

## Media Information

20.10.2024

### Maiden DTM title: New champion Bortolotti makes history

- **Second place sees Lamborghini driver crowned champion**
- **Luca Engstler claims his second DTM victory thanks to a clever strategy**
- **95,000 spectators watch an exciting final weekend in Hockenheim**

Hockenheim. Good things come to those who wait: Mirko Bortolotti (I) claimed his first DTM title at the third attempt. Second place in Sunday's final race of the season at the Hockenheimring Baden-Württemberg was enough to see the Vienna resident realise his dream of becoming a DTM champion. "That was the best second place of my career, and earned me my nicest title so far. After finishing fourth and second in the past two years, there was a lot of pressure. However, we did it with our great team. I have been with Lamborghini through thick and thin for ten years. With this title, I have been able to pay back a little of the trust that they have placed in me," said Bortolotti, who also presented his team SSR Performance and Lamborghini with their first title in the DTM. The only man faster than the 34-year-old in race 16 of the season was fellow Lamborghini driver Luca Engstler (Kempten) from Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT, who celebrated his second victory of the year. Third place went to René Rast (Bregenz) in a BMW M4 GT3 for Schubert Motorsport, who ended the season as the top team. Mercedes-AMG won the Manufacturer title. A total of 95,000 visitors witnessed a thrilling and unpredictable DTM finale at the Hockenheimring, and ultimately celebrated a worthy champion in Mirko Bortolotti.

#### Key facts, Hockenheimring, Hockenheim, race 16 of 16

- **Length:** 4,574 metres
- **Weather:** 14 degrees, cloudy
- **Pole position:** Mirko Bortolotti (SSR Performance, Lamborghini Huracán GT3 Evo2 #92), 1:36.708 minutes
- **Winner:** Luca Engstler (Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT, Lamborghini Huracán GT3 Evo2 #19)
- **Fastest lap:** Luca Engstler (Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT, Lamborghini Huracán GT3 Evo2 #19) 1:38.066 minutes

Bortolotti got off to an ideal start on Sunday afternoon, in front of packed grandstands at the Hockenheimring. The pole-sitter was soon able to pull clear, followed in second place by his team-mate Nicki Thiim (DK). Behind them, Ricardo Feller (CH) in an Audi R8 LMS GT3 Evo2 for Abt Sportsline, Engstler and Lucas Auer (A) from Mercedes-AMG Team Mann-Filter slotted into positions three to five. Even at this early point, Bortolotti was clearly on course to win the championship. His closest rival Kelvin van der Linde (ZA), who trailed him by just one point, had dropped from fifth back to eleventh place after a poor start.

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By the midway point of the race, Bortolotti had opened a lead of over three seconds and came in late for his mandatory pit stop. The Lamborghini works driver rejoined the race in first place, but was overtaken shortly after by a charging Engstler. The 24-year-old had stopped earlier and was unstoppable on his warm Pirelli tyres. Behind the leading duo, Rast had climbed into third place. Thomas Preining (A) from Manthey EMA lay fourth in his Porsche 911 GT3 R after a quick tyre change.

Engstler took the chequered flag after 37 laps. 0.455 seconds later, he was followed over the finish line by the new DTM champion Bortolotti in second place. Behind Rast and Preining, the impressive Thiim battled his way to fifth place in the final race of the season. Feller came home sixth, while BMW driver Marco Wittmann (Fürth) made up twelve positions to finish seventh. Auer was eighth, ahead of the third Schubert Motorsport BMW with Sheldon van der Linde (ZA) in the cockpit. Maro Engel (Monaco), who finished third in the championship, completed the top ten in his Mercedes-AMG GT3. Kelvin van der Linde was unable to affect the title race and ended the race in twelfth place.

**Luca Engstler:** “I won my first DTM race at the opening round in Oschersleben. It feels fantastic to claim my second victory at the finale. I am speechless and struggling to take it all in. After our early pit stop, I drove as if my life depended on it and managed to overtake Mirko Bortolotti. I had the feeling that Mirko did not want to risk too much to win the race, with one eye on the championship. If anyone deserves to win the title, it is him.”

**René Rast:** “We got the maximum out of the situation and, thanks to a good strategy and a fast pit stop, worked our way from eleventh into third place. However, we are not happy with fourth place in the championship. We were simply not good enough in qualifying. Unfortunately, that meant we never really had a chance of winning the title. However, winning the Team competition is a great success. I am pleased for the guys, who did a fantastic job.”

**Thomas Preining:** “Congratulations to Mirko Bortolotti! I had a really tough battle for the title with him last season. He fully deserved to win this year.”

**Kelvin van der Linde:** “It is not the result we were hoping for, but that is racing for you. We invested a lot of energy in the title race, got everything out of our package, and only made a few mistakes. I am proud of our team after this long season.”

### Result of race 16 of the season at the Hockenheimring

1. Luca Engstler (D/Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT)
2. Mirko Bortolotti (I/SSR Performance), +0.455 seconds
3. René Rast (D/Schubert Motorsport), +1.834 seconds
4. Thomas Preining (A/Manthey EMA), +16.802 seconds
5. Nicki Thiim (DK/SSR Performance), +18.001 seconds

The full result can be found at [dtm.com/en/results](https://dtm.com/en/results).

