





LUCAS AUER FASTER THAN ESTEBAN OCON AND MAX VERSTAPPEN

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17.10.2014. Only a few days after the tenth race weekend of the FIA Formula 3 European Championship at Imola, the young drivers are already back in action at the 4.574 kilometres long Hockenheimring Baden-Württemberg. In free practice for the final weekend, Lucas Auer (kfzteile24 Mücke Motorsport, 1:32.861 minutes) set the fastest time. The Austrian ranked ahead of already-crowned champion Esteban Ocon (Prema Powerteam, 1:32.861 minutes), who was classified second. Max Verstappen (Van Amersfoort Racing, 1:33.132 minutes) and Tom Blomqvist (Jagonya Ayam with Carlin, 1:33.158 minutes), the two fiercest rivals in the battle for second place in the drivers' standings, ended up third and fourth respectively.

In the final minutes, there was a close battle between Esteban Ocon, Max Verstappen and Lucas Auer for first position in free practice. With two minutes remaining, 18-year-old Ocon still topped the time sheets, but Verstappen and Auer already showed their potential with fastest sector times. A little bit later, Mücke driver Auer succeeded in beating the French Formula 1 junior driver's fastest time, after which the Austrian took first place. There, he remained until the end of the session.

Esteban Ocon ended up second in the final free practice session of the season, followed by Verstappen, Blomqvist, Antonio Fuoco (Prema Powerteam, 1:33.246 minutes), Félix Serrallés (Team West-Tec F3, 1:33.396 minutes) and Jordan King (Carlin, 1:33.441 minutes). Nick Cassidy (ThreeBond with T-Sport, 1:33.506 minutes), who is in only his second race weekend in the 2014 FIA Formula 3 European Championship, was classified eighth from Gustavo Menezes (Van Amersfoort Racing, 1:33.584 minutes) and Dennis van de Laar (Prema Powerteam, 1:33.586 minutes). GP2 driver Stefano Coletti (Eurointernational, 1:34.569 minutes) ended up in 21st place upon his Formula 3 comeback.