



Johnny Mowlem

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MOWLEM AND GIUDICI PILOT LOTUS EVORA TO A FIRST GT4 VICTORY AT VALLELUNGA

ROME (Nov. 29, 2010) – Johnny Mowlem and Gianni Giudici showed class and tenacity to display what a Lotus Evora GT4 can do as they romped to victory in the GT4 class of the Vallelunga 6 Hour race at Autodromo di Vallelunga recently.

Mowlem set the class pole in a soaking wet qualifying, over three seconds faster than their closest factory Maserati competitors, and then teamed with veteran driver Gianni Giudici to win their class in the prestigious race, also finishing 10th overall.

"It's always important to win," Mowlem said. "But this time that's especially true because it proves what the Lotus Evora GT4 can do and how well the Xtrac gearbox works in this application. It was especially gratifying because the whole Lotus Motorsport team only finished this first customer GT4 race car hours before it had to leave on the truck for Italy. It only ran a total of 14 kilometers as a shakedown at the Lotus test track, but it then ran trouble free for three hours of practice and then six hours in the race. That is a testament to how good the whole Lotus Motorsport team is, both at the track and back at the factory. That bodes very well for the future of Lotus Motorsport's race programs."

Johnny drove for the first three hours in a race that started wet but then slowly

dried. Giudici drove the middle stint and then Mowlem drove the final two hours on slicks in what was always a damp, and by the end, very wet, track.

"In relative terms, the wetter the track the better the Lotus was compared to its competitors, even compared to the GT2 and GT3 classes," Mowlem said. "It was also nice to be able to have a good fight for the class victory against good drivers like Andrea Chiesa and Gabriel Gardel. I thought Gianni did a fantastic job to hold the Maserati at bay during his laps and I'm just proud that we were able to help show how good this Lotus is compared to all the other GT4's out there."

Mowlem has won in GT in both the 24 Hour race at Daytona and the 12 Hours of Sebring, and has placed on the GT podium at Le Mans. He has raced at Vallelunga many times and this time he won in the wet.

"Welcome to sports car racing in November!" grinned Mowlem. "Although I must admit I expected better weather in the south of Italy!"

Johnny Mowlem is both a factory racing and development driver for Lotus. Among the most respected road racers in the world, Mowlem lives in England with his family.