## Media Information

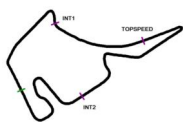
### Media Contact

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[dtm.com/en](http://dtm.com/en)

**Result List**  
**Final Classification**

## Stewards / Race Management

STEWARD	Achim Loth
STEWARD	Ingo Güss
STEWARD	Uwe Heid
RACE DIRECTOR	Sven Stoppe
CLERK OF THE COURSE	Georg-Richard Ziegahn
TECHNICAL DELEGATE	Wolfgang Dammert
CHIEF TIMEKEEPER	Daniel Schulze

## Weather Start/Finish

AIR	14.0°C
TRACK	13.7°C
CONDITIONS	Dry
PRESSURE	1010 hPa
AIR	15.2°C
TRACK	14.2°C
CONDITIONS	Dry
PRESSURE	1010 hPa

## Track Information

GREEN FLAG	13:33:15
CHEQUERED FLAG	14:35:07
SAFETY CAR PHASE	0
FULL COURSE YELLOW PHASE	0
TRACK NAME	Hockenheimring
TRACK LENGTH	4574m
TURN COUNT	17
TOTAL DISTANCE	169.23km
FASTEST LAP:	#19. LEN - 1:38.066
FASTEST PIT STOP:	#130. MEN - 5.853

STARTED: 20 CLASSIFIED: 19 NOT CLASSIFIED: 1 DISQUALIFIED: 0

Nr.	Driver	Man.	Nation	Team	Laps	Total Time	Gap	Lap	Time
	Car			Competitor					
1	19 Luca Engstler			Lamborghini Team Liqui Moly by GRT	37	1:01:52.396		18	1:38.066
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			GRT Grasser-Racing-Team					
2	92 Mirko Bortolotti			SSR Performance	37	1:01:52.851	0.455	23	1:38.083
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance					
3	33 Rene Rast			Schubert Motorsport	37	1:01:54.230	1.834	23	1:38.419
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
4	91 Thomas Preining			Manthey EMA	37	1:02:09.198	16.802	19	1:38.904
	Porsche 911 GT3 R 992			Manthey EMA					
5	94 Nicki Thiim			SSR Performance	37	1:02:10.397	18.001	27	1:38.720
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			SSR Performance					
6	7 Ricardo Feller			ABT Sportsline	37	1:02:11.060	18.664	20	1:38.319
	Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline					
7	11 Marco Wittmann			Schubert Motorsport	37	1:02:11.861	19.465	29	1:38.709
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
8	22 Lucas Auer			Mercedes-AMG Team MANN-FILTER	37	1:02:12.954	20.558	19	1:38.815
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			WINWARD RACING					
9	31 Sheldon van der Linde			Schubert Motorsport	37	1:02:18.624	26.228	17	1:38.503
	BMW M4 GT3			Schubert Motorsport					
10	130 Maro Engel			Mercedes-AMG Team WINWARD	37	1:02:21.859	29.463	19	1:38.871
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			WINWARD RACING					
11	69 Thierry Vermeulen			EMIL FREY RACING	37	1:02:22.592	30.196	16	1:38.590
	Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING					
12	3 Kelvin van der Linde			ABT Sportsline	37	1:02:23.452	31.056	16	1:38.789
	Audi R8 LMS GT3 EVO II			ABT Sportsline					
13	36 Arjun Maini			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	37	1:02:25.181	32.785	17	1:39.029
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT					
14	71 Maximilian Paul			Paul Motorsport	37	1:02:25.802	33.406	18	1:38.636
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			Paul Motorsport					
15	63 Franck Perera			Lamborghini Team TGI by GRT	37	1:02:26.331	33.935	24	1:38.644
	Lamborghini Huracan GT3 EVO 2			GRT Grasser-Racing-Team					
16	14 Jack Aitken			EMIL FREY RACING	37	1:02:26.827	34.431	26	1:38.819
	Ferrari 296 GT3			EMIL FREY RACING					
17	85 Clemens Schmid			Dörr Motorsport	37	1:02:32.904	40.508	16	1:38.782
	McLaren 720S GT3 Evo			Dörr Motorsport					
18	25 Ben Dörr			Dörr Motorsport	37	1:03:24.322	1:31.926	26	1:38.793
	McLaren 720S GT3 Evo			Dörr Motorsport					
19	90 Ayhancan Güven			Manthey EMA	35	1:02:41.642	2LAPS	19	1:39.525
	Porsche 911 GT3 R 992			Manthey EMA					
<b>Not classified</b>									
4	Jules Gounon			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT	26	44:58.587	11LAPS	19	1:38.516
	Mercedes-AMG GT3			Mercedes-AMG Team HRT					

Fastest lap of the race. Car 19 driver Luca Engstler on lap 18. Time 1:38.066, average speed 167.9 km/h.

Steward: Achim Loth

Steward: Ingo Güss

Steward: Uwe Heid