



LARBRE COMPETITION



RACE UPDATE 1: LARBRE COMPETITION HAS SOLID START TO 2018 LE MANS 24 HOURS

After five hours of action in the 86th edition of the Le Mans 24 Hours, Larbre Competition's #50 Ligier JS P217 has shown strong pace and currently occupies 18th place, despite having to change the brake cooling system.

The French squad were running inside the top-15 when an issue with the brake cooling system coincided with a safety car period, which bunched the field up and dropped Jack Leconte's team back.

Driver Romano Ricci, who recorded the Val de Vienne-based outfit's fastest time during qualifying, was chosen to take the start of the twice-around-the-clock event, completing an error-free and strong triple stint as he moved into the top-15 just before the two-hour mark.

A quick driver change during a lengthy slow zone period for a damaged barrier at Indianapolis saw Erwin Creed step into the Ligier for his first taste of the French endurance classic.

The 37-year-old showed good composure, as he got back into a rhythm around the 13.6 km circuit and recorded a personal best lap time during his second stint, before taking advantage of another slow zone to pit for fresh Michelin tyres.

Whilst running in 14th a safety car came out and the team opted to wait until it ended to make the driver change. However, as Thomas Dagoneau got into the #50 Ligier, the French squad had to change the brake cooling system, dropping them to 18th.

Romano Ricci: "I focused on staying out of trouble and just weaving my way through at the start and was happy with the stint, the Ligier JS P217 is working very well for us. Erwin did a great job too and we were very unfortunate with the timing of the safety car and the brake cooling system problem."

Erwin Creed: "The car feels good and I was able to run even better lap times than in the practice and qualifying sessions. For much of my first stint there was a slow zone, but when the barriers were fixed the times gradually improved as I got more comfortable in the car. Despite the issues, there is still a long way to go and we can be happy with the performance."



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