

## Amici dents Leimer's championship advantage

Matteo Zucchi makes his first visit to the podium & Alberto Viberti claims the amateur win for Composit Motorsport

**21 September 2013, Nürburging.** With much anticipation, the penultimate race in the European Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo season got underway at the Nürburging this morning, with series leader Cédric Leimer seeking to defend an 11 point lead from three championship contenders - poleman Adrian Zaugg, the form driver Andrea Amici who arrived in Germany with three consecutive victories, and the ever-present Leonardo Geraci.

In the only two-driver car in contention for the PRO-AM title, Adrian Zaugg again elected to open the race and build an advantage for his Amateur team-mate Federico De Nora. In the event, Zaugg worked precisely to script, leading the field away and progressively building out a lead of almost half a minute ahead of Andrea Amici. While the race was running to plan for Zaugg and Amici, the other two title pretenders were having a more challenging time. Cédric Leimer, aware of his start disadvantage having qualified in a lowly 9<sup>th</sup>, was pushing to claim back positions when he suffered a spin on lap 8 and dropped to 17<sup>th</sup> overall.

Leonardo Geraci was also in the wars, albeit not until after the pit window, but having been in contention in the top four in a raging battle with a hard-charging Andrea Gagliardini, he dropped to the bottom end of the top ten when a mechanical problem saw him stop temporarily on track.

But all eyes were on the front of the field as Zaugg handed the lead over to his team-mate at the very end of the pit window and Federico De Nora rejoined the race with a 17 second lead over Imperiale's Amici - almost a carbon copy of the situation in Spa. De Nora defended valiantly, but by lap 20, the Roman, with the title possibility spurring him on, overhauled the Amateur driver to claim the lead. However, it was not all plain sailing for the new race leader, as his Imperiale team-mate, Matteo Zucchi, racing as a singleton this weekend was having a storming race and once he had despatched De Nora and claimed second place, he set about hunting Amici down. In the event, Amici held a 0.743s lead to the line to claim a valuable maximum points score.

Behind Amici and Zucchi, De Nora held his resolve to finish Zaugg's good work with a podium finish in third, with a comfortable lead over Alberto Viberti, the first Amateur car home in fourth overall. With Amici claiming 15 points, attention turned to the other PRO-AM title contenders, and while Leimer staged a good recovery to finish seventh, the other key driver in the championship battle, Leonardo Geraci suffered a last lap retirement almost in sight of the finish line. His demise improved Leimer's situation, enabling him to collect another two unexpected points towards his championship bid.

Laurent Jenny had a steady race to 9<sup>th</sup> overall, dropping a few positions and points to his only Amateur series contender, Mirko Zanardini, who finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place despite suffering a drive-through penalty, having been adjudged to have crossed the white line on the pitlane exit following his pitstop. Jenny's points tally now means he is Amateur-champion elect.

The PRO-AM title comes down to two contenders, Cédric Leimer and Andrea Amici, separated by just four points with a maximum of 15 points available for the winner of the final race.

Tomorrow's final race commences at 0930hrs CET.



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## Driver Quotes

P1 Andrea Amici #54, Autocazzerria Imperiale SRL

"It was a great race, we had a great start but it wasn't until the end of the second stint that we managed to get ahead of the Bonaldi car. Our aim going into this race was to get as many points as possible, and we definitely succeeded in doing this and of course it helps our chances that Cédric Leimer didn't have the best of races. So overall our chances of the Championship are looking even better now, so it's all up to tomorrow's race! It will be one last push to win the trophy!"

P2 Matteo Zucchi #48, Autocazzerria Imperiale SRL

"It is my first time on the podium this year and I'm so pleased with the way we performed. We had a great race and second puts us in a great start position for tomorrow. This weekend Alessandra and I racing in different cars made sense for both of us. This is the end of her first year and she's improved tremendously, so it was her time to get her own drive and she had a great race too. Hopefully we'll have an equally good day tomorrow."

P3 Adrian Zaugg/Federico De Nora #3 Bonaldi Motorsport

"The car was very consistent, I managed immediately opened a good gap in the first lap and build from there, which is a big compliment to Bonaldi Motorsport as in terms of race pace, we definitely have one of the best cars out there. You need to remember that Federico (De Nora) is racing against the PROs at the front, so he's doing really well considering the fact that the other guys he's fighting have a lot more experience. We're looking good in the championship now, I think we're in 3rd place which is what we were aiming for yesterday. Tomorrow's going to be tough, starting from pole is always easier and Amici tends to have good starts, but I will aim to be in P1 by the end the first lap."

