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MEDIA RELEASE

New Zealand Homecoming a Mixed Bag of Results for Gaunt and LDM:

For Lucas Dumbrell Motorsport (LDM) driver Daniel Gaunt the ITM 400 Hamilton turned out to be a mixed bag of results over the weekend in what was his New Zealand homecoming.

The New Zealand homecoming from the Auckland based driver resulted in a disappointing qualifying outcome of 27th and 29th on the grid for both races, while the weekend improved with a 19th place finish in the opening race and then a season best 17th place finish in the second race.

"Although we didn't have the best of runs in either of the qualifying sessions I was pleased that we were able to work our way forward in both races to finish inside the Top 20," commented Gaunt. "Other than one race meeting in a Porsche, I haven't had any experience around the Hamilton circuit and that worked against me, especially when I needed to put together some strong qualifying laps. However, over the duration of both races we were able to string together some consistent laps and that earned us some respectable results in the end."

In what was his V8 Supercar debut in his home country, Gaunt was extremely grateful for the support from the locals, but also for the major sponsor of his # 30 VE Holden Commodore - Gulf Western Oil.

"There was a big turnout of spectators over the weekend and it was a big thrill to be able to race in front of my home crowd," he said. "It was also great to meet all of Gulf Western Oil's clients and show them around the team and give them a closer insight as to what V8 Supercars are about."

Leading up to the next round of the V8 Supercar Championship, which is to be held at Queensland Raceway (Ipswich, QLD) from April 30 through to May 2, Gaunt and the LDM team will have their first official test session of the year at Winton Motor Raceway in Victoria.

"I'm very much looking forward to our upcoming test session, as it's going to give us a full day to try out a few things in order to increase both car and driver speed," enthused Gaunt. "This test session will hopefully hold us in good stead for the next round and also the remainder of the year, so that we can move even closer towards our goal of being inside the Top 15 on a consistent basis."

To find out more about LDM visit www.ldmotorsport.com.au
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