

MIGUEL RAMOS

How did you start in racing?

I started out initially in Autocross where I mainly competed on gravel circuits. This is where I developed my first taste of racing and subsequently achieved my first victories at the beginning of the 90s.

What does it mean to you to be an official Aston Martin Racing works team driver?

Being an Official Aston Martin Racing works team driver is an honour and an enormous responsibility. You can imagine how happy I am to be part of such a legendary brand, with the incomparable prestige and exclusivity that is recognised all over the world.

How does your racing experience influence your approach to your new position within Aston Martin Racing?

In my racing career I have driven a wide variety of different race cars. This includes Touring cars, Formula cars, GT, Prototypes, etc. I have competed in sprint races as well as endurance races. I hope that with my wealth of experience I will be ready for this new and exciting challenge.

You're obviously very experienced, do you expect to be able to utilise your knowledge from 2004 and being back in a prototype which could help AMR this season?

It is an unbelievable feeling to drive a prototype race car. Although I haven't driven one since 2004, I'm really looking forward to the opportunity to race again in this type of race car. I know that the cars have changed a lot since I last raced in one, but I am confident that I can perform well and help Aston Martin Racing get the best result possible.

There is a degree of history at Le Mans for Aston Martin as well as Gulf Oil. 2009 marks Aston Martin's overall win in 1959. How does it feel to be part of an iconic and historic pairing?

It is an opportunity of a life-time, a dream come true. Not just to race in the iconic livery of Gulf which is synonymous with Le Mans, but to be part of a team like Aston Martin Racing and having the opportunity to be part of their history.

Is there a little bit of nervousness this year and anticipation of your first outing in the new LMP1 race car at Paul Ricard?

Yes, I feel a little bit nervous about my first experience in the new LMP1 car. As I'm not only new to the car but also the team, I need to adapt to the new dynamics within Aston Martin Racing as well as learn about the car as quickly as possible.

Peugeot has built up a bit of a rivalry with Audi over the last two years. Does that add a bit of an edge to the season - and how are you looking forward to taking on the two diesels?

I believe that we must focus on our own races throughout the season. We will obviously do the best we can, be as fast as possible, and of course hope that we get a bit of good fortune. Luck is always important in motorsport, but I believe the results will come naturally if we are able to get all the necessary workings in place.

What are your expectations for this season with a new team?

My expectations for the season are to respond according to the team needs and in time. I will be part of one of the most professional teams in the world and there is great expectation to perform to the highest possible standard.

What realistic personal goals are you hoping to achieve this year?

I intend to be as fast as my team mates and correspond to the team strategy in any situation.

How are you preparing physically and mentally for the season and the Le Mans 24 Hour race?

I have already completed a trip to Formula Medicine in Italy for some intensive driver training. Formula Medicine offers medical-athletic support to motor racers. I have been designed a specific physical programme which I am working to for the season.

