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David Beckmann continues successful run in FIA Formula 2: Fifth points-paying result on fifth race weekend

- David Beckmann makes his first appearance for Campos Racing at Monza
- Strong debut with convincing pace and Top Five finish in sprint race
- David Beckmann: "We did some important preparatory work on Thursday and improved a lot over the weekend"

The fifth weekend of the 2021 FIA Formula 2 at the legendary high-speed circuit of Monza in Italy was always going to be a huge challenge for David Beckmann. With only days to go before the event, the 21-year-old secured a starting place with Campos Racing, a Spanish outfit for which two-time Formula 1 world champion Fernando Alonso competed in his younger days. Beckmann quickly adapted to his new working environment, posting a respectable fourth-fastest time in free practice.

Beckmann booked pole position for the first race on Saturday morning, but was overtaken at the start and dropped back to second, a position he then defended resolutely for the first half of the race. When his immediate pursuer launched a determined attack coming out of the home straight into the tenth lap, the hard braking caused his right front wheel to lock up and the tyre developed a flat spot. The ensuing vibrations caused a loss of pace, and the rookie from Hagen ultimately had to settle for tenth place at the chequered flag.

The result at least meant that Beckmann would be starting from pole again in the second race, courtesy of the reverse grid rule. He emerged from the first combination of corners in second place. The Formula 2 newcomer then proceeded to defend the position against his opponents in this high-calibre series, eventually finishing in fifth place. He thus keeps up his personal record of having scored points at least once on every race weekend since the season opener in Bahrain.

Beckmann started the main race on Sunday morning from tenth position. He took advantage of an early safety car deployment to complete the mandatory pit stop. Before that, damage to one of his tyres had prevented him from making progress through the field. Beckmann used another neutralisation towards the end of the race to gain a strategic advantage over his rivals by fitting a set of fresh soft tyres. He had already made up several positions before he collided with an opponent in an attempted passing manoeuvre and had to retire.

The six points Beckmann scored in front of the baying tifosi at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza on Saturday consolidated his position in the championship. He is on 31 points and in 13th place in the overall FIA Formula 2 standings. The next race event will take place on the weekend of 24th - 26th September in Sochi, Russia.

Three questions for David Beckmann**You seem to have settled in immediately with your new team. What was it like working with them?**

It went very well. The outfit has its roots in Spain. You can feel the passion for motorsport in everyone involved. The team spirit is very strong. I got on well with the team boss, the engineers and the mechanics straight away. We did some important preparatory work on Thursday and improved a lot over the weekend.

What are the most important insights that you are taking away from the Monza weekend?

Although FIA Formula 2 is a racing series with homologated cars, they differ in nuances. The switch went well for me. However, I had to adapt my driving style a bit. I was already on the right pace in free practice, but I had some trouble with braking. I have to learn from that and draw the right conclusions.

What's next this season after the successful change?

My aim is to drive for Campos in Sochi as well. It would be sensational if that works out. After that, there will be a longer break until the next race. I want to use this time to drum up the financial backing that I need to compete in Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi.

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