

**Media Release #02.2018****15 January 2018****Dubai 24 Hours Race**

6th overall and 1st in SPX class

It was a flawless race for Tsunami RT and extremely rewarding. The Ukrainian team with the Manthey-Racing developed Porsche 911 GT3 Cup in the black/white/red colours of RACEFOR.LIFE foundation, took the flag in 6th position overall and 1st by far in the SPX class, after 593 laps and 3196 kms at 133 km/h in 24 racing hours and 2 minutes.

The 24H Dubai race was the first major motorsport event of the 2018 calendar. It was comparably smooth running this year with few accidents and limited retirements. Of the 89 participants at the starting grid, 80 were classified. 66 cars took the flag after 24 hours and 14 more were classified as DNF, having covered at least 60% of the race distance.

The Tsunami RT Porsche 911 GT3 Cup MR with the No 37 was driven by four drivers from three different nationalities: Côme Ledogar from France (McLaren factory driver, Carrera Cup France and Italy champion), Alessio Rovera from Italy (Carrera Cup Italia 2017 champion with Tsunami) and two experienced drivers from Ukraine - Andrii Kruglyk and Oleksandr Gaidai.

The Ukrainian team raced with a car prepared especially for endurance events by German developer Manthey-Racing with brand new colours for supporting RACEFOR.LIFE initiative, which is dedicated to the children with cancer.

The Tsunami RT Porsche 911 started the race from 37th (5th in the SPX class) but soon climbed in the classification sheet despite penalties taken for a violation of the new Dynamic BOP (Balance of Performance) system, which has been introduced in the 24H series this year for various car classes, including SPX.

According to Dynamic BOP, each car is associated with a certain reference lap time and a permissive fuel amount in each pit stop. The faster a car goes on track



(according to the theoretical best lap) the less fuel is permitted to use in each stop, which means more time spent in pit stops throughout the race.

The Tsunami RT Porsche started with max refuelling amount of 110 litres and during the race the amount was adjusted to 85 litres. The speed and consistency of the Tsunami RT drivers, the reliability of the car and the efficiency of the Manthey-Racing people in the box (they changed brakes in less than 2 minutes late at night!) soon brought fruitful results.

The Tsunami RT Porsche took the lead in the SPX class and started climbing in the overall classification from top 20 to top 10. Early in the morning, the black 911 GT3 Cup MRll was featured safely in the top 10 aiming to higher positions.

The car ran smoothly even if it was hard to control at times on the sandy track with cold or worn tyres. There was only a scary moment in the race, when Ledogar returned to the box in his ultimate stint for an engine oil leaking. But it proved just a loss of oil without any failure for the engine.

In the final laps of the race, while the team was in 7th, there was a last minute drama with the No 777 Audi R8 LMS, which was in trouble and losing positions. In the last lap, Andrii Kruglyk managed to avoid a crash with the No777 driver who decided to enter the pit lane from the wrong side of the track. There was no contact and the reward was a remarkable P6 in the overall classification, ahead of top A6-Pro and A6-AM teams with much faster GT3 cars.

The remarkable efficiency of the team and its drivers is not just proved by the overall standings and the SPX class victory but by the standing of the other teams with SPX cars. The 2nd SPX car was classified 20th overall with 572 laps.

Tsunami RT drivers' quotes:

Côme Ledogar: *"for one more time Tsunami RT proved to be a winning team. I had a great collaboration with all the other drivers, who proved fast and very professional. I feel very tired like everybody, since we slept too little last night and it was not easy on track. But It was a great experience".*

Alessio Rovera: *"For me this is a fantastic experience and I want to thank Tsunami RT for the opportunity to be with them in this very special race. The car was good but it was difficult to control some times. Now we have to see what's going on with me and the team for 2018".*

Andrii Kruglyk: *"It was a very good experience for me and I am very happy with our result. I felt improving myself during the race and felt much better the morning after despite the fatigue of the night. I feel very proud about the team and I want to thank Côme, Alessio and Alex for their efforts",*

Oleksandr Gaidai: *"I really feel we did something very good here in Dubai and I want to thank everybody in the team for this. What I will remember for ever from this race is the moment we were watching Andrii in the end of the race bringing the car to the finish and the shocking moment he had with the No777 Audi. I wish this success to bring awareness for our RACEFOR.LIFE foundation and better days for the children who suffer of cancer".*



24H Dubai Race Classification:

1. #2 Black Falcon Mercedes-AMG GT3 (A6-Pro) Al Fais al - Haupt - Buurman - Piana, 606 laps;
2. #12 Manthey Racing Porsche 991 GT3R (A6-Pro) Klohs - Kern - Jaminet - Müller, 604 laps;
3. #964 Grasser Racing Team Lamborghini Huracán GT3 (A6-Pro) Ineichen - Ineichen - Engelhart - Bortolotti, 604 laps;
4. #16 SPS Automotive Performance Mercedes-AMG GT3 (A6-AM) Pierburg - Müller - Arnold - Baumann, 597 laps;
5. #9 BWT Mücke Motorsport Audi R8 LMS (A6-Pro) Winkelhock - Ortmann - Weishaupt - Feller - Jöns), 597 laps +22"020;
6. #37 Tsunami RT Porsche 911 Cup MR11 (SPX) Ledogar - Rovera - Kruglyk - Gaidai, 593 laps;
7. #777 MS7 by WRT Audi R8 KMS (A6-Pro) Bin Saud Al Saud - Vergers - Vanthoor - Mies, 592 laps;
8. #18 V8 Racing Chevrolet Corvette C6-ZR1 (A6-AM) Braams - Huisman- van t'Hoff - Abresch - Hutchison, 592 laps;
9. #25 HTP Motorsport Mercedes-AMG GT3 (A6-AM) Hrachowina - Dontje - Schneider - Konrad - Bosi, 592 laps;
10. #911 Herberth Motorsport Porsche 991 GT3R (A6-AM) Allemann - Bohn - Renauer - Renauer - Olsen, 590 laps;

Tsunami RT race statistics

Race time: 24 hours 02'07"526; **Total laps:** 593; **Total race distance:** 3196,27 kms; **Average speed:** 132,98 km/h; **Best lap:** 2'01"392 at 159,85 km/h in lap 306 (Ledogar); **Theoretical best lap:** 2'00"867; **Drivers' stints:** 15; **Ledogar:** 4 stints, 194 laps, 32,7 % of racing distance; **Rovera:** 4 stints, 160 laps, 27%; **Kruglyk:** 4 stints, 157 laps, 26,4 %; **Gaidai:** 3 stints, 82 laps, 13,9 %.

Tsunami RT and RACEFOR.LIFE

Tsunami RT believes that all its fans and motorsport enthusiasts will be excited to help little children supported by the **Parus Nadezhdy (Sail of Hope) charity fund** to conquer this terrible disease.

You just need clicking on the **RACEFOR.LIFE** initiative website and a very small -



even minimum - amount of money.

USEFUL LINKS

RACEFOR.LIFE Initiative: <http://racefor.life/>
Facebook: @HelpRaceForLife
Tsunami RT Website: <http://tsunami-rt.com/en/>
Media Requests: media@tsunami-rt.com
Dubai 24 Hour race: <https://www.24hdubai.com/>
Manthey Racing: <https://www.manthey-racing.de/en/home>