

3rd PLACE CROWNS PAGENAUD'S SECOND INDYCAR CAMPAIGN



MATV 500 - FONTANA (October 18-19)

Although an engine problem brought his bid for 2013 IndyCar runner-up honors to a premature halt, Simon Pagenaud ultimately completed the American series in third position. It was an excellent result and two places better than the fifth spot he secured in 2012 when he was also crowned 'Best Rookie'. The Frenchman's second full campaign in one of the world's most competitive single-seater racing championships saw him emerge as a real benchmark thanks to a score of two victories which kept him in contention for the title until the very end, despite facing opposition from far more battle-hardened teams and drivers. Simon Pagenaud is also the first French driver to claim a top-three finish in the final IndyCar classification.

Simon Pagenaud: *"The opening laps were quite a challenge because of a problem we had with our tires. Thankfully, we managed to cure that and get back into the thick of the race. My car was very competitive, especially in traffic, which meant I was able to recover my one-lap deficit and fight my way back to eighth, then fifth. I think my car was among the weekend's five or six most competitive machines. Unfortunately, I ended up hitting engine trouble which was obviously a huge shame because we had shown that we were capable of running at the very front of the field. Our performances have been very consistent and I believe we will now be a threat at every race. This was only my second season in IndyCar and I ended up third. I am very proud of everybody at Schmidt Hamilton HP Motorsports. We have achieved so much together during the year!"*

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PALMARES

Born: May 18, 1984, in Poitiers, France. Single. Lives in Indianapolis
 1994-99: Karting
 2000: Winner of Elf ACO scholarship aged 16
 2001: 2nd, French Formula Campus
 2002: 3rd, French Formula Renault
 2003: 3rd, Formula Renault Masters Series
 2004: 2nd, European Formula Renault
 2005: World Series by Renault
 2006: 1st, Atlantic Series
 2007: 8th, Champ Car (Most Improved Driver Award)
 2008: ALMS with ACURA/De Ferran Motorsports
 2009: 2nd, ALMS/Acura (5 wins, 7PP, 7 fastest race laps)
 1st, 1000km de Spa (LMS)/Peugeot Sport (pole, fastest race lap)
 2010: 1st, ALMS/Highcroft Racing (4 wins, 3 pole, 4 fastest race laps).
 1st, Spa 1000 km/Peugeot Sport (LMS). Pole position Le Mans 24 Hours/Peugeot Sport
 2011 : 2nd, Sebring 12 Hours/Highcroft Racing.
 2nd, Le Mans 24 Hours/Peugeot Sport, 1st Silverstone (ILMC). 3rd Surfers Paradise (V8 Supercars)
 2012: 5th, IndyCar Series (4 podiums finishes). Best Rookie.
 2013: 3rd, IndyCar Series (2 wins). 1st, Road America (ALMS LMP2)/Level 5

