

Silverstone, Great Britain, 11th July 2010

MORAD SCORES DOMINANT WIN AT SILVERSTONE

GMH Motorsport-backed driver Daniel Morad hit the heights at Silverstone's British Grand Prix meeting on Sunday as he took an emphatic lights-to-flag victory in the GP3 Series' second race of the weekend.

The Canadian-Lebanese driver's triumph is a landmark achievement for Lebanese motorsport, marking its first major international circuit racing win. "This is a fantastic reward for the Auchi family and GMH Motorsport, who I'm very thankful to for putting their faith in me, and also my family and Status," said Morad.

From second place on the grid, Morad got a perfect start to slingshot past polesitter Mirko Bortolotti into a lead he would never lose. The duo ran closely for the first six laps, but Morad withstood the pressure and gradually moved clear. By lap seven, he had established a cushion of more than 1.0sec to the Ferrari Academy Driver, and from there was able to control the race and increased the gap to 5.0sec to win in commanding fashion. The 20-year-old emphasised his dominance by also setting the fastest lap of the race.

The victory, Status GP's first since winning the A1GP World Cup of Motorsport championship in May 2009, elevated Morad to sixth in the drivers' championship and the team to third in the teams' standings.

Status GP managing director David Kennedy said: "We are absolutely delighted for Daniel and GMH Motorsport to score Status GP's first GP3 victory. Team principal Teddy Yip sets the highest standards in everything we do, and it's paying off. The win is a just reward for Teddy, and also Daniel's race engineer and team manager Simon Cayzer and his entire race team who've all contributed so much."

Robert Wickens came from ninth on the grid to grab a sixth-placed finish. Having charged through from 18th on the grid to ninth in race one yesterday, the Canadian's goal in today's race was to secure a podium finish. A brilliant start elevated him to sixth and then he passed Tobias Hegewald for fifth later on the first lap. He then battled hard for seven laps with title rival Esteban Gutierrez, before the Mexican was able to slipstream past and Wickens had to settle for a sixth, which became fifth when Bortolotti received a post-race penalty.

Marussia Motors development driver Ivan Lukashovich suffered his first retirement of the season after he was hit by another car. The 19-year-old Russian, starting from 19th on the grid, leapt up two places at the start, but on the second lap heavily impacted the kerbs at Abbey corner and disturbed the handling of his car. Despite this handicap he continued to battle well in the midfield, but on the penultimate lap he was hit from behind on the Club straight by Pedro Nunes after the Brazilian misjudged his slipstreaming attempt. The impact knocked off Lukashovich's rear-wing and he was powerless to stop the car sliding into the gravel trap.

cont.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact Status GP directly on:

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The Drivers' View**Daniel Morad (LIB): (Result: 1st. Fastest lap: 1m52.95s).**

"That start was something else – as perfect as it gets. That was the key to the race. With clean air out front and a fantastic car that felt so good to drive, it was really a case of building a cushion and then controlling the pace. Once I got over a second ahead of Bortolotti, that was it. We learned a lot yesterday, applied it all today perfectly and setting fastest lap was an excellent bonus."

Robert Wickens (CAN): (Result: 6th. Fastest lap: 1m53.28s).

"It was important for me to past Gutierrez and Rio Haryanto at the start, and once in a points position I elected to try to work towards a podium steadily. But my straight line speed was not enough to fend off Gutierrez, and in the end after the troubles we've had this weekend two points were not a bad result."

Ivan Lukasevich (RUS): (Result: R^{td}. Fastest lap: 1m55.53s).

"I got a good start but once I'd hit the kerb it made the car a real handful. I was fighting hard for positions in the midfield but it a real challenge – but it was going OK until Nunes hit me and I was a passenger."

Drivers' Championship – After 8 Races

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1 Esteban Gutierrez | ART Grand Prix | 51pts |
| 2 Alexander Rossi | ART Grand Prix | 25pts |
| 3 Nico Muller | Jenzer Motorsport | 22pts |
| 4 Rio Haryanto | Manor Racing | 21pts |
| 5 Robert Wickens | Status Grand Prix | 21pts |
| 6 Daniel Morad | Status Grand Prix | 15pts |

Teams' Championship – After 8 Races

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1 ART Grand Prix | 77pts |
| 2 Manor Racing | 36pts |
| 3 Status Grand Prix | 36pts |
| 4 Jenzer Motorsport | 35pts |
| 5 Carlin | 17pts |
| 6 Atech GP | 12pts |

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