



POINTS' LEADER OCON STARTS OFF WITH FASTEST TIME IN HUNGARY



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30.05.2014. With 80 minutes of free practice on Friday afternoon, the young FIA Formula 3 European Championship drivers got acquainted with the 4.381 kilometres long Hungaroring that is hosting a race meeting of the world's strongest young drivers' series for the first time. Points' leader Esteban Ocon (Prema Powerteam, 1:35.801 minutes) set the fastest time at the Formula 1 circuit near the Hungarian capital of Budapest, followed by Felix Rosenqvist (kfzteile24 Mücke Motorsport, 1:36.025 minutes) and Antonio Fuoco (Prema Powerteam, 1:36.329 minutes).

17-year-old Frenchman Esteban Ocon moved up into first place quite early in the session already and managed to improve his lap time several times while in the lead. Eventually, the rookie emerged as the only driver to lap the Hungaroring in less than 1:36 minutes. In official pre-season testing in Hungary in April, the FIA Formula 3 European Championship drivers hadn't been any quicker either.

Behind Lotus F1 junior driver Ocon, several drivers battled for the following positions. Eventually, one of the most experienced drivers prevailed as Felix Rosenqvist ended up second. Only three minutes before the end of the session, he toppled Ocon's team-mate and rookie Antonio Fuoco off second place. Tom Blomqvist (Jagonya Ayam with Carlin, 1:36.472 minutes) held onto second place before the 18-year-old member of the Ferrari Driver Academy took over, but the Brit, who came to Hungary as runner-up in the drivers' standings, eventually had to make do with fourth place.

With Max Verstappen (Van Amersfoort Racing, 1:36.522 minutes) and Gustavo Menezes (Van Amersfoort Racing, 1:36.584 minutes), two drivers of Van Amersfoort Racing, the only Dutch team in the field, were classified fifth and sixth. Jordan King (Carlin, 1:36.612 minutes), Antonio Giovinazzi (Jagonya Ayam with Carlin, 1:36.620 minutes), Dennis van de Laar (Prema Powerteam, 1:36.632 minutes) and Sean Gelael (Jagonya Ayam with Carlin, 1:36.932 minutes) rounded out the top ten.