

ROUNDS 7 & 8 – PAU, FRANCE RACE REPORT

Weather: overcast, with a dry track

TWO MORE WINS FOR CHEVROLET IN PAU

Robert Huff and Alain Menu claimed two victories for Chevrolet on the infamous streets of Pau, extending the new Cruze's winning streak to four.

Huff and Menu were able to be in the right place at the right moment, when Farfus went wide on the oil in Race 1 and when Engstler had an incident with the safety car in Race 2. Then they both used the best of their skills and the narrow track to keep Augusto Farfus behind.

The Brazilian youngster, as well as his fellow BMW driver Andy Priaulx, scored important points for the German manufacturer and they climbed positions in the standing although they still have to claim a win.

SEAT's weekend was the worst they have had in a long time. However Yvan Muller and Gabriele Tarquini managed to score some points that might prove crucial for the rest of the season.

The championship will resume in Valencia, Spain, on May 31st, for rounds 9 and 10.

FINAL UPDATE

After the technical checks, the following cars were found not complying with the engine speed limit and /or the supercharged air pressure: n. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 29, 30 and 33.

The Stewards, taking into account the exceptional circumstances and confusion, decided to impose a reprimand to the competitors concerned, who were reminded that their cars must comply with all the technical regulations for the remaining events of the season.

RACE 1 – ROB HUFF WINS AGAIN

Robert Huff took his second win in three races for Chevrolet. The Briton got a great start from third and overtook Farfus who hit some oil and went wide at Pont Oscar on lap 2. Huff led the pack for the remaining 17 laps with Augusto Farfus and Jörg Müller having to settle for second and third despite applying constant pressure on the front man. Perseverance paid out for Andy Priaulx who crossed the line fourth, having passed Alain Menu on lap 12. Spaniard Sergio Hernández made good progress in the second half of the race to secure fifth place overall with fellow countryman Félix Porteiro winning the Independent category in 6th overall, however he was eventually excluded by the Stewards for hitting Coronel. Franz Engstler inherited the Independents' victory and sixth place, while Menu came home eighth to start Race 2 on pole.

Man of the race

Robert Huff has come into form over the past two events. After a race win in Marrakech the man from Cambridgeshire kept momentum at Pau and was on the pace for qualifying. A good start and capitalisation on Farfus' bad luck was enough to give him lead in Race 1 but the win was not easy. With Farfus and Müller hot on his tail and light rain from lap seven, Huff's cool head served him well.

Key moment

At Pont Oscar on lap two the then leader Augusto Farfus hit a patch of oil and went wide allowing Robert Huff to take the lead and eventual win. The Brazilian explained "The BMW



goes into turn three in a higher gear than the Chevrolet. I lost momentum because of the oil and Huff had better acceleration.”

Both Huff and Farfus agreed the BMW was the faster car and could have won the race if it were not for the oil taking Farfus wide.

Withdrawals

N. Larini: race incident; K. Ladygin: race incident; L. Cazenave: clutch; S. D’Aste: race incident; J. Van Lagen: power steering.

RACE 2 – MENU ENCORES FOR CHEVROLET

Chevrolet achieved their fourth consecutive win and this time it was Alain Menu on the top podium spot. He was joined by team-mate Robert Huff who crossed the line third and Augusto Farfus from BMW Team Germany took second place just as in Race 1.

The race was suspended when Franz Engstler crashed with the safety car. The incident is being investigated by the Stewards.

During the first lap Félix Porteiro hit Sergio Hernández with the later not being able to rejoin. Porteiro was given a drive-through penalty. Jörg Müller and Andy Priaulx also made contact with each other in lap one. While Priaulx continued and crossed the line fourth, Müller received a drive-through penalty for pitting during the suspension of the race and finished 18th. Alessandro Zanardi stormed through the pack to achieve fifth place and SEAT Sport men Gabriele Tarquini and Yvan Muller scored points in sixth and seventh.

The race ended under the red flags with one lap remaining after Eric Cayrolle and Nicola Larini, who were battling for eighth spot, were involved in a collision.

Man of the race

Local man Eric Cayrolle from SUNRED Engineering battled with bravado in Race 2. He started the race 10th and managed to hold his own despite this weekend being his first in the SEAT León. Not only did Cayrolle win the Independent trophy in the race, he claimed eighth place. A successful home appearance to say the least.

Key moment

Andy Priaulx and Jörg Müller began Race 2 from fifth and sixth on the grid. With this in mind a win for either wouldn’t have been out of the question. However, on lap one at the Railway hairpin, Müller was on the outside of Priaulx who drove wide and squeezed the German between his car and the barriers.

Müller was forced to pit for repairs, while the Briton continued to finish fourth but with blistering pace it makes you wonder what he could have achieved without this incident.

Withdrawals

S. D’Aste: did not start; S. Hernández: race incident; F. Engstler: race incident; T. Boardman: race incident; R. Rydell: race incident; M. Bennani: race incident; K. Ladygin: driveshaft.

