

Press Release:

Alex Lloyd secures one-off race in Renault World Series in Monaco

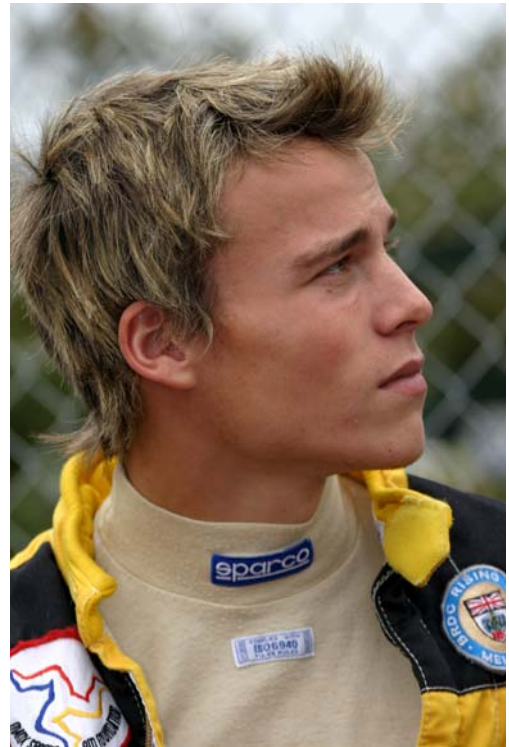
In a last minute deal, Alex Lloyd has secured a one-off drive for the Le Mans-based DAMS team in the new-for-2005 Renault World Series championship this coming weekend in Monaco – Grand Prix Weekend - motor racing's most glamorous event, it's so-called "Jewel in the Crown"

The DAMS regular driver was involved in a heavy crash at the last race weekend, resulting in the car being virtually written off, with the driver having to miss next week's prestigious race in Monaco through injury.

The DAMS team worked frantically to rebuild the car, virtually from the ground upwards, and Alex has been able to secure sufficient backing to compete in the Monaco round on May 22nd.

Alex travelled down to Magny Cours on Friday to give the car a shakedown, but gear selection and clutch problems, coupled with a sudden violent thunderstorm, meant that the car was only able to run a few laps.

Despite this, Alex spoke positively of the car, which is slightly quicker than the F3000 car in which he was a race winner last year.



"This is the first time I have driven one of these cars", he declared "but it is immediately obvious that the grip levels are higher than the F3000 which I drove last year, and the engine torque is superb. Although we had a few problems which we could not fix in the time available to us, and the weather was unkind to us, I suspect these are just teething troubles, as the car is virtually brand new. The DAMS team are very efficient and organised, so we should have these fixed for this Thursday's test in Monaco.



"I haven't driven a World Series car before, I haven't done a pitstop before and I haven't driven the Monaco circuit before, so the pressure is well and truly on! There is only one short test session before qualifying, so to be truthful, this is a top quality field and I'm not really holding out great hopes for a stunning result, but whatever the obstacles or the circumstances, I don't race just to make up the numbers, I'll give it my best shot, and this should be an unmissable weekend. I'd like to extend my grateful thanks to my sponsors, Clerical Medical, who helped make it happen at such short notice."



Following the brief test session this Thursday, qualifying then takes place on Saturday, with the main 25-lap race at 11:20 local time on Sunday – just after the Formula One qualifying session and just before the F1 race - which will ensure huge crowds and an incredible atmosphere. Corporate hospitality is rife in Monaco – it is where so many big deals are cemented.

The Renault World Series race is due to be covered in the UK live on Motors TV at 10:20 UK time on Sunday 22nd May, with highlights later that evening at 9pm on Eurosport.

There are 32 drivers registered for the event with 15 teams

Alex will then dash back from Monaco on Sunday to test for the British A1GP team at Brands Hatch, where he has been shortlisted for Team Great Britain in the forthcoming "World Cup of Motorsport" in September:

A1GP:

Left to right:
Christian Horner, Ralph Firman,
Robbie Kerr, John Surtees, Alex Lloyd

