

## TRG EARNS TOP PORSCHE SPOT WITH TOP-FIVE QUALIFYING FOR 24

Written by

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Daytona Beach, FL —

After leading much of the 15-minute qualifying session for this year's Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona, Andy Lally in the AXA No. 66 Porsche 911 GT3 Cup car fell victim to a last minute assault by a fleet of Mazdas to finish the day in fifth. Andy was the top Porsche in a very competitive GT field.

"We had a very fast car, but as the laps continued the tires just started to give away a little bit" stated Lally. "The car is actually really good for the race, we just couldn't keep the pace that the Mazdas threw in at the last minute."

Second fastest for TRG, and seventh overall in GT was Patrick Long in the No. 67 TRG/Flying Lizard Motorsports Porsche. With a fast lap of 1:49.855, Patrick was disappointed to not finish higher, but knows that the team is in good shape for the race. "In the end it's not a big deal. I would have liked to have finished higher, but we know the car is solid and that's all that matters."

Following a very minor off track excursion, Spencer Pumpelly only turned in a handful of laps to secure 11th place for the No. 71 Porsche. With a solid driver lineup in that car, the team is eager to move forward with the race and move to the front.

Fourth fastest for TRG and 23rd in GT was Henri Richard in the No. 63 Future Electronics Porsche 911 GT3. Concentrating mainly on the race, Richard's main objective was a solid race pace and just getting through qualifying.

Running 28th was TRG's final qualifier, the UK's Dan Watkins qualified a solid 28th for the No. 18 TRG/Guardian Angel Motorsports Porsche. Turning a 1:58.932, Dan was happy with a competitive time. "I've never qualified here at Daytona, so being able to turn such a solid lap was just an incredible experience for me. This is something I will never forget."

For Team Owner Kevin Buckler, the team can now set their sites on the race. "I'm happy to be the fastest Porsche, but it's too bad that Mazdas have such an advantage here," stated Buckler. "We know how to win here and we know that the times we're turning are where they need to be, so ultimately we just need to move forward with our own gameplan. Andy did a great job as always to turn his time, and Patrick proved his usual solid performance. I'm not too worried about Spencer being out of the top-10, he'll move up quickly, and I'm really proud of such great laps by both Henri Richard and Dan Watkins. From here on the team will just be focused on the race. We've got a great group that's hard at work, we just need to do what we all do, get a good night's sleep, and we'll be there on Saturday."

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