THE WORD TO THE WINNERS

Robert HUFF – winner of Race 1, third in Race 2

“This win was harder than Marrakech and I’m pleased to take it. I feel for Augusto (Farfus) because he hit some oil as the BMW cars take a tighter line into the corner than we do. I got a really good start and it was good racing out there. I was struggling on the last few laps to keep Augusto behind me but just managed to hold on. It was tough but I am over the moon.”

Alain MENU – 8th in Race 1, winner of Race 2

“For Chevrolet it is fantastic to have won the last four races. I have been unlucky, especially in Marrakech where I could have won Race 2, but here it has worked very well. I knew I had to push hard with Augusto (Farfus) behind me. I drove flat-out the entire race and when you do that you are likely to make mistakes. On paper Augusto could have won the race but I guess it was Chevrolet’s day today.”

2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship
RACE 1 RESULT

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER / TEAM	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH	BEST
1	11		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	27:10.540	19		115.90	1:24.648
2	8		Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si	27:10.801	19	0.261	115.88	1:24.624
3	7		Jorg MULLER	GER	BMW 320si	27:11.432	19	0.892	115.83	1:24.558
4	6		Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	27:11.645	19	1.105	115.82	1:24.196
5	10		Sergio HERNANDEZ	ESP	BMW 320si	27:12.483	19	1.943	115.76	1:24.005
6	25	I	Franz ENGSTLER	GER	BMW 320si	27:20.084	19	9.544	115.22	1:24.605
7	12		Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	27:20.090	19	9.550	115.22	1:24.607
8	21	I	Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon	27:21.590	19	11.050	115.12	1:24.543
9	22	I	Tom BOARDMAN	GBR	SEAT Leon	27:34.523	19	23.983	114.22	1:24.521
10	29	I	Eric CAYROLLE	FRA	SEAT Leon	27:42.044	19	31.504	113.70	1:24.895
11	1		Yvan MULLER	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	27:42.577	19	32.037	113.66	1:25.386
12	2		Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	27:43.025	19	32.485	113.63	1:25.362
13	3		Rickard RYDELL	SWE	SEAT Leon TDI	27:43.862	19	33.322	113.58	1:25.067
14	5		Tiago MONTEIRO	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	27:44.607	19	34.067	113.52	1:25.241
15	26	I	Kristian POULSEN	DEN	BMW 320si	27:45.363	19	34.823	113.47	1:25.070
16	4		Jordi GENE	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	27:47.355	19	36.815	113.34	1:25.276
17	20		Viktor SHAPOVALOV	RUS	LADA 110	28:04.560	19	54.020	112.18	1:26.433
18	30	I	Mehdi BENNANI	MAR	SEAT Leon	28:05.410	19	54.870	112.12	1:24.421
19	28	I	Marin COLAK	CRO	SEAT Leon	27:59.433	18	1 LAP	106.61	1:25.521

NOT CLASSIFIED

18			Jaap van LAGEN	NED	LADA 110	19:31.461	13	D.N.F.	110.43	
27	I		Stefano D'ASTE	ITA	BMW 320si	17:35.928	12	D.N.F.	113.10	
9			Alessandro ZANARDI	ITA	BMW 320si	28:10.874	12	N.C.F.	70.63	
33	I		Laurent CAZENAVE	FRA	BMW 320si	6:30.458	4	D.N.F.	102.29	
14			Nicola LARINI	ITA	Chevrolet Cruze	27:49.159	2	N.C.F.	12.02	
19			Kirill LADYGIN	RUS	LADA 110		0	D.N.F.	N/A	

FASTEST LAP

10			Sergio HERNANDEZ		BMW 320si	1:24.005	6	73.49mph	118.27
30	I		Mehdi BENNANI		SEAT Leon	1:24.421	4	73.13mph	117.69

Car 23 Excluded, Stewards decision No. 21 refers.

Pau

Circuit Length = 2.7600 km.

Start: End:

Steward:	Steward:	Steward:	Issued at:
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**2009 FIA World Touring Car Championship
RACE 2 RESULT**

