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Blancpain Lamborghini GT3 wins on debut in the Hungary 12hrs

Marc Hayek Peter Kox & Nico Pronk take the Blancpain Racing-Lamborghini LP 600-4 to victory at the Hungaroring

Tuesday April 9, 2013, Sant' Agata Bolognese. Automobili Lamborghini opened its 2013 motor racing season with a prestigious win at the Hungary 12hrs held at the Hungaroring in Budapest on Saturday.

The victory, delivered by the trio of Swiss driver Marc Hayek, Dutchman Nico Pronk and countryman Peter Kox, was the first for the new Lamborghini Gallardo GT3 variant developed jointly by Automobili Lamborghini and Reiter Engineering, a cornerstone in the marque's burgeoning engagement in motorsport.

Based on the new Gallardo MY13, a focus of the new GT3 FL2's development is on long-distance performance and includes '24-hour' brakes, improved engine cooling and reduced fuel consumption. The car features a highly efficient aero kit, a new front splitter, a rear carbon diffuser based on that developed for the Super Trofeo and an overall improved power to weight performance, with the GT3 FL2's weight reduced by 25kg over the previous Gallardo GT3.

Stephan Winkelmann, President & CEO of Automobili Lamborghini said, "Last year we as a company made some serious commitments to motorsport in our 50th anniversary year, one of which was to contest the GT3 category in a far more committed way. I am delighted that the co-operation between Reiter Engineering and our development engineers has done such a good job to deliver an early success and they - and the drivers - must take credit for a convincing win in such competitive company - it is the best possible start to Lamborghini's 2013 motor racing season."

The Reiter team dominated the race, which forms part of their preparation for the Blancpain Endurance Series and the FIA GT Series, the former of which commences this week in Monza. Aside from a short period after the first round of pitstops, the team led in convincing fashion from lights to flag, maintaining the form shown in claiming pole position and in recording the race's fastest lap.

At the end of the race, Marc A. Hayek, Blancpain President & CEO, commented "This was a perfect race to begin the season! The entire Blancpain Racing team was in a good spirit and the car worked perfectly. It's always nice to begin a season with a success, even more so in a 12 hour endurance race."

His team-mate, Nico Pronk added, "It was a great race and we had no problems whatsoever. As this was the first competitive outing for our 2013-spec Lamborghini Gallardo, we couldn't have hoped for a better debut. The car was quick and reliable," said Nico Pronk.

Pronk's compatriot, Peter Kox concluded, "For us, this race played a major role in preparation for our campaigns in the Blancpain Endurance Series and the FIA GT Series. We are really glad with the performance of the car."

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