we've worked hard and the net result is P1 on the grid."

Key facts, etropolis Motorsport Arena Oschersleben, Rounds 1 and 2 Length of track: 3,696 metres Weather: Sunny, 22°C Pole Position for Race 1: Luca Stolz (Bentley Team HTP, Bentley Continental GT3), 01:27.563 mins Pole Position for Race 2: Jeroen Bleekemolen (Bentley Team HTP, Bentley Continental GT3), 01:26.852 mins

### Qualifying 1 for the race on Saturday:

Stolz showed perfect timing in the first qualifying session. The Bentley driver established himself at the top of the timesheet at the very moment the session was briefly interrupted due to contamination on the track. After the restart, none of his opponents were able to undercut the time set by the Bentley. Alongside Stolz on Saturday's front row will be Christian Engelhart (28, Germany) in a GW IT Racing Team Schütz Motorsport Porsche 911. Austria's Dominik Baumann (22) driving a BMW Z4 entered by local outfit BMW Sports Trophy Team Schubert from Oschersleben qualified third ahead of Sebastian Asch (28, Germany) in a Team Zakspeed Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG. The competition for the best spots on the grid was fiercer than ever before, with the fastest seven all qualifying within 0.129 seconds of each other.

"The lap was perfect in every respect," said Stolz. "I had some luck with the traffic and also with the slipstream. We're on pole position for both races, but we weren't all that dominant, because the gaps at the top are extremely narrow."

### Qualifying 2 for the race on Sunday:

For a long time in qualifying for the second race, it looked as if Corvette driver Daniel Keilwitz (25, Germany) had pole position in the bag. Keilwitz went out early onto the track and benefited from the wide open spaces. But then Luca Ludwig (26, Germany) driving a Team Zakspeed Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG bested the time set by the 2013 ADAC GT Masters champion, and ultimately Bleekemolen went faster than the pair of them. Shortly before the end of qualifying, Denmark's Nicki Thiim (26) in a C.Abt Racing Audi R8 demoted Ludwig and Keilwitz to grid positions three and four and parked himself on Sunday's front row.

"My team-mate Luca already did a perfect job in Q1, and then I also put in a perfect lap," said Bleekemolen. "I wasn't expecting pole position here, because the Bentley is still very new to me and it was by no means easy in free practice today. I didn't allow myself to make any mistakes



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in qualifying and did exactly what was needed here to take pole. Qualifying was very competitive; in the end, there were five cars within 0.2 seconds of each other. That's highly enjoyable and it also makes this series what it is. As for the races, despite the double pole it's not going to be easy because we don't yet know what the weather is for this weekend."

### Qualifying for Race 1 on Saturday: Results (Top 5)

- 1. Luca Stolz (Bentley Team HTP, Bentley Continental GT3), 01:27.563 mins
- 2. Christian Engelhart (GW IT Racing Team Schütz Motorsport, Porsche 911 GT3 R), +0.037 sec
- 3. Dominik Baumann (BMW Sports Trophy Team Schubert, BMW Z4 GT3), +0.056 sec
- 4. Sebastian Asch (Team Zakspeed, Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG GT3), +0.073 sec
- 5. Dominic Jöst (MRS GT, Racing-Nissan GT-R NISMO GT3), +0.104 sec

### Qualifying for Race 2 on Sunday: Results (Top 5)

- 1. Jeroen Bleekemolen (Bentley Team HTP, Bentley Continental GT3), 01:26,852 mins
- 2. Nicki Thiim (C.Abt Racing, Audi R8 LMS ultra), +0.093 sec
- 3. Luca Ludwig (Team Zakspeed, Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG GT3), +0.177 sec
- 4. Daniel Keilwitz (Callaway Competition, Corvette Z06.R GT3), +0.192 sec
- 5. Andreas Simonsen (HP Racing, Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG GT3), +0.199 sec

### Tickets, including access to the paddock, start at 20 euros

Fans who want to experience ADAC GT Masters action live at the track can now apply for tickets for the races at Oschersleben, at the Lausitzring, Nürburgring, Sachsenring and for the finale in Hockenheim. Ticket prices start at 20 euros and include access to the paddock. ADAC members can now purchase tickets for all eight race weekends via the ADAC preferential scheme. Tickets are available online at <u>www.adac.de/gt-masters</u> and at <u>www.eventim.de</u>, from any ADAC branch office and from more than 20,000 Eventim outlets throughout Europe.

The ADAC GT Masters will line up for the 2015 season in Germany, Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands, staging eight events and 16 races. ADAC GT Masters races will again be shown live by ADAC new live-TV exclusive partner SPORT1, who will broadcast all 16 ADAC GT Masters races live and in their entirety in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Broadcasts will normally begin at 1 pm on race weekends.

Race schedule and venues for the 2015 ADAC GT Masters:

24/04 - 26/04/2015	etropolis Motorsport Arena Oschersleben
05/06 - 07/06/2015	Red Bull Ring (A)
19/06 - 21/06/2015	Circuit Spa-Francorchamps (B)
03/07 - 05/07/2015	Lausitzring
14/08 - 16/08/2015	Nürburgring
28/08 - 30/08/2015	Sachsenring
18/09 - 20/09/2015	Circuit Park Zandvoort (NL)
02/10 - 04/10/2015	Hockenheimring Baden-Württemberg

Further information available at www.adac.de/gt-masters



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