

## Halliday's return a winner



New Zealand racing driver Matt Halliday made a successful return to Porsche GT3 racing at Taupo Motorsport Park over the weekend. The Californian based Kiwi star was especially signed to drive a Giltrap Group owned Porsche GT3 in the feature "mini enduro" races which formed a part of the support programme for the New Zealand round the A1GP World Cup of Motorsport.

Halliday shared the car with rising young star Jono Lester which saw the duo dominate the weekend by winning both of the 50 minute races on Saturday and Sunday. The winning 26000 VODKA sponsored car was prepared and managed by Lyall Williamson's International Motorsports Team with whom Halliday has undertaken several Porsche GT3 campaigns over recent years. The race victories were notably pleasing for Halliday as he has not raced this type of car for twelve months.

The weekend did not go without its dramas as the early stages of each race saw plenty of door to door action as several drivers challenged the dynamic duo who eventually dominated through consistently fast lap times and a well devised tyre strategy. The Saturday afternoon race was won by a margin of 25 secs and Sunday's race by a margin of 18 secs thus confirming the dominance of their victories.

Halliday was quick to praise Lester for his ability and willingness to learn and is pleased his presence aided the team in acquiring the most suitable set up and race tactics:

"It was great getting behind the wheel of a Porsche GT3 again, especially at the A1GP meeting as both championships mean a lot to my good friend Colin Giltrap whose car I was driving. As a former driver for the Kiwi A1GP team and IMS Porsche driver I was determined to do my best to give Colin and Lyall the results they were seeking. It's also been a great debut for 26000 VODKA as my personal sponsors" said Halliday from Auckland earlier today.

Halliday will now return to his base in California where he is preparing to undertake some race testing duties.

**Media: HH Media: Photo: SportProMedia 28th Jan 09**