

# Porsche Takes Lone Star Victory

WEC >> 2015 Six Hours of COTA

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Austin, TX – September 19th, 2015 – The Porsche 919 Hybrid keeps leaving its mark on the world’s race tracks. The prototype generates up to 1,000 HP from fuel and electricity, making it brutally fast and miserly fuel-efficient. After one-two results at the Le Mans 24 Hours and the Nürburgring, the ground breaking hybrid race car also won in Austin on Saturday. The German brand also secured the class victory with the production-based GT sports car, the Porsche 911 RSR.

With its victory at the fifth of eight championship rounds, Porsche has now won its third race in succession. It looked as if the pole-sitting No. 18 919 Hybrid of Neel Jani, Marc Lieb and Romain Dumas would take the checkered flag for Weissach. However, an electrical issue with just 35 minutes remaining left the luckless trio out of the reckoning in 12th place.

This paved the way for Webber, Hartley and Bernhard to take their





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second victory of 2015. Yet, things did not run smoothly for the No. 17 crew after Webber overshot his pit box while leading comfortably.

With Bernhard at the wheel, the No. 17 Porsche's advantage over the sister car had been reduced to just ten seconds, which was completely eroded when the former was called into the pits for a one-minute stop-go penalty an earlier error.

Webber, Bernhard and Hartley were forced to rally during the race's second half, coming back passed the Audi R18s to take second before the No. 18 919 suffered its aforementioned electronic glitch in sight of the flag.

The runner-up finish for Lotterer, Benoit Treluyer and Marcel Fassler saw the Audi trio maintain their lead in the Drivers' World Championship, while the No. 8 Audi, which gave way to title-leading entry, completed the podium in third.

In Austin, the Porsche Team celebrated victory in the GTE-Pro category for





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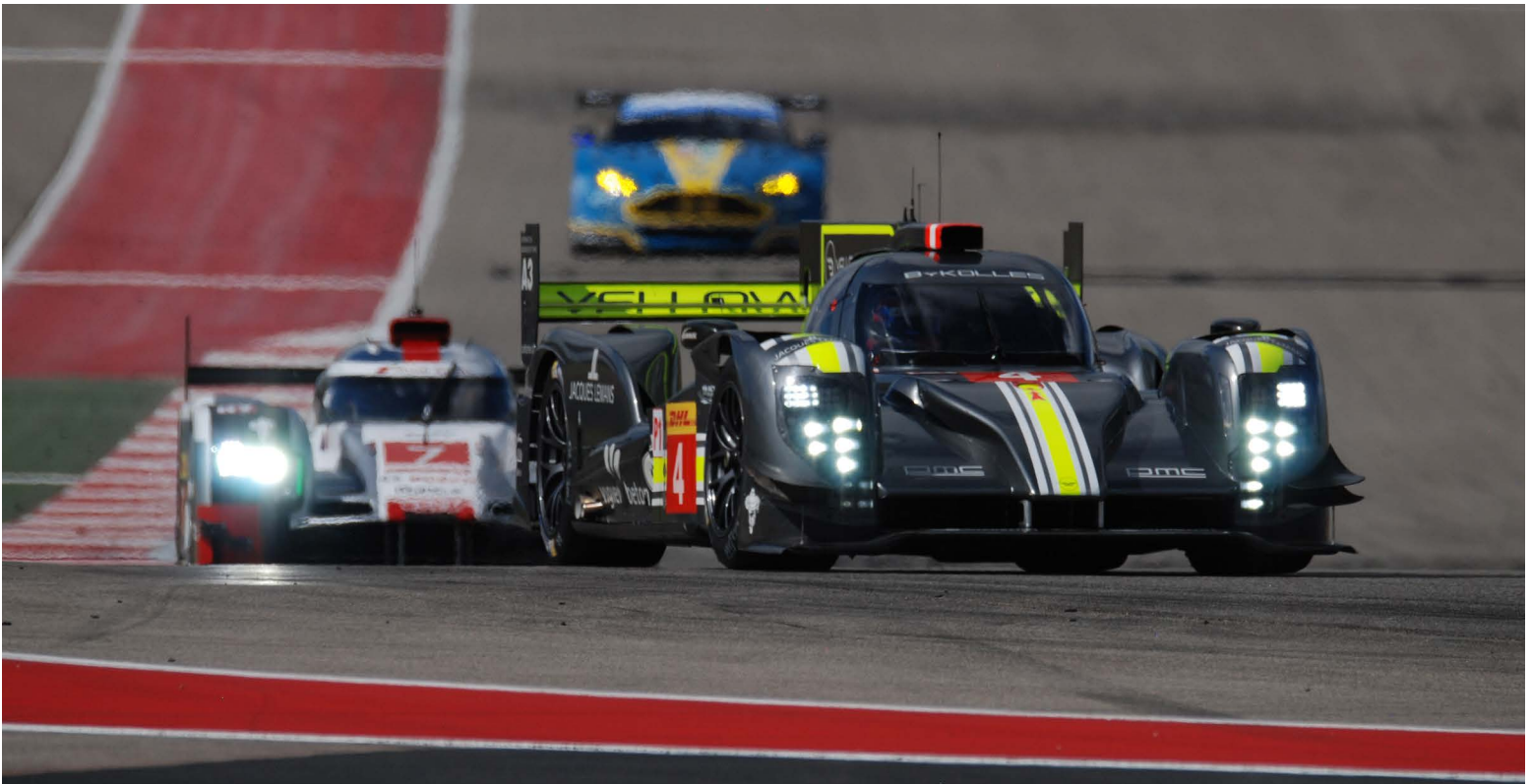


the production-based GT race cars. The category sees fierce competition between well-known sports car brands such as Aston Martin, Ferrari and Porsche. The No. 91 Porsche 911 RSR of Michael Christensen and Richard Lietz qualified second, giving the German manufacturer its first front row start in the GTE-Pro class of 2015, while Frédéric Makowiecki and Patrick Pilet could only manage fifth.

At the start of the six-hour event on Saturday evening, the two Porsches immediately surged forward. Within three laps, Makowiecki had taken the lead in the GTE-Pro field, narrowly ahead of Lietz in the No. 91 car.

Swapping positions lap after lap, the Weissach duo stretched their advantage over the chasing pack of Ferraris and Aston Martins across the duration of the race. Christensen and Lietz eventually winning the battle to take their second consecutive FIA WEC victory.

Makowiecki and Pilet had to settle for second but the result moved Porsche to within just two points of Ferrari in the manufacturers' championship with just three rounds remaining. **AA**





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