POS	NO	CLS	DRIVER / TEAM	NAT	CAR	TIME	LAPS	GAP	KPH	BEST
1	12		Alain MENU	SUI	Chevrolet Cruze	52:22.260	18		56.98	1:24.072
2	8		Augusto FARFUS	BRA	BMW 320si	52:22.611	18	0.351	56.97	1:23.722
3	11		Robert HUFF	GBR	Chevrolet Cruze	52:25.326	18	3.066	56.92	1:23.956
4	6		Andy PRIAULX	GBR	BMW 320si	52:25.585	18	3.325	56.92	1:23.798
5	9		Alessandro ZANARDI	ITA	BMW 320si	52:38.413	18	16.153	56.68	1:24.510
6	2		Gabriele TARQUINI	ITA	SEAT Leon TDI	52:39.988	18	17.728	56.66	1:24.962
7	1		Yvan MULLER	FRA	SEAT Leon TDI	52:41.946	18	19.686	56.62	1:25.058
8	29	I	Eric CAYROLLE	FRA	SEAT Leon	52:44.685	18	22.425	56.57	1:24.985
9	14		Nicola LARINI	ITA	Chevrolet Cruze	52:44.841	18	22.581	56.57	1:24.842
10	26	I	Kristian POULSEN	DEN	BMW 320si	52:45.557	18	23.297	56.56	1:24.802
11	5		Tiago MONTEIRO	POR	SEAT Leon TDI	52:50.507	18	28.247	56.47	1:25.225
12	4		Jordi GENE	ESP	SEAT Leon TDI	52:52.038	18	29.778	56.44	1:25.140
13	18		Jaap van LAGEN	NED	LADA 110	52:56.355	18	34.095	56.36	1:25.359
14	33	I	Laurent CAZENAVE	FRA	BMW 320si	53:01.250	18	38.990	56.28	1:24.673
15	20		Viktor SHAPOVALOV	RUS	LADA 110	53:06.662	18	44.402	56.18	1:25.558
16	28	I	Marin COLAK	CRO	SEAT Leon	53:14.699	18	52.439	56.04	1:25.519
17	23	I	Felix PORTEIRO	ESP	BMW 320si	52:18.698	17	1 LAP	53.87	1:24.588
18	7		Jorg MULLER	GER	BMW 320si	52:49.996	17	1 LAP	53.34	1:23.488
19	21	I	Tom CORONEL	NED	SEAT Leon	52:17.870	15	3 LAPS	47.56	1:25.329

NOT CLASSIFIED

30	I	Mehdi BENNANI	MAR	SEAT Leon	43:01.758	11	D.N.F.	42.41
3		Rickard RYDELL	SWE	SEAT Leon TDI	42:10.379	10	D.N.F.	39.34
19		Kirill LADYGIN	RUS	LADA 110	40:14.442	9	D.N.F.	37.11
25	I	Franz ENGSTLER	GER	BMW 320si	1:31.639	1	D.N.F.	110.58
22	I	Tom BOARDMAN	GBR	SEAT Leon	3:51.258	1	D.N.F.	43.82
10		Sergio HERNANDEZ	ESP	BMW 320si		0	D.N.F.	N/A

FASTEST LAP

7		Jorg MULLER		BMW 320si	1:23.488	6	73.95mph	119.01
30	I	Mehdi BENNANI		SEAT Leon	1:24.356	8	73.18mph	117.78

Pau

Circuit Length = 2.7600 km.

Start: End:

Steward:	Steward:	Steward:	Issued at:
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2009 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP - DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

position	# - driver	Curitiba (BRA)		Puebla (MEX)		Marrakech (MAR)		Pau (FRA)		Valencia (ESP)		Brno (CZE)		Porto (POR)		Brands Hatch (GBR)		Oschersleben (GER)		Imola (ITA)		Ookayama (JPN)		Macau (CHN)		TOTAL
		8 March	8 March	22 March	22 March	3 May	3 May	17 May	17 May	31 May	31 May	21 June	21 June	5 July	5 July	19 July	19 July	6 September	6 September	20 September	20 September	1 November	1 November	22 November	22 November	
1	Yvan MULLER (FRA)	10	5	5	10	5	8	0	2																	45
2	Augusto FARFUS (BRA)	4	3	8	5	0	3	8	8																	39
3	Gabriele TARQUINI (ITA)	5	10	3	1	8	4	0	3																	34
4	Robert HUFF (GBR)	0	0	0	0	10	6	10	6																	32
5	Rickard RYDELL (SWE)	6	8	10	6	0	0	0	0																	30
6	Andy PRIAULX (GBR)	2	0	6	8	0	0	5	5																	26
7	Jordi GENÉ (ESP)	8	6	2	2	6	0	0	0																	24
8	Jörg MÜLLER (GER)	0	4	4	0	1	5	6	0																	20
9	Nicola LARINI (ITA)	0	0	1	0	3	10	0	0																	14
10	Alain MENU (SUI)	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	10																	14
11	Sergio HERNÁNDEZ (ESP)	3	0	0	4	0	0	4	0																	11
12	Alessandro ZANARDI (ITA)	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	4																	7
13	Franz ENGSTLER (GER)	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0																	5
14	Tiago MONTEIRO (POR)	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0																	4
15	Félix PORTEIRO (ESP)	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0																	3
16	Tom CORONEL (NED)	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0																	3
17	Eric CAYROLLE (FRA)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1																	1

2009 FIA WORLD TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP - MANUFACTURERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

position	manufacturer	Curitiba (BRA)		Puebla (MEX)		Marrakech (MAR)		Pau (FRA)		Valencia (ESP)		Brno (CZE)		Porto (POR)		Brands Hatch (GBR)		Oschersleben (GER)		Imola (ITA)		Ookayama (JPN)		Macau (CHN)		TOTAL
		8 March	8 March	22 March	22 March	3 May	3 May	17 May	17 May	31 May	31 May	21 June	21 June	5 July	5 July	19 July	19 July	6 September	6 September	20 September	20 September	1 November	1 November	22 November	22 November	
1	SEAT	18	18	15	16	14	12	7	7																	107
2	BMW	11	11	14	13	7	8	14	13																	91
3	CHEVROLET	2	7	4	7	15	16	15	16																	82
4	LADA	7	3	5	3	3	3	2	3																	29