

## Press release ADAC Procar, Hockenheimring:

Only two weeks after his victory on Slovakiaring, Thomas was ready for the last race of the season on the legendary German racetrack, Hockenheimring. After his results and continuing improvement in the previous races, hopes were high for a great end to the season.

Thomas never drove on the full track before, and was only familiar with the last part of the track, from a test the year before in another car. This meant another new challenge for the Danish race driver.



## Practice:

The free practice sessions went very well, and Thomas and his team tried some different set-up's on the car. The layout and especially the grip on the track were very different compared to the other tracks, which meant a completely other set-up of the car.

Thomas: *"The track looks easier than it really is. One of the most important things to improve your time is by the breaking points after the long straight and into the fast corners. The grip on the track seemed to change for every session, which definitely didn't make it easier."*





### Qualifying:

Saturday afternoon it was time for the 30 minutes long qualification. As it was the case over the whole weekend, the track conditions kept dry.

Thomas drove the session over two stints with new tires, each with three fast laps. The car felt in good balance and Thomas could perform some strong lap times. In the second stint he could make his fastest lap time; 2.05,95, which was enough for the 3<sup>rd</sup> position. A satisfying outcome for the Danish race driver.

Thomas: *"It was surprisingly different on the new tires, especially the breaking points changed more than I had expected. Nevertheless I got a good time together on the second set of new tires, and we can be satisfied with the result."*



### Carlo award:

Saturday evening Thomas received the Carlo Award from the ADAC Procar organization, after his performance in the previous race in Slovakia. Furthermore, he received the Fairplay Carlo Award after a big online voting from the whole season. With this award followed the price of a brand new race suit, given by [www.be-parts.com](http://www.be-parts.com)

Thomas: *"I would like to thank all the people who voted for me for the two awards. It is very special to me and I am happy for all the support."*



## Race 1:

The first race was planned to start on Sunday morning, but was moved to Sunday afternoon due to repairs on the track. Starting from 3<sup>rd</sup> position, hopes were high for another podium.

Thomas made a good start and could keep up with the two cars in front of him. After a few laps, he was hit by another car, and dropped a few positions down the following laps. Thomas was struggling with the car and could not keep up with the cars in front of him. After a long race, he could reach the finish line as number 5.

Thomas: *"Quite an empty feeling after race 1. The balance of the car had completely changed and I had no chance to keep up with the front. I struggled with massive understeering out of the long corners, but made the best out of the situation. I made a very big gap behind me, and I could easily secure my 5<sup>th</sup> position without any pressure. I hope we can fix the problems to the second race."*



## Race 2:

The very last race of the season was driven late Sunday afternoon. In the few hours between the two races, Thomas and his team worked hard to get the car ready with a new set-up. After the standing start, Thomas was close behind the leading group and was able to put pressure on the front. Unfortunately, the situation was more or less the same like in the first race. After a few laps, the understeering was increasing more and more, and Thomas could not reach the goal of another podium. After an exclusion of another driver, Thomas finished the last race of the year as 4<sup>th</sup>.

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Thomas: "My hopes for the weekend was higher than the result I achieved in the end. I was really set for proving myself once again, especially after my good results in the previous races. However, I guess there are always weekends like this, and you just have to keep going and learn from your mistakes.

*It has been an incredible year and I have learned so much. I have improved myself during the whole year and it has been an awesome experience for me. I have showed which kind of race driver I am, and impressed many people. I would like to thank all my fans, friends and family for the amazing support, and I hope to continue this journey with you for years to come. I would also like to thank all the people from Engstler Motorsport for their support and hard work. A special thank you should go to Franz Engstler, for giving me the opportunity to drive this year.*

Thomas finished the 2013 season as 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Rookie Championship, and 5<sup>th</sup> in the overall standings. Hereby a positive result for the Danish race driver, after his first year in international touring car racing.

