



BMW TEAM RLL SWEEPS GT FRONT ROW AT LIME ROCK PARK

Woodcliff Lake, N.J. – July 8, 2011... Joey Hand picked up right where he left off nine weeks ago – at the front of the American Le Mans Series GT field after qualifying the No. 56 BMW M3 GT on the class pole for tomorrow's Northeast Grand Prix. With a 50.925 second lap of the 1.474-mile, 7-turn Lime Rock Park circuit Hand set a new qualifying record and will lead the 15-car GT class to the green flag for the start of the two-hour-and- forty-five-minute race. The No. 55 M3 GT of Bill Auberlen and Dirk Werner will line up second for an all BMW GT front row. Dirk Werner qualified the car with a 51.179 second lap. Hand along with co-drivers Dirk Müller and Andy Priaulx, won the opening round of the 2011 ALMS season, leading a 1-2 BMW Team RLL GT class finish at the 12 Hours of Sebring. Hand and Müller scored a second consecutive victory at Long Beach and lead the GT point standings.

BMW Team RLL BMW Performance Parts **Video: Joey Hand, driver No. 56 M3 GT (pole)**

<http://youtu.be/7PVFk3hDK-0> **Video: Dirk Werner, driver No. 55 M3 GT (second)**

<http://youtu.be/IZq9M5R6nNI>

The two-hour-and-forty-five-minute Northeast Grand Prix is scheduled to take the green flag at 2:05 p.m. ET Saturday. The race will be broadcast live on ESPN3.com and rebroadcast on ESPN2 from 1 - 3 p.m. ET on Sunday, July, 10. **About BMW Team RLL: BMW Group In America** BMW of North America, LLC has been present in the United States since 1975. The BMW Group in the United States has grown to include marketing, sales, and financial service organizations for the BMW brand of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, the MINI brand, and the Rolls-Royce brand of Motor Cars; DesignworksUSA, a strategic design consultancy in California; a technology office in Silicon Valley and various other operations throughout the country. BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC in South Carolina is part of BMW Group's global manufacturing network and is the exclusive manufacturing plant for all X5 and X3 Sports Activity Vehicles and X6 Sports Activity Coupes. The BMW Group sales organization is represented in the U.S. through networks of 338 BMW passenger car and BMW Sports Activity Vehicle centers, 138 BMW motorcycle retailers, 105 MINI passenger car dealers, and 30 Rolls-Royce Motor Car dealers. BMW (US) Holding Corp., the BMW Group's sales headquarters for North America, is located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. **Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing** BMW's partner, Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing, based in Hilliard, Ohio and co-owned by three-time IndyCar Champion and 1986 Indianapolis 500 winner Bobby Rahal, Mi-Jack co-owner Mike Lanigan and CBS LATE SHOW host David Letterman, has been competing for nearly two decades, compiling 22 victories, 31 poles and two series

BMW Team RLL BMW Performance Parts championships (1992, 2010) as well as claiming an

Indianapolis 500 victory (Buddy Rice in 2004). In 2009 the team joined BMW of North America to

campaign the new BMW M3 in the American Le Mans Series, and in 2010 won both the

Manufacturer and Team Championships in the GT category. # # # **Journalist note:**

Information about the BMW and its products is available to journalists on-line at

www.bmwusanews.com. Video interviews and on-board clips are available at

www.youtube.com/BMWNAMotorsport. Follow BMW Team RLL on Twitter at

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Racing is available via at: www.rahall.com

