



**FIM ASIA**  
SUPERMOTO  
CHAMPIONSHIP 2018



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**PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Vilhelmsen claims the double at FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 Thai season opener**

*Dane takes early championship lead following two race wins*

**Bangkok, Thailand, 13 August 2018** – The final day of action at the first round of the FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 at the Thailand Circuit, Nakhonchaisri saw the riders take to the grid for the Moto1 and Moto2 races on Monday. Following a near perfect performance throughout the weekend, it was the Danish rider, Simon Vilhelmsen who claimed top honours following his double with wins in both races.

The day had begun with the riders taking to the grid for the Moto1 race with Vilhelmsen in pole position ahead of the United Kingdom's Lewis Cornish and Malaysia's Muhammad Habibullah or Gabit, as he is better known. A strong start saw the world number four take a comprehensive lights to flag victory ahead of his championship rival, Cornish who fought a brave race due to ill health to finish in second place. Rounding off the podium in the Moto1 race was Thai ace, Trakarn Thangthong who saw off the challenge from Gabit at the start to claim a third place finish.

With the grid for the Moto2 race determined by the full combined results from qualifying and the SuperChrono shootout session, held on the previous day, it was again Vilhelmsen, Cornish and Gabit locking out the front row in first, second and third positions, respectively. Despite a strong challenge off the line at the start, the Dane was able to keep his cool and the lead all the way to the chequered flag, though Cornish kept him honest throughout the duration of the afternoon race. Behind the leading two, it was a battle of wits between Gabit and Trakarn, one that saw the local hero prevail to claim third place with the Malaysian taking home a strong fourth place finish.

Commenting on his double, Vilhelmsen notes, "I'm really pleased with the results from this weekend and am really happy with the results from this weekend, which is a great start to the campaign this season. I had a really good ride in both races, as my strategy was to try to race it like it was a practice session, trying to stay consistent and pace myself for the whole race because it will be good for me later on in the season. I have perfect support from all our partners and would like to thank them for making this possible."

Successfully leveraging on home-ground advantage with two third place finishes, Trakarn notes, "I am very happy to be amongst the best of the Asian riders. It was quite difficult to follow Simon (Vilhelmsen) and Lewis (Cornish) as they are very fast so I concentrated on my own race and am delighted with the results."

Commenting on the level of racing at the opening round of the Championship, FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship Ambassador and two-time World Superbike Champion Troy Corser adds, "I think both races were quite exciting and really demonstrated how all the riders had improved throughout the course of the weekend. This really bodes well for the rest of the season as today's racing really sets up what I think will be a very closely fought FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 season."

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“What an exciting start to the FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 season! Right from the get go – from the practice, qualifying, SuperChrono sessions through to the two thrilling races today, we can expect a really competitive and closely fought season. Our congratulations to Simon Vilhelmsen on what was a really flawless weekend capped off with the double and a perfect start to his campaign this season.” commented Andrew Ching, Chief Executive Officer of E-Plus Global Sdn Bhd, promoter and organiser of the FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship.

With the conclusion of the first round, the FIM Asia SuperMoto Championship 2018 moves on to the Quirino Grandstand in Manila, Philippines next for round two scheduled from 7 to 9 September. Round three will take place in Kupang City, East Nusa Tenggara in Indonesia (26 – 28 October) with the final two rounds at the KF1 circuit in Singapore (23 – 25 November) and Malaysia (30 November – 2 December). All the races 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](http://www.supermotoasia.com) and at [www.facebook.com/FIMAsiaSupermoto](https://www.facebook.com/FIMAsiaSupermoto).

#### **Overall Standings after Round 1 (Top 10)**

Pos	Rider	Team	Moto1 Race	Moto2 Race	Total
1	Simon Vilhelmsen (DEN)	Team DEL Michelin Racing	25	25	50
2	Lewis Cornish (GBR)	Team KMTR Asia	22	22	44
3	Trakarn Thangthong (THA)	K45 Maxima	20	20	40
4	Muhammad Habibullah (MAS)		18	18	36
5	Mohammad Khairi Zakaria (MAS)	Johor Racing Team	16	16	32
6	Ahmad Daniel Haiqal (MAS)		15	15	30
7	Makoto Arai (JPN)	Autorace KYT Global Racing	14	14	28
8	Jaturaporn Ruengphk (THA)		12	13	25
9	Kenneth San Andres (PHI)	Philippine SuperMoto Team	13	12	25
10	Mark Reggie Flores	Philippine SuperMoto Team	11	11	22

#### **Moto2 Race Results (Selected)**

Pos	Rider	Bike #	Team	Best Time
1	Simon Vilhelmsen (DEN)	64	Team Del Michelin Racing	1:10.592s
2	Lewis Cornish (GBR)	8	Team KMTR Asia	1:11.880s
3	Trakarn Thangthong (THA)	5	K45 Maxima	1:12.052s
4	Muhd Habibullah (MAS)	27		1:12.780s
5	Mohammad Khairi Zakaria (MAS)	32	Johor Racing Team	1:14.504s
6	Ahmad Daniel Haiqal (MAS)	99		1:14.420s
7	Makoto Arai (JPN)	101	Autorace KYT Global Racing	1:14.704s
8	Jaturaporn Ruengphk (THA)	23		1:16.305s
9	Kenneth San Andres (PHI)	12	Philippine SuperMoto Team	1:16.460s
10	Mark Reggie Flores (PHI)	17	Philippine SuperMoto Team	1:19.510s

#### **Moto1 Race Results (Selected)**

Pos	Rider	Bike #	Team	Best Time
1	Simon Vilhelmsen (DEN)	64	Team Del Michelin Racing	1:09.702s
2	Lewis Cornish (GBR)	8	Team KMTR Asia	1:10.752s
3	Trakarn Thangthong (THA)	5	K45 Maxima	1:11.806s
4	Muhd Habibullah (MAS)	27		1:13.299s
5	Mohammad Khairi Zakaria (MAS)	32	Johor Racing Team	1:13.532s
6	Ahmad Daniel Haiqal	99		1:13.430s
7	Makoto Arai (JPN)	101	Autorace KYT Global Racing	1:14.365s
8	Kenneth San Andres (PHI)	12	Philippine SuperMoto Team	1:16.110s
9	Jaturaporn Ruengphk	23		1:15.618s
10	Mark Reggie Flores (PHI)	17	Philippine SuperMoto Team	1:17.749s



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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).

**Issued by**

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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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