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Team Motopark End Involvement in GP2 and GP3

By: Cyril Nikitenko – Feature Writer

Team Motopark from Oschersleben, Germany has announced that it will no longer be involved in the GP2 and GP3 Series championships in 2014 where it raced under RUSSIAN TIME banner last year and won the Teams' Title at first attempt.

The news comes just two weeks after the death of Igor Mazepa (RUS) who was the main driving force behind the joint project.

Mazepa's heirs tried to apparently renegotiate the contracts which led to Team Motopark's decision to withdraw its support for the operation.

"The conditions they had in mind would have resulted in us not being competitive any more," said Team Motopark's principal Timo Rumpfkeil. "However, it had always been the aim of both Igor Mazepa and ourselves to establish Russian Time at the very top of every championship we enter. We showed that we are capable of doing so by winning the GP2 teams' title in our maiden season last year. This was where we should have continued. As this seems no longer possible, the cooperation between my Team Motopark and RUSSIAN TIME unfortunately has come to an end."

Tom Dillman, RUSSIAN TIME GP2 driver in 2013, commented on Twitter: "I am disappointed for everyone at @TeamMotopark. They are the guys who made it a winning team."

This outcome also leaves planned GP3 drivers Marvin Kirchhoefer, Jimmy Eriksson and Markus Pommer without a drive for 2014.

There had been no official statement from the GP2 Series' organisers about the situation or RUSSIAN TIME's presence in the 2014 GP2/GP3 Series' events, although some sources claim a solution can be found quickly for RUSSIAN TIME to take part in both championships.

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