P3 Adrian Zaugg/Federico De Nora #3 Bonaldi Motorsport

"Adrian drove very well and the pace was fantastic. My stint was a little bit different. When I picked up the car, it had a lot of oversteer, so I had to fight it and keep Amici and Zucchi at bay as long as I could but in the last few laps Amici's pace was just better and I fell behind both of them. A podium is always something to be proud of, and let's hope tomorrow we can challenge for a win. It would be a fantastic way to end the championship."

P4, first Amateur Alberto Viberti #47 Composit Motorsport

"This is my first time at the Nürburgring, and winning the Amateur category is such a great feeling, especially considering the fact that our performance yesterday couldn't have been worse. I spun at the first corner of the first practice and hitting the barriers wasn't ideal. But everything worked out and I'm on the podium now and I can look forward to starting tomorrow's race in 4th."



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**SQUADRA CORSE**

### Live Race Broadcast

A fully produced broadcast tomorrow's final race, complete with English-language commentary, will be available at <http://squadracorse.lamborghini.com/en/live/> at 0930hrs CET for on Sunday September 22.

### Lamborghini Squadra Corse

Lamborghini Squadra Corse is a specialist team within Lamborghini's R&D department dedicated to motorsport including GT3, the Super Trofeo series, and a customer driving program.

From 2013, the Squadra Corse provides an integrated approach to Lamborghini driving experiences. A new series of 'Esperienza' events provide enthusiasts and prospects with opportunity for a first test-drive and to experience the world of Lamborghini.

The Lamborghini Academies, on both track and ice, provide driver training and the initial steps towards racing.

The Super Trofeo series provides the perfect first race experience for young and gentleman drivers, with the Lamborghini GT3 for more experienced racers wanting to compete with the Lamborghini marque worldwide.

### Race Calendar for 2013

In Europe, the Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo will again partner the Blancpain Endurance Series.

Monza (ITA)	13/14 April
Misano (ITA)	04/05 May
Silverstone (GBR)	01/02 June
Paul Ricard (FRA)	29 June/01 July
Spa (BEL)	25/28 July
<b>Nurburgring (DEU)</b>	<b>21/22 September</b>
Vallelunga (ITA)	23/24 November (Lamborghini Super Trofeo World Final)



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## Blancpain

Founded in 1735 by Jehan-Jacques Blancpain, the watch brand bearing his name is the oldest in the world. Blancpain is currently engaged to the renewal of mechanical watchmaking and to passing on exceptional expertise from one generation to the next through constant investment in human resources, production facilities and research. This approach is its strength and the expression of our long-term vision, even though it goes against the tide of a certain tendency to seek immediate profit.

From the creation of components through to watch design, Blancpain is distinguished by its ability to develop exceptional movements. Over the past 8 years, the Manufacture has indeed developed no less than 29 new calibres.

Through its various models, Blancpain preserves its heritage of precision and elegance, while also displaying an innovative and occasionally provocative spirit. Its range encompasses the sportive L- evolution line, the legendary Fifty Fathoms diver's watch, as well as the classic Villeret collection, the high complication from Le Brassus collection and the Women models.

## Pirelli

Founded in 1872, Pirelli is the world's fifth largest tyre manufacturer based on revenues. With a presence in over 160 countries, the company now has 22 tyre manufacturing facilities on five continents and employs some 34,000 people.

Having been involved in motor racing since 1907, Pirelli is currently the single tyre manufacturer for Formula 1™ for the 2011-2013 championship seasons and for the World Superbike Championship. This is an important challenge in terms of technological innovation and is a key means of promoting the Pirelli brand.

In 2013, Pirelli underlines its status as the global tyre manufacturer with the biggest commitment to motorsport. In total, the Italian firm supplies 138 different championships across the world, excluding Formula One, both on the road and on the track. One of the most important engagements is the Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo, supplied exclusively by Pirelli, which highlights the strong technical collaboration that the two Italian icons have shared since 1963.

## Contact Us

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Visit the new Squadra Corse website to follow all of Lamborghini's racing activities at [www.squadracorse.lamborghini.com](http://www.squadracorse.lamborghini.com)

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