

**Media Release #27.2016****18 October 2016****Porsche Carrera Cup Italia Round 7, Mugello 14-16 October****Côme Ledogar is 2016 Carrera Cup Italia champion!**

Yes! The Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova driver from France is the 2016 Porsche Carrera Cup Italia champion - the first foreigner in the 10-year history of the series.

The final racing weekend of 2016 in Mugello will remain in history for Alex Zanardi's comeback in racing and in winning form but also for being the triumphal epilogue of Tsunami RT's best ever season in motorsport. Not only for our French star Côme Ledogar, who secured the 2016 title from the first race, but also for our Canadian talent Mikael Grenier who took his maiden win in PCCI after a remarkable performance on the semi wet track of Tuscany.

The french speaking duo celebrated on the podium of Mugello the first 1-2 finish in the history of the Ukrainian team, concluding a thrilling season in great form. Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova may have lost the teams' title from Dinamic but will stay in history as the first team in PCCI history to give the drivers' title to a foreign driver. Even if Ledogar is half Italian - his mother is actually from Sicily - he added an international flair to the Italian Porsche series in the last two years he raced for Tsunami.

In the qualifying sessions of Mugello, Côme Ledogar kept a low profile and qualified in 3rd in Q1 - behind Drudi and Di Amato - while in Q2 he qualified in 2nd with Drudi setting the pole once again. Mikael Grenier was 5th fastest in Q1 with a lap time pretty close for P2 but Oleksandr Gaidai was only 10th in Q2, paying the price of limited free practice in Mugello.

**Title for Ledogar, first win for Grenier, first 1-2 for Tsunami!**

The weather was cloudy in Mugello but the track was still wet the time the PCCI cars lined up at the grid and the race was declared wet. Ledogar and Grenier started almost side by side (from 3rd and 4th) and both managed to gain a position in the very first lap behind Mattia Drudi with Grenier in P2. The Canadian, being in his greatest ever form behind the wheel of a 911, pulled out a fantastic move to Drudi early in the race and lead the field to the flag to take his maiden win in the Carrera Cup Italia. Côme Ledogar, who mathematically needed to finish the race in 7th to secure the title, showed his exuberant racing spirit by overtaking Drudi as well to take the flag right behind his Tsunami team mate. With the two black/white/red Porsche taking the flag in a glorious parade, this was the most memorable finish so far for the San Marino based team from Ukraine!

Race 1 Classification

1. Mikael Grenier 13 laps in 28'28"282 (143.691 Km/h); 2. Come Ledogar +0"615; 3. Mattia Drudi +2"752;
4. Alessio Rovera +15"004; 5. Ronnie Valori +18"376; 6. Simone laquinta +26"611;

Races 2 & 3

After Race 1 the team's hopes for gaining its second consecutive team PCCI title were still alive. In the second race, Côme Ledogar started from 2nd and took the flag behind Mattia Drudi who was determined to win the ultimate sprint race of the year. Further back in the field, Alex Gaidai gained two positions in the first lap and showed a strong pace throughout the race fighting all the way against Michelin Cup leader Alex De Giacomo for 6th. The Ukrainian driver attempted different overtaking moves but had to settle in 7th position.

Considering the result of race 2 and the 10" penalty Côme Ledogar should pay during his pit stop in race 3 (for his P2 in the previous 45' race of Imola), Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova approached the final race of the year without realistic hopes for the teams' title.

Côme Ledogar, who started from 2nd, lost a position in the first corner from Di Amato, was pushed out harshly to 4th from laquinta and immediately after lost a place from Rovera.

Ledogar had an exit in the gravel of the first corner trying to overtake the Italian and paid the price with a broken radiator that obliged him to retire pretty soon in the race.

The #33 Porsche of Tsunami RT - Centro Porsche Padova did a very strong race with Grenier taking the rolling start. The Canadian brought the car in 4th to the pit stop and from there Gaidai took the wheel and took the flag in a remarkable 4th place. Mattia Drudi won the last race of the season after the 25" penalty given to his team mate Di Amato for irregular pit stop. As a result, Dinamic celebrated the teams' title and the Michelin Cup for Alex de Giacomo in the end of the race. Congratulations to our fellow team and to the gentleman driver!

Race 2 Classification

1. Mattia Drudi 15 laps in 28'26"659 (165. 955 Km/h); **2. Come Ledogar +0"652;** 3. Simone laquinta +9"279;
4. A. Rovera +14"268; 5. G. Quaresmini +25"412; 6. A. De Giacomo +44"279; **7. Oleksandr Gaidai +44"370;**

Race 3 Classification

1. Mattia Drudi 25 laps in 48'33"525 (162. 020 Km/h); 2. Daniele Di Amato +18"159; 3. Alessio Rovera +21"073; **4. Alex Gaidai - Mikael Grenier +45"067;** 5. G. Quaresmini +46"605; 6. R. Valori +1'07"036;

**Drivers' quotes:**

#13 Côme Ledogar: *"I am really happy especially because we've done it with Tsunami. In the end everything is OK but it was very hard for everyone in the team. You know, I didn't have any failure in the two years I race with Tsunami and this is something great, very important! We have a strong team, I am really proud of it. Alex did a lot of sacrifices this year and in the end - even if you can never be perfect and always have something to improve - we are on the top now! I would like to thank all the Tsunami team and also give my congratulations to Mik who did a fantastic job in Mugello. He made no mistakes and I am really proud to be part of his success also, he is a very fast and intelligent driver with a bright future ahead".*

33 Mikael Grenier: *"Talking about my first win, I knew from the start that we had a good chance but when I took the lead, I started thinking only about keeping the car on the wet track. When you lead on the wet it's far from easy: you don't have any car at the front to see which line is fastest and you have to find the limit yourself. I am so happy about this race! It was my first standing start on the wet but it was quite good, I reached P2 on the first lap, then I had the chance to overtake Drudi and after that I just thought about managing the gap. As far as the season concerns, in general I am quite happy. The first part of the season was really up and down, with some high's and low's and sharing the car with Matteo Torta was very difficult. From Mugello in July onward I feel we made big progress and its shown by the results. We were more consistent and ended the season with a win. Now my focus will be on qualifying, in extracting just a bit more everything from the tyre. If I manage this I should be in a good shape to win championship next year"*

33 Oleksandr Gaidai: *"The 4th place on Sunday, I think, was not a bad result, it was our right position without any mistakes. Speaking about the whole season, there were many exciting races and, I think, the strongest drivers in comparison to the previous 5-6 years in Carrera Cup of Italy. We all race because we enjoy it and many races were really well done. Personally I sacrificed my racing for the good of the team. I did less practice than ever sharing the car with Côme and Mik but in the end I am very happy for what we have achieved: I am proud for Côme's title and I'm glad that we have Mik in the team who also proved he can win. It's not easy to fight on "foreign" territory but we proved we can do that!"*

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