

03-15-2011 Sebring International Raceway - 12 Hours of Sebring – Practice News

## **Strong first practice runs for Mike with Genoa Racing at Sebring FL.**

Sebring FL., Tuesday, March 15, 2011 –

Strong first practice sessions for Mike at Sebring posting the fastest lap of the driver line-up in the No. 036 Molecule/DuPont ORECA FLM09.



After only one previous test leading up to the 59 running of the 12 Hours of Sebring, Mike had no problem adjusting to the LMPC prototype car and posting consistent lap times which put him and the team in the top three within the LMPC class.

Mike's times were strong enough to end up top twelve overall in the 47 car strong field of this year's 12 Hours of Sebring race during his practice runs.

Practice sessions will continue Thursday and Friday with the start of the race on Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am.



Last year was about the return for Genoa Racing. This year is about the win.

Genoa Racing brings a two-car lineup for the Le Mans Prototype Challenge class at the 59th Annual 12 Hours of Sebring with one aim – victory. The prestigious race starts the American Le Mans Series presented by Tequila Patron on March 17-19 at the venerable, demanding Sebring International Raceway at Sebring, Fla. The halfway-around-the-clock race starts at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 19 on the 17-turn, 3.7-mile circuit.

Both Genoa cars feature an international blend of experience and youth behind the wheel. Elton Julian, Eric Lux and Christian Zugel will drive the No. 063 Green Dot/P.U.R.E/Zais Group ORECA FLM09, while Dane Cameron, Michael Guasch and Jens Petersen are driving the No. 036 Molecule/DuPont ORECA FLM09.

Last year, championship-winning formula car team Genoa returned to its endurance racing roots – it competed nearly 30 years ago in the legendary Can-Am series – on the bumpy, grueling circuit at Sebring.

The 36 car led the class halfway through the race but ended up third in class after needing repairs for an hour due to an accident.

“The Sebring 12 Hours is a significant event in the world of sports car racing, and last year Genoa Racing showed the potential to win this race first time out,” Genoa Racing team manager Mark Scott said. “Since then, the team has evolved into an even more potent force with a professional crew and powerful driver lineup. If we can keep ourselves pointed in the right direction, we should win this one.”

All three drivers in the No. 036 car are making their Sebring debuts. But former Star Mazda and Formula Palmer Audi champion Cameron has extensive open-wheel experience with Genoa in the Atlantic championship. Mike Guasch prepared for Sebring by testing this winter at the circuit in an LMPC car and run with United Autosport in the FIA GT3 Championship in 2010, while Petersen has LMP2 experience in the Le Mans series and proved his endurance racing skills in the legendary 24 Hours of the Nurburgring.

Outside selected races in the American Le Mans LMPC class with Genoa Racing, Mike is set to run again with United Autosports in 2011 in the British GT Championship.

Genoa Racing has competed at the top level of worldwide open-wheel and sports car racing for nearly 30 years. The team, based in the Indianapolis suburb of Zionsville, Ind., has raced in the American Le Mans Series, Formula 3000, IndyCar, Indy Lights, Formula Atlantic and Can-Am competition.

The team has enjoyed great success in formula-car racing, with a championship 17 victories and 20 poles.

Genoa also recorded a front-row starting position in the 1998 Indianapolis 500 in conjunction with Thomas Knapp Motorsports.



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