

EUROPEAN GRAND PRIX 2003 TESTING, FREE PRACTICE & FIRST QUALIFYING Friday 27th June

Giancarlo Fisichella and Ralph Firman were 9th and 14th in first qualifying, Fisichella setting his time in dry conditions and Firman completing his flying lap on a wet track as rain fell continuously throughout the second half of the session.

TESTING

Ralph Firman	4 th	1:33.019	43 laps
Giancarlo Fisichella	7 th	1:34.579	35 laps

FREE PRACTICE

Giancarlo Fisichella	13 th	1:32.692	16 laps
Ralph Firman	18 th	1:33.643	17 laps

QUALIFYING

GIANCARLO FISICHELLA 9th 1:32.196
CHASSIS NUMBER EJ13-04

"For the first time in my life, I think, I've been lucky and my place in the starting order allowed me dry conditions. It was a good lap and the balance wasn't too bad but I was two seconds off the pace which is frustrating. It's a combination of tyres and our whole package."

RALPH FIRMAN 14th 1:53.893
CHASSIS NUMBER EJ13-03

"It's disappointing for me that it rained halfway through the session but I suppose it was inevitable that it would happen at some point this year and unfortunately I wasn't on the beneficial end of it. 14th place is okay as it means tomorrow there will be a few cars out before me and that should be a good thing."

GARY ANDERSON DIRECTOR OF RACE AND TEST ENGINEERING

"It is a bit difficult to judge where we are compared to everyone else because qualifying was split in two with the weather change. I have to say that we weren't looking very competitive with Giancarlo's time as far as dry weather conditions are concerned. As Giancarlo says, we need to improve our complete package – chassis, engine and tyres. Ralph did a competent job in the conditions. He had to get a lap in to make sure he's not out first tomorrow, which is important - if it's wet tomorrow, as forecast, there will be a few cars out before him to move some water off the track."

The spare car (chassis EJ13-02) is set up for Ralph Firman.



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