

**ROUNDS 7 & 8 – PAU, FRANCE**  
**QUALIFYING REPORT**

*Weather:* sunny and warm, the track was dry.

**PRIAULX ON POLE AFTER 30 MONTHS**

Andy Priaulx has claimed his first pole since Macau 2006. The BMW Team UK man was among the front runners during both practice sessions and qualifying and put in a stunning 1:22.462 when it mattered in Q2. He demoted BMW team-mate Augusto Farfus by just 11 thousandths of a second. Tom Coronel defied odds in taking part in Q2 after the front of his car was severely damaged in Q1. However, after sterling work from his team and determination behind the wheel he will line up a magnificent third tomorrow.

Q1 – While it was a BMW at the top of the timesheet for the majority of the Q1, on the last lap Robert Huff from Chevrolet stormed through with a 1:22.900 stealing the quickest time away from Priaulx by 0.042 of a second. Jörg Müller (1:22.960) and Augusto Farfus (1:23.201) went into Q2 as third and fourth best. Tom Coronel had great pace and was sitting fifth at the end of Q1. However, at this time his team was repairing his car for Q2 after he incurred damage with seven minutes remaining. Leading man Huff's team-mates Larini and Menu both made the cut after claiming the sixth and seventh best times. Independent drivers Félix Porteiro and Franz Engstler along with Sergio Hernández made up the top ten, narrowly denying Alessandro Zanardi and Stefano D'Aste progression into Q2.

All the five SEAT Sport turbodiesel cars remained out of the Q2 for the first time.

Q2 – Tom Coronel was the man to beat for the opening half of the session after he clocked a 1:22.917. However, Farfus knocked the Dutchman off provisional pole by a sturdy four tenths of a second. The Brazilian's time of 1:22.473 seemed good enough to set him up at the front for Race 1 until Priaulx bettered it by just 0.011 seconds. Coronel's time secured third place on the grid alongside Jörg Müller. A trio of Chevrolets followed from fifth to seventh; Huff (1:23.097), Menu (1:23.128) and Larini (1:23.282).

**FLASH NEWS**

**PRACTICE 1 – JÖRG MÜLLER SETS THE PACE**

BMW Team Germany set the pace. Jörg Müller clocked the fastest time of 1:23.522 with Augusto Farfus 0.203 of a second slower. Andy Priaulx was ousted from the top three by Yvan Muller's 1:23.746.

Towards the end of the session, Independent driver Marin Čolak set a brilliant 1:24.356 which equated to seventh overall and the best in his category. However, behind him were competitors Tom Coronel, Tom Boardman and Félix Porteiro.

**PRACTICE 2 – PRIAULX TOPS TIME SHEET**

The BMW cars rose to the top once again. Andy Priaulx set the pace with a 1:23.396 followed by Jörg Müller and Augusto Farfus who were 0.172 and 0.213 slower respectively. Tom Coronel was the best of the rest with a time of 1:23.871.



Alain Menu headed the Chevrolet team as fifth fastest with a time of 1:23.894. His team-mates Larini and Huff were 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> overall.

#### ZANARDI AND D'ASTE CRASH AT THE MONUMENT

BMW Team Italy-Spain and Wiechers-Sport worked hard to repair Alessandro Zanardi's and Stefano D'Aste's cars after they crashed during the first practice causing a red flag. Both drivers missed the second practice, but took part in qualifying.

Zanardi hit the barriers at Virage Foch and blocked the track, leaving nowhere for D'Aste to go; Zanardi commented: *"It was my mistake. I was still taking it easy and lost concentration, I kept on caressing the throttle where I should have braked. I hit the kerbs and lost control. D'Aste could not avoid me."*

#### GRID PENALTY FOR GENÉ AND D'ASTE

Jordi Gené and Stefano D'Aste will be demoted by ten positions on the starting grid for tomorrow's Race 1.

Both drivers have been penalised by the Stewards following an engine change. The team Wiechers-Sport was forced to change the unit on D'Aste BMW's because of his crash with Zanardi in the first free practice.

#### PAU'S GOLDEN MEDALIST VISITS BMW

Pau's olympic pride, canoeist Tony Estanguet, double gold medalist of C1 Slalom in Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004, was invited by BMW to visit the WTCC paddock.

At the hospitality of the German manufacturer Estanguet attended the launch of the new BMW Z4 for regional dealers.

