

#### FARFUS BEATS HUFF IN TESTING

Augusto Farfus topped the timesheet of today's thirty minute private testing session. As the field had chance to re-familiarise themselves with the Porto track, the BMW Team Germany man completed a lap in 2:10.161 on his final attempt.

There was a surge of fast final laps with Chevrolet's Robert Huff (2:10.590) and Alain Menu (2:10.840) posting the second and third best times. Despite a spell as the fastest Nicola Larini, in his Chevrolet Cruze, was eventually sixth quickest overall. Gabriele Tarquini was the fastest man in a SEAT sport car as he clocked a 2:10.886 with five minutes of the session left. His team-mate and local man Tiago Monteiro achieved the fifth best time (2:11.092). BMW duo Jörg Müller and Andy Priaulx were seventh and eighth fastest followed by a pair of SEATs in the form of Rickard Rydell and Jordi Gené.

Tom Coronel and Stefano D'Aste were the leaders of the Independent category. D'Aste was 12<sup>th</sup> fastest overall with a time of 2:12.099 but Coronel went three tenths of a second better to claim 11<sup>th</sup> spot. However the Dutchman went straight on at turn 8 towards the end of the session and did not rejoin. James Thompson had gearbox troubles with his new LADA Priora which meant he had to return to the pits after just one lap. His team-mates van Lagen and Ladygin were 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> respectively in the old 110 cars.



Augusto Farfus set the fastest time in today's testing at Porto

#### THE MAYOR OF PORTO VISITS THE Paddock

While the WTCC teams were getting ready for this weekend's event, yesterday afternoon Porto's Mayor Mr Rui Rio paid an official visit to the paddock of the Circuito da Boavista. The Mayor was welcomed by WTCC promoter Marcello Lotti, the event promoter Vitor Ferreira of PA Leading, representatives of the Portuguese National Sporting Authority FPAK and local driver Tiago Monteiro.

After posing for the cameras of the local media inside the FIA hospitality, Lotti and Monteiro escorted the Mayor and press representatives along the pit lane to visit the teams' stands. Mr Rui was especially impressed when Monteiro showed him his SEAT racing cars.



Tiago Monteiro shows his office to Porto's Mayor Rui Rio

### **LADA PRESENT NEW CAR AND DRIVER**

The LADA Sport team held a press conference in the paddock today to unveil a new car and new driver. James Thompson will take to the wheel of the LADA PRIORA at Porto for its inaugural outing.

Alexey Sorokin Marketing Director for LADA Avtovaz commented : *"From the very beginning of this season we have been working on the car. Each race helped us gather all the necessary information for our engineers. We hope our team will take a step forward."*



Thompson, van Lagen and Ladygin with the new LADA Priora

### WTCC APPOINTS PERMANENT SAFETY CAR DRIVER

Bruno Correia has been appointed as permanent safety car driver for the FIA World Touring Car Championship.

Correia, 32-years old from the Algarve region in Portugal, boasts a successful racing CV that includes titles in the Portuguese Formula Ford Championship (1994) and the Spanish Formula Renault 2000 Championship (1996). He also spent seasons in the Americas, taking part in the USA's Formula Dodge Barber Pro-Series and becoming vice-champion in the Brazilian Superturismos. Last year he started acting as safety car driver for the Club ACDME at the Estoril and Algarve racetracks.

Correia was successfully tested during the WTCC event in Brno, where he performed a number of interventions in WTCC, F2 and the support races.

### DOUBLE EUROPEAN CHAMPION JOINS WTCC

Michel Nykjær, double winner of the FIA European Touring Car Cup, will make his maiden WTCC appearance in Oschersleben.

*"I can hardly believe that I will participate in a WTCC event. These are the guys that I watch on Eurosport and now I have the chance to test myself against them,"* said Nykjær, who won the 2007 ETCC at Adria driving a SEAT León and encored last year at the Austrian Salzburgring in a Chevrolet Lacetti.

