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Lamborghini completes second GT World Challenge America clean sweep at NOLA K-PAX duo Caldarelli and Beretta take both wins on first outing in the #1 Huracán GT3 EVO

Sant'Agata Bolognese, 23 May 2022 - Lamborghini recorded another double victory of the Fanatec GT World Challenge America season at NOLA Motorsports Park in New Orleans. K-PAX Racing's Andrea Caldarelli and Michele Beretta claimed both wins at the wheel of their #1 Lamborghini Huracán GT3 EVO.

The latest success in the US-based championship means that Lamborghini has won at least one race in nine of the 10 GT World Challenge America rounds it has contested since joining the series in 2021.

Coming into the weekend, defending GTWC America Teams' champions K-PAX Racing decided to rotate the driver line-up between its two Pro class cars, with last year's International GT Open champion Beretta joining Caldarelli in the #1 Lamborghini Huracán GT3 EVO. Caldarelli's long-standing team-mate Jordan Pepper moved over to the #3 car, partnering Misha Goikhberg.

The weekend began brightly for the #1 car as Caldarelli and Beretta set the fastest time (1m34.248) in the opening free practice session around the 4.423 km circuit close to the city of New Orleans. The TR3 Racing Lamborghini of factory driver Giacomo Altoè - alongside Ziad Ghandour - was third quickest, just over three-tenths of a second adrift. Caldarelli and Beretta finished the second practice session fifth, with Ghandour and Altoè just behind in sixth.

Caldarelli and Beretta remained the highest place Lamborghini in qualifying, taking pole position with a time of 1m34.097. Goikhberg and Pepper managed the third best time, with Altoè/Ghandour 13th, Jason Harward and Madison Snow 14th ahead of Zelus Motorsports team-mates Jeff Burton and Corey Lewis in 15th.

Beretta got a great getaway as the green flag flew and led the #3 car of Goikhberg into the first corner as the front-row starting Mercedes had a slow launch off the start. The pack soon bunched up at the start of the second lap as race organisers threw a full course yellow following an opening lap incident. At the restart, Beretta replicated his original getaway as Goikhberg fended off a strong attack from the BMW of Michael Dinan at Turn 1.

Beretta quickly opened up a gap of nearly 20 seconds over Goikhberg before the mandatory driver-change pit window opened. He brought the #1 car into the pits at the first opportunity to swap with Caldarelli, with Goikhberg also coming to change with Pepper. Now at the wheel of the #3 machine, Pepper began to gradually reduce the deficit to Caldarelli, to just under 23 seconds before the race was neutralised for a second time, after a collision between Robby Foley's BMW and the Mercedes of Loris Spinelli.



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The race restarted once more with just over four minutes remaining, with Caldarelli and Pepper leading a Lamborghini one-two to the chequered flag. Caldarelli's victory margin in the end was 5.474 seconds, with Ghandour and Altoè taking fourth place in the Pro-Am category. Caldarelli started race two from sixth and held position for the bulk of the opening stint, while Pepper enjoyed a promising start to the race, running in fourth.

The #1 then moved up to fifth before the pit stop window opened, rejoining with Beretta at the helm in second. Beretta then chased down and passed the Acura of Lamborghini Super Trofeo North America racer Ashton Harrison to grab the lead. From then, it was a case of building a margin over the chasing Acura, which Beretta duly did, eventually coming home some 13 seconds clear at the flag.

Meanwhile, across the pond in Europe, Lamborghini also tasted success in the second round of the International GT Open championship at Paul Ricard in France. Kevin Gilardoni and Glenn van Berlo (Oregon Team) finished second in race two to move into joint second in the standings. The pair are tied on 38 points with the sister car of Leonardo Pulcini and Benjamin Hites.

Photos and videos: media.lamborghini.com

Information on Automobili Lamborghini: www.lamborghini.com



Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. Headquarters

Head of Communication
Tim Bravo
T +39 051 9597611
tim.bravo@lamborghini.com

Brand & Corporate Communication
Clara Magnanini
T +39 051 9597611
clara.magnanini@lamborghini.com

Product & Brand Extension Communication
Rita Passerini
T +39 051 9597611
rita.passerini@lamborghini.com

Motorsport Communication
Francesco Colla
T +39 051 2156850
extern.francesco.colla@lamborghini.com

Polo Storico & Heritage
Massimo Delbo
T +39 3331619942
massimo@delbo.us

Regional Offices

Europe, Middle East & Africa
Emanuele Camerini
T +39 342 567 5842
emanuele.camerini@lamborghini.com

Chinese Mainland, Hong Kong & Macau
Ma Weichao (Ms.) 马唯超
T +86 138 1009 5399
weichao.ma@lamborghini.com

North & South America
Jory Wood Syed
T +1 332 220 5217
jory.syed@lamborghini.us

United Kingdom
Juliet Jarvis
T +44 (0) 7733 224774
juliet@jjc.uk.com

Japan
Yasuki Yamagishi
T +81 801 1343 7756
yasuki.yamagishi@lamborghini.com

South-East Asia & Pacific
Alethea Tan
T +658711 1329
alethea.tan@lamborghini.com

Asia Pacific
Tricia Tan
T +65 9073 3031
tricia.tan@lamborghini.com