17th November 2012

**YOKOHAMA Tyre Macau Grand Prix 2012 Race Report Vol. 3**

Day 3 of the 59th Macau Grand Prix started with wet condition. It did not rain again, but stayed cloudy through the day, almost all cars would use dry tyres.

The first race of the day was The Hotel Fortuna MAC / HKG inter-port race, held between Hong Kong and Macau drivers. Almost of all cars started on dry tyres in slightly wet condition. Safety cars lead the race cars in the first 2 laps because of the wet surface. Macau driver, Chou keng kuan (Honda Integra) kept top position from pole; he successfully won in the difficult conditions. Top runners were running with YOKOHAMA tyres, and all the podium was captured by them.

A lot of high power-tuning cars were competing in the Suncity Group Macau Road Sport Challenge, with 22 cars running on YOKOHAMA tyres. The race also started with the safety car leading. A Chnese driver Han HAN (Subaru Impreza) kept second position until the middle of the race but unfortunately, he lost time because of another car’s accident, and dropped to 4th position. Thailands driver Nattavude CHAROENSUKHA WATANA (Mitsubishi Lancer EVO9) leapt up from 6th position to 2nd. CHAROENSUK kept charging to aim for the top, and he went inside of the top at the final corner on the final lap. However, he lost by a hair, and finished 2nd.

CTM Macau Touring Car Cup saw 30 cars on track, 29 running on YOKOHAMA. Paul POON (Chevrolet Lacetti) achieved pole to win in this race. This is one of the tyre competition races, but all top rankers were choosing YOKOHAMA tyres, and they swept the podium.

Lucas Di GRASSI, on YOKOHAMA, in his Ferrari 458 GT3 got 2nd position with 2:21.512 in qualifying-2 for the CITY OF DREAMS MACAU GT CUP. The series leader of the GT ASIA, MOK Weng Sun (Ferrari 458 GT3) was the best-performing of that series held on YOKOHAMA tyres, recording 7th overall.

The qualification race of SJM F3 Macau Grand Prix was held under cloudy skies. This qualification race would decide the grid of the final race on Sunday.

Felix ROSENQVIST (Dallara-Mercedes) made a brilliant start to jump from fourth on the grid into an early lead. Antonio DA COSTA (Dallara-Volkswagen), started form 2nd on the grid, took hold of the top position at Lisboa corener. Alex LYNN (Dallara-Mercedes) who started from pole position of the qualification race, dropped to 3rd. These top 3 cars kept positions through the race. Carlos SAINZ Junior (Dallara-Volkswagen), 6th in this year’s British F3 int’l Series, and Daniel JUNCADELLA (Dallara-Mercedes), the winner of 2011 Macau Grand Prix and Euro F3 series this year, were competing for 4th position very closely.

Finally, DA COSTA won the race and got pole position for the final. ROSENQVIST finished 2nd and took a place on the front low. LYNN was 3rd, and SAINZ Junior finished 4th; JUNCADELLA was 5th.

Weather reports forecast it could be rainy tomorrow. It will be tough to survive, and win the laurel for every driver. The race will start at 15:30 on Sunday.

Explanations on the Macau Grand Prix, race information and more are available at

YOKOHAMA’s special Website: <http://www.advan.com/english/event/macaugp/>