



News Release

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PANOZ ESPERANTE GTLM SCORES FIRST ALMS CLASS VICTORY AND SETS TWO NEW TRACK RECORDS

American Race Team Captures Pole, Records and Win

Hoschton, GA – April 19, 2005 – The Panoz Motorsports Esperante GTLM Factory Race Team made history on April 17, 2005, by capturing their first class victory and setting two records during the American Le Mans Sportsbook.com Grand Prix of Atlanta. An Esperante battled through a field of 911's, including a wheel-to-wheel dogfight with the Alex Job Racing Porsche during the race for the win. The Panoz Esperante GTLM racecar is a competition version of the production streetcar from Panoz Auto Development, America's premier independent manufacturer of hand built, high performance automobiles.

The Panoz team had tremendous success all weekend at Road Atlanta. On Saturday, Bill Auberlen snagged the pole with a blazing 1:21.647 second qualifying time, which established a new track qualifying record. On Sunday, Auberlen and co-driver Robin Liddell began the race in the No. 50 team Panoz at the front of the GT2 field. They dominated much of the 2 hour and 45 minute race, setting another record, with a new class lap race record of 1:22.930 along the way. This achievement was even more impressive in light of a 20 second pit lane penalty that the team overcame after an over enthusiastic crewmember prematurely entered pit lane.

One of the highlights of the race weekend was a spirited competition between the Team Panoz Esperante and the No. 23 Alex Job Racing Porsche 911 GT3 driven by Timo Bernhard and Romain Dumas. Liddell was fiercely fighting off the No. 23 Porsche during the last 20 minutes of the sprint. Bernhard, in the 23 Porsche tapped Liddell's Panoz Esperante right rear bumper, sending him into a spin during the final six minutes of the race. The No. 23 Porsche was then black flagged by the stewards for a stop and go penalty, which allowed the Panoz team to motor to a victory with a 27.5 second margin.

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Panoz Esperante Wins Class at ALMS Grand Prix of Atlanta Race (2/2)

"This victory demonstrates the world class design and performance of the Panoz production chassis," said Dan Panoz, President of Panoz Auto Development, which builds the Panoz street cars and GTS Esperante racecar chassis. "This was an incredible performance against a field of Porsches that have dominated sports car racing for over three decades and that ended their current winning streak. It also proves that a small, private company can compete head to head with the best-established sports car manufacturers in the world. The entire Panoz team is proud to be the force that finally defeated the Porsche juggernaut."

The Panoz victory was also a first for Pirelli, which was the tire used by both Panoz Esperantes. The No. 51 Panoz Esperante GTLM achieved an unbelievable 10th place after a devastating accident. The performance earned drivers, Scott Maxwell and Bryan Sellers the Pirelli "Hard Charger Award" in addition to their top ten finish.

The Panoz Esperante GTLM is a race version built on a production chassis of the acclaimed Panoz Esperante road car. The Esperante, GT and GTLM models are class leading, American sports GTs that compete head-to-head with European cars from makers such as Ferrari and Aston Martin. Available in both convertible and coupè form, the lightweight aluminum and carbon fiber cars feature an elegant body, superb handling, spectacular brakes and a powerful V8.

"Panoz Motor Sports will take their winning Esperantes to the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course for Round 3 of the 2005 ALMS series," added Dan Panoz. "I believe this victory and the team's new found confidence will continue the momentum all the way to the winner's circle again. It's exciting that an American built sports car is once again at the forefront of racing and street performance."

About Panoz Auto Development

Panoz Auto Development is America's premier independent manufacturer of hand-built, high performance automobiles. The Georgia-based company manufactures Esperante sports and racecars for domestic and international markets. The competition division, Panoz Motor Sports, has a rich heritage in the ALMS, FIA GT, SCCA's Trans-Am series and the 24 hours of LeMans.

Additional information about Panoz, its products and images are available at www.panozauto.com or by calling Scott Black at (214) 520-3430.

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