



FIM ASIA
SUPERMOTO
CHAMPIONSHIP 2018



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vilhelmsen draws first blood on opening day of FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 season

Dane draws first blood going fastest in day's practice sessions

Bangkok, Thailand, 11 August 2018 – Proceedings for the first round of the FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 at the Thailand Circuit, Nakhonchaisri got underway on Saturday with practice sessions in variable weather conditions. The three 30-minute free practice sessions were designed to give the riders in this season's Championship the chance to acclimatise to the track and strategise on the weekend's setup options.

Despite starting the day in dry conditions, the mid-afternoon showers did give the team and riders an opportunity to also assess setup options in varying conditions of the alternating off-road hard-packed dirt track, motocross-style obstacles and paved road-racing asphalt track.

Topping the time sheets in the final practice session of the day was one of the main protagonists in the race for the Championship crown, Simon Vilhelmsen of Denmark. Ranked fourth in the world, The Dane clocked in with his best effort of 1m 15.241s, ahead of Thai ace, Trakarn Thangthong (1m 15.425s). Third quickest in the final session with a best time of 1m 16.379s was Malaysia's seasoned-campaigner, Muhammad Habbibullah or Gabit as he is better known.

Commenting on his sessions, Vilhelmsen notes, "For me it was a good day, though a little bit difficult as it was my first time on the track and we only had three practice sessions with the second session in wet conditions. But we did manage a good setup for the bike, it was nice to run and I had good grip with my tyres. I am looking forward to tomorrow now that I know the track and I can go back and think about it. For sure we will be way faster tomorrow!"

"The much anticipated FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 is finally here with the practice sessions today kicking off proceedings for the opening round of the season here at the Thailand Circuit, Nakhonchaisri in Bangkok. Although the riders use these sessions as a chance to better understand the track and for the team to explore setup options for qualifying tomorrow, it is indicative of the high level of competition we can expect in the coming days!" commented Andrew Ching, Chief Executive Officer of E-Plus Global Sdn Bhd, promoter and organiser of the FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship.

Proceedings for the opening round continue on Sunday, 12 August with the qualifying and SuperChrono sessions, ahead of the two races (Moto 1 and Moto2) scheduled on Monday, 13 August. The round will be streamed live through its OTT channel partners, twenty3.tv and twowheels.tv. More information on the FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship is available at www.supermotoasia.com and at www.facebook.com/FIMAsiaSupermoto.

The FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 is promoted and organised by E-Plus Global Sdn. Bhd., and is sanctioned by the Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme with the support of Federation Of Motor Sports Clubs Of Thailand (FMSCT), National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association (NAMSSA), Ikatan Motor Indonesia (IMI), Motor Sports Singapore (MSS) and Automobile Association of Malaysia (AAM).

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Free Practice 3 Results (Unofficial, selected)

Pos	Rider	Bike #	Team	Best Time
1	Simon Vilhelmsen (DEN)	64	Team Del Michelin Racing	1:15.241s
2	Trakarn Thangthong (THA)	5	K45 Maxima	1:15.425s
3	Muhd Habibullah (MAS)	27		1:16.379s
4	Makoto Arai (JPN)	101	Autorace KYT Global Racing	1:17.812s
5	Ahmad Daniel Haiqal	99		1:18.032s
6	Kenneth San Andres	12	Philippine SuperMoto Team	1:20.566s
7	Khairi Zakaria	32	Johor Racing Team	1:22.177s
8	Jaturaporn Ruengphk	23		1:22.991s

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ABOUT THE FIM ASIA SUPERMOTO CHAMPIONSHIP

Launched in 2016, the FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship enters its third season in 2018 with five rounds in Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia. Featuring riders who will compete on a track that alternates between off-road hard-packed dirt track, motocross-style obstacles and paved road-racing asphalt tarmac. Growing from strength to strength since its inception, the Championship remains single-minded in its objective toward the continued development and growth of SuperMoto in the region in addition to contributing to the active promotion of motorsports in Asia.

2018 FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship Calendar

Round 1	11 to 13 August	Thailand Circuit, Nakhonchaisri (Thailand)
Round 2	7 to 9 September	Quirino Grandstand, Manila (Philippines)
Round 3	26 to 28 October	Kupang City, East Nusa Tenggara (Indonesia)
Round 4	23 to 25 November	KF1 Circuit, Kranji (Singapore)
Round 5	30 November to 2 December	Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)

ABOUT E-PLUS GLOBAL SDN BHD

Incorporated in 2004, E-Plus Global Sdn Bhd is a full-fledged one-stop event management company. The multi award-winning agency is the brainchild of a dynamic and creative team that provides innovative and creative ideas in both planning and executing events for clients, both locally and internationally.

Recognised as one of the top and more experienced events management agencies in the region, the company continually seeks to elevate industry practices through its unique, creative and innovative ideas. In recent years, it has expanded operations to five other countries in the region and currently operates in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.

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