*"Our goal is to compete with the best independents and we hope that the races in Oschersleben may propel our team towards a full WTCC campaign,"* team manager Kent Bo Steffensen stated.

Chevrolet Motorsport Denmark's priority for the current season remains the Danish Touring Car Championship in which their drivers Michel Nykjær and Henrik Lundgaard are currently placed second and third behind James Thompson.

### MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR BRANDS HATCH – LAST DAYS

Rounds 15 and 16 of the 2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Brands Hatch, UK, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July.

**The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> July.**

**Please remember that media passes issued by National Sporting Authorities and/or any other series will NOT be valid.**

The Accreditation form may be downloaded at the websites [www.fia.com](http://www.fia.com) and [www.fiawtcc.com](http://www.fiawtcc.com).

- **International Press** must send applications to Fabio Ravaioli  
tel +39 06 39729497, fax +39 06 39729470, email: [media@fiawtcc.com](mailto:media@fiawtcc.com)
- **British Press** must send applications to Laura Stevens  
tel: +01474 875206, fax: 01474 874766, email: [laura.stevens@motorsportvision.co.uk](mailto:laura.stevens@motorsportvision.co.uk)
- **TV and Radio** must send applications to Antonios Argyropoulos  
tel +33 1 40938517; email: [antonios@eurosport.com](mailto:antonios@eurosport.com)

**COUNTDOWN: - 2 DAYS**



to the 2009 FIA WTCC Race of Portugal – 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> July in Porto

## 2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship TESTING

POS	NO	CL	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH
1	8		Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si	2:10.161	12		131.92
2	11		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	2:10.590	11	0.429	131.49
3	12		Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	2:10.840	11	0.679	131.24
4	2		Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	2:10.886	12	0.725	131.19
5	5		Tiago MONTEIRO	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	2:11.092	11	0.931	130.99
6	14		Nicola LARINI	ITA	Chevrolet Cruze	2:11.176	11	1.015	130.90
7	7		Jorg MULLER	GER	BMW 320si	2:11.586	12	1.425	130.50
8	6		Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	2:11.640	13	1.479	130.44
9	3		Rickard RYDELL	SWE	SEAT Leon TDI	2:11.784	12	1.623	130.30
10	4		Jordi GENE	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	2:11.949	11	1.788	130.14
11	21	I	Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon	2:12.062	10	1.901	130.03
12	27	I	Stefano D'ASTE	ITA	BMW 320si	2:12.099	11	1.938	129.99
13	1		Yvan MULLER	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	2:12.298	9	2.137	129.79
14	9		Alessandro ZANARDI	ITA	BMW 320si	2:12.689	11	2.528	129.41
15	18		Jaap van LAGEN	NED	LADA 110	2:13.063	10	2.902	129.05
16	23	I	Felix PORTEIRO	ESP	BMW 320si	2:13.225	12	3.064	128.89
17	10		Sergio HERNANDEZ	ESP	BMW 320si	2:13.459	11	3.298	128.66
18	22	I	Tom BOARDMAN	GBR	SEAT Leon	2:14.435	12	4.274	127.73
19	25	I	Franz ENGSTLER	GER	BMW 320si	2:14.549	12	4.388	127.62
20	30	I	Mehdi BENNANI	MAR	SEAT Leon	2:15.053	12	4.892	127.15
21	19		Kirill LADYGIN	RUS	LADA 110	2:15.099	12	4.938	127.10
22	26	I	Kristian POULSEN	DEN	BMW 320si	2:15.776	11	5.615	126.47
23	35	I	Diego PUYO	ESP	SEAT Leon	2:15.942	6	5.781	126.31

Car 36 completed 2 laps into the pits.  
Weather/Track: Overcast 22°/Dry 31°

Circuito da Boavista  
Circuit Length = 4.7700 km.  
Start: 15:00 End: 15:30

Race Director:	Steward:	Timekeeper:
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