

The premiere in Navarra brings two golden medals to MKR Technology

Navarra – Round two of the European Truckracing Championship was characterized by several 'firsts'. In addition to the first historical start on the Spanish circuit of Navarra, pilots of the north-Bohemia-based MKR Technology team Adam Lacko and the Switzerland-born Markus Bösiger had the Czech national anthem played for the first time. Simply speaking, the weekend full of premieres went great for MKR.

'The Navarra racing circuit was completely unknown to all of us. We saw it for the first time only when we came here and we adjusted the trucks during the free training, so directly on the racing day. Looking back at the past weekend, I can't be but happy. It's one of the most technically challenging circuits and we suffered just a minor loss there. We recorded two wins, so at the moment, things are fantastic,' said MKR Technology's boss Mario Kress.

The first success to celebrate came right with the opening race as Adam Lacko reached for the team's premiere gold of the season and the gang from Židovice could sing the Czech national anthem. He was close to the podium already in the main race. Although he started from as far as rank six, after some skirmishes in the first lap he pushed through to position three. Unfortunately, he lost it in the final lap to Hungary's Kiss who had been following him uncompromisingly. As Lacko was slowing down, another Czech David Vršecký took advantage of the situation and the MKR driver had to put up with position five. The victory went to Oestreich with his fellow German Hahn on the second. A post-race penalty for Kiss helped Lacko move up the final ranking one place higher and earned Vršecký a bronze medal. *'It was really bad luck. Kiss was very fast but on the other hand he doesn't have a lot of respect for his fellow competitors but this time his actions have worked against him,'* commented Adam, whose team mate Markus Bösiger recorded points for the sixth place.

The native from Čeladná improved his mood in the afternoon handicap race, taking the lead right after the start. He easily defended the top position and left Finland's Mika Makinen nearly ten seconds behind him in the process. *'I really like this track, it suits me well. It has a karting feel to it which is a discipline I spent most of my childhood competing in. There are a lot of corners and that is what I enjoy. Moreover, the guys did a huge amount of work in the break after Misano. I'm very grateful for that,'* appreciated Adam, who hummed the tune of the Czech national anthem on the podium.

He was accompanied there by the Spanish Albacete, who gradually fought his way up to the third position from the very bottom of the starting grid. Vršecký finished on the fifth. Fortune didn't favour our Markus Bösiger ; after getting caught in a collision in the first lap he succeeded in finishing the race but his truck ended up looking like a creased paper. *'The front end was badly damaged, so we went to bed really late. Anyway, we were happy about Adam's success and that was driving us forward,'* commented MKR's mechanic Daniel Kozlovský.



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Already since the Sunday morning MKR Technology's Markus Bösiger had to cope with some technical trouble. After the super pole the mechanics team had to replace the differential on his truck and it was not quite certain whether they'll make it before the opening race. However, Mario Kress' group managed the impossible in just an hour and so Bösiger did not miss the race. At the end, he finished on the seventh. His colleague Adam Lacko did everything to reach up to the podium. Despite starting from the third row, he crossed the finishing line on the much-hated fourth position. The victory belonged to Albacete, who left behind the Hungarian express Kiss and Germany's Oestreich, respectively.

Feast for the spectators' eyes came in the Sunday's handicap race. MKR's Markus Bösiger dominated in a start-to-finish manner. The effort of his greatest opponents was absolutely futile, the twelve laps simply were not enough for anyone to catch the chap. Vršecký could celebrate the silver and Jochen Hahn had to make do with the bronze medal. Adam Lacko gained points for the sixth place, as he had to avoid a nasty collision of Germany's Oestreich and Reinert, which left Oestreich's truck standing on the start finish straight. *'The last race was influenced a lot by accidents. I think that the actions of René were really unfair and dangerous. I was unlucky too when Norbert Kiss crashed into me in the first Conner and damaged my truck. After that I could only follow the lead group with chances to overtake being very limited. Fortunately, Markus saved the situation for us making our weekend in Navarra a successful one,'* summarized Adam.

Clearly, Bösiger could not get enough of the podium presence. *'My mechanics did a great job. Not only did they work on the car during this weekend but they had been working on it since Misano and I'm happy we're getting faster with each race. Certainly, the championship will show very equal performances and there are several candidates for the front positions. We have to keep working hard,'* added Markus Bösiger with determination.

Following the second racing weekend, the top of the overall ranking belongs to the reigning champion Jochen Hahn (80 points). The second position is occupied by David Vršecký (75 points) and the third by Albacete, who is sharing it with Oestreich (64 points). Fifty-eight points put Adam Lacko on the fifth place with Bösiger dropping to place eight (40 points).

Round three of the Championship is scheduled in two-weeks' time (15/16 June) in Nogaro, France.



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