



Front row start for Minassian

Just two hundredths of a second separated the Creation Autosportif DBA of Nicolas Minassian (2:21.095) and the Pescarolo Sport machine (2:21.076) driven by Jean-Christophe Bouillon, during a very wet qualifying session at Spa Francorchamps this afternoon.

In the twenty minute session the two drivers battled for supremacy on the drenched circuit with virtually nothing to choose between them. Minassian will start the race tomorrow from second on the grid, the small margin keeping the talented Frenchman from scoring back to back poles at the challenging Belgian track.

Minassian feels he could have improved on his qualifying time, but was unlucky in traffic towards the end of the run. "It is the same for everyone so I can't complain, but it would have been nice to be on pole again this year."

"Heading into tomorrow things look very good," continued Minassian. "It just goes to show that when it matters we are competitive and it will be no different in the race. We adjusted the front roll bar a little this morning to account for the wet conditions and everything is just right. So lets go racing!!"

Minassian's British team-mate, Jamie Campbell-Walter, ran in the final practice session this morning and is also highly optimistic going into the race.

"If it rains we are in with a very good chance of the win, but don't right us off if it's dry either," said Campbell-Walter. "The car is very predictable and our reliability is good."

Warm up begins at 8.30 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 took the LMES Championship by storm in the inaugural four-round series in 2004 and stays with the team for 2005.

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