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NGT GRABS PODIUM WIN IN ROUND 7, BRINGS SPEED AND STRATEGY TO MILLER MOTORSPORTS PARK

TOOELE, UT July 10 – NGT Motorsport came prepared for the Larry H. Miller Dealerships 2010 Utah Grand Prix at Miller Motorsports Park. With two full days of private testing and a promoter test day on top of that, the team had plenty of track time to formulate and implement their team strategy when Qualifying began for Round 7 of the Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama.

The green flag dropped on the thirty-minute Qualifying session early Saturday morning. With cooler temperatures and a clean track ahead, Carlos Eduardo took no time jumping to the front of the entire grid on his first lap with his #24 machine and posting a 1:56.220 in the first five minutes. Teammate #26 Henrique Cisneros followed closely behind, posting a fast lap of 1:56.769 on his third lap of the session. Both drivers completed five laps, but then wisely came in to pit their cars and wait, saving tires – a valuable resource at the long, hot track.

Teammates #29 Eduardo Cisneros and #25 Andres Cisneros both continued to work on their car set-ups, focusing on consistency and stability. Said Eduardo, “It’s so great to be a part of a team that understands when you say ‘there’s too much under steer’ or ‘the back is getting loose.’ You come into the pits and they know exactly what to do.” Andres agreed, saying, “NGT is committed to making us fast, but also making us consistent. They have given us great cars this season, and we are able to focus on our driving, and not worry too much about the car.” After a fast lap of 1:58.108 for Eduardo and a 1:59.536 for Andres, both came into the pits, conserving tires and energy.

With only 5 minutes left in the session, competitor Kendall Smith, Maxwell Paper Racing, managed to put together a fast lap of 1:55.325, only 5-tenths faster than #24 Carlos Eduardo. But Carlos was confident in his P-2 class position, and had no plans to try to go back out and beat the time. “You have to be smart in racing,” said Carlos, “and for me to go out with 5 minutes left in the session just to try to grab the pole position would not be wise. Our team strategy is to race smart, and that is what we’ll do.”

As the checkered flag fell on Qualifying, Carlos held his P-2 class position with the #24, while #26 Henrique was right behind in the P-3 position of the Gold Cup Class. Teammates #29 Eduardo and #25 Andres took P-12 and P-15, respectively. Said Team Manager Ramez Wahab, “All of our guys were smart this morning. We have our first race of the weekend today, and conserving tires and keeping set-ups clean is important.” NGT Motorsport has consistently set fast laps times, including new track records, and their strategies continue to pay off.

Round 7 of the Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama began later in the afternoon, with warmer temperatures and plenty of rubber down on the track. But with plenty of dust and dirt, and the heat made it a slippery situation.

With a clean start and lap 1 complete, #24 Carlos Eduardo found himself chasing the tail of #4 Kendall Smith. Carlos continued to keep pressure on Smith and stayed close in his mirrors until a Platinum Cup Class car split the two, making Carlos’ job significantly tougher. Teammate #26 Henrique Cisneros found himself in the same position, chasing fellow Gold Cup Class competitor Amadeo Quiros, II, but a Platinum Cup Car wedged its way in between the two.



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In the meantime, NGT drivers #25 Andres Cisneros and #29 Eduardo Cisneros had to fight through the dirty air and do their best to keep their Porsche 911 GT3 Cup cars on the slippery, degrading track. Said Andres, "The track just kept getting worse and worse." Andres fell victim to the slick surface, spinning off track, while brother Eduardo also bobbed on the straight. Eduardo explained, "You know the track is bad when you can barely keep your car in a straight line! It was just a really tough race."

As the race reached the half way point, Carlos Eduardo found his #24 in serious competition with #14 Amadeo Quiros, II. After Carlos suffered a slight jump on track, Amadeo pushed past and was able to sneak in front of the #24 machine, but Carlos was determined to get the position back. After minor contact between the two cars, the #24 found a burst of speed, but the #14 was right in his drive line.

In a debatable call by race officials, the #24 was brought into the pits. However, the NGT Motorsport team showed their unwavering determination, putting the car up on the jacks, doing a complete overlook of the car, and then sending the #24 back out. Nevertheless, the #24 NGT Motorsport machine suffered significant damage, and although Carlos attempted to get back out in the field, he chose to park the car. About the incident, Carlos said, "I don't think aggressive racing is a reason for penalizing a driver. We all want to win the championship – that's why we're out here!" But Carlos remains positive about the rest of the season. "You have to move past things like this. Right now I'm focused on tomorrow, on winning Round 8."

Shortly after the #24 bowed out of the race, contact between two other Porsche 911 GT3 Cup cars brought out a full course caution, collecting multiple cars in the wreck. #26 Henrique Cisneros barely escaped the mêlée, but was able to secure his position in third place for a Gold Cup Class podium finish. Henrique quips, "There was some really intense racing out there, and I was very lucky to not get caught up in that mess." Thanks to his clean and confident driving, Henrique has also secured himself a nice starting position for Round 8 of the Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama.

The on-course crash caused significant damage to the track, bringing safety officials and clean-up crews out. The race ended under a full course caution with five minutes left on the clock. #25 Andres Cisneros and #29 Eduardo Cisneros finished the race in 13th and 14th position.

Round 8 of the Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama begins Sunday, July 11 at 11:00am. NGT Motorsport will once again span the grid. And although #24 Carlos Eduardo will have to start from the back, he's had great luck starting from that position, moving through the grid and claiming his top spot at the front of the Gold Cup Class.

NGT Motorsport is a professional team of drivers, mechanics, and engineers, dedicated to winning through fair and smart competition, focused on giving drivers the best in cars and support, yielding incomparable results. For more information on the team or to learn how to become a part of the most enjoyable and competitive racing experience, visit www.ngtmotorsport.com.

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