



## In Gear at Road America

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (Elkhart Lake, WI) August 9, 2014** The Road America track was in perfect shape and the weather for practices and the race itself was sunny and warm.

The team arrived on Thursday which was Promoter Test Day. That gave the team two one and a half hour on track sessions. The track time proved invaluable both for the car set up and to provide driver Martin Barkey with a chance to learn the track layout. Driver Kyle Marcelli had raced this track several times before and actually holds a track record. Needless to say he was already very much in tune with Road America.

Friday was very full with two practices and the qualifying run later in the afternoon.



In the morning practice session #08 was fast ending up in the P9 spot. Unfortunately, clutch / transmission issues arose making it difficult for both drivers to shift the car into 5th gear. As always the crew made a quick diagnosis, pulled the transmission and installed a new clutch and pressure plate all in record time.

The crew had carried out this major piece of work so quickly that Martin was back in the car for the second practice session missing only the first 5 minutes or so as the crew buttoned up the last few components on the car. The second practice did not fare as well as the first. Track conditions

were slick and the car just did not “stick” as it has in the cooler morning temperatures.

The afternoon Qualifying session proved to be extremely congested on the track, surprising given that the Road America circuit is a full four miles in length, one of the longest in the series. Twice Martin found himself behind a stalled car and in the end had lost a full lap. When all was done the team found itself sitting in P 20 on the grid.

On race day Martin took the first shift of this two and a half hour contest. He was able to get a strong start gaining a position in the first half lap. But then the race went to a full course yellow as two ST class cars got tangled up going into T5.

The restart wasn't so kind. With the field now being in single file Martin found himself going into T14 as the balance of the cars were already on the front straight when the green flag dropped for the restart.

For the rest of his stint Martin was able to maintain position until the race engineer radioed him in for the driver change.

Recognizing that at two and a half hours this would be a long and grueling race Kyle's first stint focused on brake conservation. Though they started the race on new pads and new rotors, the team was very concerned that the brakes would not make it all the way through. Extremely high temperatures just accelerated pad wear. That said, Kyle was able to settle into a specific lap time pace that allowed him to conserve the brakes for the first 45-minutes of his stint.

Then for the balance of the race Kyle began to push hard and set quick laps. One by one #08 began to gain position.

The battle between the top fifteen cars was very intense with lots of overtaking and lots of defensive driving.

Jockeying against mostly other professional drivers, Kyle's familiarity with the track really shone through. After a number of dogfights battling for position he blasted through to an eighth place finish, less than four seconds behind the winning car. In fact, Rebel Rock/ MBRP Racing posted the fastest finish of any other Porsche on the track that day.

*"It was a difficult race for me. The excitement and anticipation of running here at Road America was huge. I also found it hard settling into a proper race pace so in turn I fell short of my own expectations."*, said driver Martin Barkey. *"As usual though Kyle drove extremely well and in turn was a huge part of us getting this top 10 finish."*

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### Image Gallery

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For more information about Martin Barkey Racing please email Martin at [mb@mbrp.com](mailto:mb@mbrp.com).

For information regarding this release please email [marketing@mbrp.com](mailto:marketing@mbrp.com).

The action continues for Martin Barkey Racing on August 22<sup>th</sup> at the Virginia International Raceway in Danville, Virginia.

None of this would be possible without the solid support we receive from our sponsors. We continue to invite sponsors for the 2014 season as Martin and the rest of the Rebel Rock / MBRP Racing team take on the Continental Tire Sportscar Challenge. Click the links below to learn more about our sponsors.



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