



Press release ADAC Procar, Slovakiaring:

After his first podium in the previous race on Lausitzring, Thomas was top motivated to fight for a good result. As with all the other tracks this year, Slovakiaring was new for him, but this time also a new track in the ADAC Procar calendar. This meant that pretty much everybody was starting from scratch, trying to learn the track and making the right set-up on the car.



Practice:

The free practice session on Friday went very well. Thomas quickly felt comfortable on the new track, under the sunny conditions. He performed strong lap times during the whole session and finished P2.

In the second free practice on Saturday morning, the weather conditions had changed radically. The rain was pouring down, making the track very difficult to drive. After many periods with yellow flag, Thomas finished on 3rd place.

Thomas: *"I am satisfied with my performance under the rainy conditions. I had a good balance in the car, and I didn't struggle as much as many other drivers. It is important for me to be competitive under all types of weather conditions."*





Qualifying:

Saturday afternoon, Thomas was ready to fight for a good starting position in the 30 minutes long qualification. The track was drying up, and everyone could start out on slicks.

After the first stint on new tires, Thomas made the second best time, and came in for another new set of front tires. The track was getting better every lap, and it would be necessary to set a better time to stay on second position. Unfortunately, the timing was ruined by many sectors under yellow flag, and Thomas couldn't improve his time enough to keep his position, he dropped back to 4th.

Thomas: *"I was looking for a better result after my performance in the practices, and I think we were very unlucky with the yellow flag on the laps where I was supposed to improve my time. However I am still in the top and looking forward to go for the podium in the races tomorrow."*

Race 1:

The first race started Sunday at 10:00 o'clock. The good weather had come back to the Slovakian racetrack, and hopes were high for a podium place.

Thomas got well through the first corner after the flying start, close to the drivers in front. After a few laps the race was stopped with red flag, because of a big accident involving several cars. At the time where the red flag came out, Thomas was on 2nd position. Unfortunately, the race was never restarted, and the cars were led back in the pit by safety car. This meant that no points were given, and the race was considered cancelled.



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Race 2:

After a turbulent Race 1, Thomas was on the 3rd place on the starting grid for Race 2. As it was the case in Race 1, the four first drivers quickly got a gap to the rest of the field. After a few laps, Thomas could overtake the 3rd position, chasing the drivers in the front. After two brilliant maneuvers on the following laps, overtaking Andreas Rinke for 2nd and Yury Krauchuk for 1st, Thomas was leading the race.

Thomas: *"I was determined to reach the drivers in the front, as I saw my chance for the 1st position. I was 100 % focused and didn't make any mistakes. After taking over the 1st place, I pushed everything I could to make a gap behind me, leaving the drivers behind to fight with each other. It almost felt too good to be true. My car was in perfect balance and I could continue to build up the gap behind me. Probably the best laps I have ever driven in a touring car."*

After many laps in the lead, Thomas could finally reach the checkered flag as winner of the race.

Thomas: *"The most amazing feeling, finally all the hard work during the year paid off. I had a good feeling the whole weekend, and I knew I had good chances. I would like to thank Engstler Motorsport for all the hard work, and for giving me the chance to drive this year."*

