



www.andysoucek.com   prensa@andysoucek.com

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Andy Soucek makes a solid debut with the new Bentley Continental GT3

The competitive debut of the 2018 spec Bentley Continental has been highly encouraging. Even though the final result was not fully up to expectations, the sensations and race pace have been very positive.

Thanks to a great job by the Bentley Boys and Team M-Sport, during the first free practice sessions the set-up of the car was steadily improved. During Qualifying on Sunday morning, they were in the Top 10 and only two tenths behind the pole setter, in a session where the first fifteen cars all set lap times barely within a half-second margin.

Vincent Abril took the start from P9 and was up to the surrounding cars' pace well during the early stages of the race. When approaching the end of his stint, the car started to develop ABS issues, which may be expected in the debut race for a new car, but which cost him some positions. When entering pits for the first driver and tyre change, car #8 had a teething problem which was solved quickly by the Team. This saw them losing several laps with the race leaders when there were still almost two hours left to the finish line. Soucek was the quickest car during his stint setting a great pace, and scoring the fourth fastest laptime of the race. Both cars saw the checkered flag without any further problem, making Bentley Team M-Sport proud of the debut performance of the new Continental GT3.

Soucek comments on his weekend:

"We are highly satisfied with the performance of our new car, as all the data we have gathered show a very positive picture, and our stint times were among the best in the field. Mishaps may occur in a debut race, but we have worked very hard and have been rewarded for it.

It's obvious that there is still some work to do, but the overall feeling is very good and I have been very comfortable with the car. We hope to take a further step forward in our steady progression at Silverstone, our next race."

Before returning to the Endurance Series however, Soucek has travelled to Virginia (U.S.A.) for the second race of the SprintX Series in America with Team K-PAX.

Next weekend, Soucek will be driving a Continental GT3 for K-PAX Racing for two hour-long races, the schedule being as follows:

Race 1: Saturday, 21:40 CET

Race 2: Sunday 19:50 CET

Live streaming will be available for both races via: <http://world-challenge.com/streamvideo/>



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Miguel A. Moreno

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