#### THEY SAID, THEY SAID...

Andy PRIAULX

*"I'm delighted and it's a great feeling to be on pole again. Like every street track you have to be confident with your braking. The car felt good in the practice sessions and we made good progress in qualifying too. This success is important for the championship and BMW. Part of the job is done and now we have to win both races to claw back the point deficit."*

Augusto FARFUS

*"One tenth of a second is nothing and yet enough to lose pole. I struggled at the beginning of the weekend so P2 is more than I expected and I am very happy. You never know what qualifying in this championship will bring and it is still early in the weekend so we will work hard for success."*

Tom CORONEL

*"There is something about street circuits and me, I love them. In Marrakech we missed out due to the red flag so in this qualifying I went straight for a fast lap. I didn't expect to be part of Q2 but I saw my team put my car back together in front of my eyes so thanks to them. It's nice to be at the front for SEAT and hope to get some points for them and myself."*

**2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship  
QUALIFYING 1 - PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH
1	11		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	1:22.900	7		119.85
2	6		Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	1:22.942	13	0.042	119.79
3	7		Jorg MULLER	GER	BMW 320si	1:22.960	14	0.060	119.76
4	8		Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si	1:23.201	9	0.301	119.42
5	21	I	Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon	1:23.375	9	0.475	119.17
6	14		Nicola LARINI	ITA	Chevrolet Cruze	1:23.425	8	0.525	119.10
7	12		Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	1:23.516	7	0.616	118.97
8	23	I	Felix PORTEIRO	ESP	BMW 320si	1:23.577	15	0.677	118.88
9	25	I	Franz ENGSTLER	GER	BMW 320si	1:23.625	7	0.725	118.81
10	10		Sergio HERNANDEZ	ESP	BMW 320si	1:23.768	13	0.868	118.61
11	9		Alessandro ZANARDI	ITA	BMW 320si	1:23.806	17	0.906	118.56
12	27	I	Stefano D'ASTE	ITA	BMW 320si	1:23.807	15	0.907	118.55
13	28	I	Marin COLAK	CRO	SEAT Leon	1:23.815	14	0.915	118.54
14	30	I	Mehdi BENNANI	MAR	SEAT Leon	1:23.929	13	1.029	118.38
15	3		Rickard RYDELL	SWE	SEAT Leon TDI	1:24.118	10	1.218	118.12
16	4		Jordi GENE	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	1:24.284	10	1.384	117.88
17	2		Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:24.506	9	1.606	117.57
18	1		Yvan MULLER	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	1:24.552	9	1.652	117.51
19	33	I	Laurent CAZENAVE	FRA	BMW 320si	1:24.621	12	1.721	117.41
20	29	I	Eric CAYROLLE	FRA	SEAT Leon	1:24.742	17	1.842	117.25
21	5		Tiago MONTEIRO	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	1:24.874	10	1.974	117.06
22	18		Jaap van LAGEN	NED	LADA 110	1:24.925	8	2.025	116.99
23	26	I	Kristian POULSEN	DEN	BMW 320si	1:25.280	15	2.380	116.51
24	22	I	Tom BOARDMAN	GBR	SEAT Leon	1:25.299	4	2.399	116.48
25	19		Kirill LADYGIN	RUS	LADA 110	1:25.457	15	2.557	116.26
26	20		Viktor SHAPOVALOV	RUS	LADA 110	1:26.054	9	3.154	115.46

QUALIFICATION MAXIMA 1:28.703

Pau

Circuit Length = 2.7600 km.

Start: 15:00 End: 15:30

Weather/Track: Sun 24°/Dry 23°

Race Director:	Steward:	Timekeeper:	Issued at:
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**2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship  
QUALIFYING 2 - PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH
1	6		Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	1:22.462	6		120.49
2	8		Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si	1:22.473	9	0.011	120.47
3	21	I	Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon	1:22.917	6	0.455	119.83
4	7		Jorg MULLER	GER	BMW 320si	1:23.051	6	0.589	119.63
5	11		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	1:23.097	6	0.635	119.57
6	12		Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	1:23.128	6	0.666	119.52
7	14		Nicola LARINI	ITA	Chevrolet Cruze	1:23.282	6	0.820	119.30
8	10		Sergio HERNANDEZ	ESP	BMW 320si	1:23.649	7	1.187	118.78
9	23	I	Felix PORTEIRO	ESP	BMW 320si	1:24.176	4	1.714	118.03
10	25	I	Franz ENGSTLER	GER	BMW 320si	1:24.442	4	1.980	117.66

Subject to technical scrutineering.

Weather/Track: Sun 24°/Dry 23°

Pau

Circuit Length = 2.7600 km.

Start: 15:35 End: 15:50

Race Director:	Steward:	Timekeeper:	Issued at:
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