

2011 Formula Nippon Rd.1  
SUZUKA Circuit  
14 May 2011

## QUALIFYING

2011 Formula Nippon season got under way today at Suzuka circuit and mixed fortunes for PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S drivers Andre Loterer and Kazuki Nakajima qualifying 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> for tomorrow's season opener race.

- Andre fixed his car after morning practice and could to find right direction to set up
- Kazuki changed set up for qualifying but it made unexpected result for him
- Andre went on with good pace to Q3 run on to qualify on the third row of the grid

Drivers	Car No.	Chassis No.	Practice	Qualifying 1	Qualifying 2	Qualifying 3
Andre Lotterer	36		P 11	P 6	P 8	P 6
Kazuki Nakajima	37		P 6	P 14	P	P

Weather	Overcast	
Temperatures	Air: 24-24C	Track: 33-31C

### ANDRE LOTTERER

"My car was much better than morning practice. I am happy with my car thanks to team made a good job to fit with 2011 version Bridgestone tyres in qualifying. But we are 0.8 second away from top. We are still not on the where we want to be but we have progress. We need to work hard on race pace in morning practice tomorrow for opening round race."

### KAZUKI NAKAJIMA

"Clearly that was not good start of the season and I'm disappointed about the qualify result today. After morning practice, we tried to change the set up for qualifying but our performance did not turn out we expected it was bad direction to change. Andre made good job to set the pace, so we will share the data and get together for tomorrow race"

### TSUTOMU TOJO (Engineer for car No. 36)

"We struggle a little to find set up for new 2011 Bridgestone tyres in the morning practice and we were good shape in qualify. Andre got through to Q3 and he made good job to start on third row race tomorrow. But we were stayed away 0.8 second from top car that need to work hard to get together for race. We will try to make the car in morning practice tomorrow."

### MASAKI SAEDA (Engineer for car No. 37)

"In the practice session this morning was not bad. Then we tried to improve more for qualifying but we could not turn it out and Kazuki missed out the place to Q2. We tried to set the time right after out lap from pit but tyres were not warm enough."

### NOBUHIDE TACHI

"Today was quite disappointing qualifying session for the team. We could not set the cars on new Bridgestone rubbers. Especially for Kazuki was knocked out in Q1, it is very sorry for him that his first formula car race after coming back to Japan. I believe our team is in strong shape for race tomorrow by hard work everybody in our team and to get good result."