Andrea Amici is crowned Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo Champion His sixth race victory secures the European title

22 September 2013, Nürburgring. In a thrilling conclusion to the Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo series in Europe, Andrea Amici was crowned PRO-AM series champion. Cédric Leimer's bid for a third title faltered at the final hurdle, when his mid-race pitstop was adjudged to have fallen short of the minimum time and he incurred a drive-through penalty that saw him end the season as runner-up. His Autovitesse team-mate, Laurent Jenny provided some compensation by claiming the Amateur title.

With the championship at stake, the early morning race started with four cars running abreast into turn one, with Adrian Zaugg who started on the second row emerging with the race lead. In a repeat of yesterday's race, the South African set out to open a gap from the field, while Andrea Amici in second position was intent on consolidating his championship position. Behind this pair, an intense and highly competitive battle raged for the duration of the whole race between Alberto Viberti, Mirko Zanardini and Matteo Zucchi.

Further back in the traffic, Cédric Leimer needed to progress through the field aware that if the race followed a similar course to events on Saturday, Amici would challenge for the lead after the pitstops. By the time the pit window opened, Leimer had made up two places and was running in fifth. Zaugg meanwhile handed his team-mate Federico De Nora a 17s lead to take back on track, the Autocarrozzeria Imperiale driver had nullified the advantage and on lap 19, Amici took the race lead.

Leimer now had a significant job to do to preserve his title hopes. Pegged behind Richard Chlad, his hopes seemed to be faltering, but on unlucky lap 13, the race officials handed the Swiss driver a drive-through penalty for a pitstop that fell 0.2s short of the mandatory time. Once Leimer had served his penalty, he had lost two places on track and fallen back to eighth overall, a position he could not improve upon before the flag fell and with it went his bid for a third title.

With the Amateur title confirmed on Saturday, those not directly involved in the championship hunt had their own battles to win, and the three-way fight between Viberti, Zanardini and Zucchi captivated to the final lap, but the 18 year old Alberto Viberti, yesterday's Amateur winner, went two places better and finished in second place behind Amici, followed by Mirko Zanardini to close out the podium.

In a tight teams' battle, Amici's success promoted Autocarrozzeria Imperiale SRL to the top of the PRO-AM Championship, while Autovitesse Garage R. Affolter claimed the Teams' Amateur title.

Lamborghini Blancpain Super Trofeo World Final - Vallelunga, November 23/24

Following the championship presentations in the Lamborghini Village in the Nürburgring paddock, Maurizio Reggiani, Automobili Lamborghini's Board Member for Research & Development announced that the World Final would take place at Vallelunga in November.

Further details concerning the format of the event and other details will be communicated shortly.



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Driver Quotes

P1 Andrea Amici #54, Autocarrozzeria Imperiale

"It is such an incredible feeling to win the championship. We had a bit of difficulty at the very beginning of the season, but things have got better and better as the season progressed. We won six races, and today was fantastic."

P2 (1st Amateur) Alberto Viberti #47, Composit Motorsport

"What can I say other than I'm extremely happy. It's a shame I only made the overall podium in the last race of the championship, but it was only the second race I have run on my own and I feel like I've grown a lot in the last couple of races."

P3 Mirko Zanardini #34, Bonaldi Motorsport

"This is a blessed podium, the one I absolutely wanted at any cost, to be able to dedicate it - and this whole season - to my best friend who we all lost - Andrea Mamé. I know he definitely helped me out there today as there were times towards the end of the race when I struggled but I never gave up, I just fought until the very last metre to do this for for him. Today means so much for Andrea and I to be awarded second place in the championship together."

P15, Laurent Jenny #19, Autovitesse Garage R. Affolter (Amateur Champion)

I'm thrilled to have won the championship - I would like to thank my friend Cédric Leimer, without whom I wouldn't be here. He's the one who introduced me to the series and I must say a big thank you to Michel Duvernay as well, who has done some exceptional work throughout this season to provide me with a magnificent car."

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.



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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

All media enquiries including requests for additional photography should be directed to: <u>media@supertrofeo.com</u> and please see the official Automobili Lamborghini press website by clicking <u>here</u>

Visit the new Squadra Corse website to follow all of Lamborghini's racing activities at <u>www.squadracorse.lamborghini.com</u> Follow us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/lamborghini



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