



Front row start for Minassian at the 'Ring

Nicolas Minassian put in six consecutive quick laps in qualifying for the 1000km of Nurburgring this afternoon, his first flying lap vaulting him into second place on the grid and despite shaving nearly three tenths of a second off his own time on his last flying lap, it was still not quite good enough to challenge Team Zytek for the pole position.

Minassian ended the session on a best time of 1:44.965 with only the Frenchman and the Zytek entry making it into the one minute 44s and a half a second quicker than the third place Pescarolo Sport C60.

"We have been on the front row of the grid in all [LMES] races this year - sometimes first, sometimes second, but come the race that doesn't really make much difference. The traffic will be bad here because we are so much quicker than the GT cars, but it is good for overtaking so from second on the grid we should have a good view."

The Zytek Motorsport team have been at the top of the timesheets in every session so far here this weekend, but Minassian and Creation Autosportif will be looking to change that come the race tomorrow and score their maiden victory.

"We spent some time this morning fine tuning the car," explained Minassian. "We still have a little bit of understeer, but it is not affecting our speed, the car is great to drive. Tomorrow is all about win, win, win, win, win!!" Said a very upbeat, but determined Minassian.

Warm up commences at 8.30 CET with the green flag falling on the six hour event at 11.45 CET.

Editorial Notes

Nicolas Minassian, 32, lives in England with his wife Jayne. Minassian was runner up in the French F3 Championship in 1995, British F3 in 1997 and the FIA F3000 Championship in 2000. He has tested with both Williams and Honda in Formula One and competed in the Champ Car World Series with Ganassi Racing before taking the 2002 ASCAR title with RML. With Creation Autosportif, Minassian was a front-runner in the inaugural four-round LMES Championship and will contest the series once again in 2005 for the team as well as driving in their Le Mans 24 hrs debut.

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