



By appointment  
to HM The Queen  
motor car manufacturers  
Bentley Motors Limited  
Crewe Cheshire



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**BENTLEY**

## Press Information

### **BENTLEY WINS BLANCPAIN GT SERIES ENDURANCE TITLE**

- **Bentley Motorsport wins the world's toughest GT3 endurance title**
- **Bentley Team M-Sport takes the Teams title following a win at Paul Ricard and a second place at 24 Hours of Spa**
- **Team work and spirit overcome adversity in Barcelona finale**

**02 October 2017, Crewe** – Bentley Motorsport has won the Blancpain GT Series Endurance Cup with Bentley Team M-Sport at a rollercoaster final round in Barcelona.

The team entered the championship finale as Endurance Cup leaders with a 16-point advantage over its nearest rival, thanks to a win at the Paul Ricard 1000 km and a second place finish in the prestigious 24 Hours of Spa.

Bentley's Director of Motorsport, Brian Gush, comments: "Securing the Endurance Cup Teams title is testament to the hard work that every single member of Bentley Motorsport and Bentley Team M-Sport has put in to this season. I'm proud of our achievements as a team and we'll use the energy from this championship win as we start preparations for 2018. We'll be back next year aiming to go one better and secure the driver's title too."

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The title-winning weekend was not as easy as the team had hoped it would be. Following a crash in the qualifying session, the #7 Continental GT3 #7 required a full front-end rebuild - but after impeccable teamwork the car started the race at the back of the pack of 49 GT3s. Three hours later it crossed the line in P19 thanks to flawless driving and focused determination from the British trio of Guy Smith, Oliver Jarvis and Steven Kane.



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Meanwhile, the #8 Continental GT3 had a tricky qualifying in a disrupted session and started the race from 28<sup>th</sup>. Carving through the pack, Vince Abril (MC), Andy Soucek (ES) and Maxime Soulet (BE) climbed up into the top-ten, putting them in the effective lead of the Endurance Cup drivers' title. However, a mechanical failure with 90 minutes to go ended the chance of taking the driver's title.

However, with 88 points scored from a consistently strong season, Bentley Team M-Sport had done enough to secure the Blancpain GT Series Endurance Cup title.

Bentley Motorsport will announce its plans for 2018 shortly, while reflecting on a 2017 season that has seen the Continental GT3 secure two more championships in its fourth year of competition.

- ENDS -

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### **Notes to editors**

- Bentley Motorsport is based at the Bentley Motors headquarters in Crewe. From there, the operation runs Bentley Team M-Sport, and oversees three Works-supported teams around the world.
- The Continental GT3 is built by the Bentley motorsport team in conjunction with M-Sport. The Bentley GT3 team is led by Bentley Director of Motorsport, Brian Gush supported by M-Sport's Chief Engineer, Christian Loriaux.



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- Bentley Motors' headquarters in Crewe is home to all of its operations including design, R&D, engineering and production of the company's four model lines, Continental, Bentayga, Flying Spur and Mulsanne. The combination of fine craftsmanship, using skills that have been handed down through generations, alongside engineering expertise and cutting-edge technology is unique to UK luxury car brands.

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