

12th – 18th October 2023

Date: **Friday, 13th October 2023**
Subject: **STEWARDS DECISION N° 1**

Time: **10.00 hrs**
Document No: **2.3**

From: *The Stewards*
To: Competitor **Car No 227 Name OVERDRIVE RACING**
Crew: **Isidre Esteve Pujol / José María Villalobos**

Number of pages: 2

Attachments: 0

The Stewards, having received a report from the FIA Technical Delegate (Doc No 6.2), and after hearing the representative from Overdrive Racing Mr. Jean-Marc Fortin, have considered the following matter, determine the following:

Fact: No marking was found on the fuel tank of Car No 227.

Offence: Breach of Appendix J of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code Art. 283-14-1 and Art. 285-1.

Decision: **To impose a fine penalty of 10000 EUR on the Competitor Overdrive Racing**, which is suspended until the end of the 2024 W2RC season, subject to no other similar breach in this period.

Reason: The Overdrive representative explained that the manufacturer was experiencing some issues with the adhesive used to laminate the white FIA label to the Bladder model in question. The manufacturer is working on a plan to replace all the identification marks on all Overdrive vehicles but was unable to do so on time on Car No 227.

The Team Representative presented a certificate issued by the manufacturer (Premier Fuel Systems LTD) explaining all the situation.

According to the article 285-1 of the Appendix J of the 2023 International Sporting Code, *“only fuel tanks conforming to the FT3-1999, FT3.5-1999 or FT5-1999 standards are permitted”*.

Article 283-14.1 of the Appendix J of the 2023 International Sporting Code also describes the mandatory marking for the FIA approved safety fuel tanks:

Marking and validity of tanks

Each tank must have a marking with the following information:

- Name of the FIA standard
- FIA homologation number
- Name of the manufacturer
- Serial number
- Date of end of validity

In addition to the App. J Art. 283, the FT3 standards for safety fuel bladders states that *“the markings shall be designed to remain legible for the expected use and lifespan of the fuel bladder. The label shall be made out of destruct-on-removal material”*.

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Art. 1.3 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code is clear in stating that any person, or group of persons, organising a Competition or taking part therein:

-shall be deemed to be acquainted with the statutes and regulations of the FIA and the national regulations.

-shall undertake to submit themselves without reserve to the above and to the decisions of the sporting authority and to the consequences resulting therefrom.

The Stewards understand that it was an issue from the side of the supplier, but also remind the Competitor about his responsibility to ensure the conformity of the vehicle.

FIA Technical Delegate confirmed that he did not detect any damage to the fuel tank.

The Stewards believe that there is sufficient reason to trust the explanations given by the Competitor and the content of the supplier's certificate submitted with the explanations. Therefore, decides that the car no 227 can be allowed to participate in the FIA event Rallye du Maroc 2023

The Stewards decide that in any case it is the responsibility of the Competitor to ensure that the car meets all technical and safety requirements, including mandatory marking of the fuel tanks.

The Stewards finally conclude that there is a breach of the regulations and that a fine is necessary but sufficient for the reasons set out here.


Due to the certificate issued by the supplier assuming its responsibility, the Stewards accepted the excuse from Overdrive Racing and therefore they suspended the fine.

The decision is based on the FIA International Sporting Code Art. 11.9.1, Art. 11.9.3 f, Art. 12.3.1, Art. 12.4.1.c. and Art. 12.4.6.

Competitors are reminded of their right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules, within the applicable time limits.


Arnas PALIUKENAS
FIA Chairperson of the Stewards


Mauro FURLANETTO
FIA Steward


Ahmed HOUBRI
ASN Steward

Received:

Competitor: **OVERDRIVE RACING**

Car No: 227

Crew: **Isidre Esteve Pujol / José Maria Villalobos**

Date: **13/10/2023**

Time: **10/18**

Signature: 

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