

# KV Racing qualifying summary Edmonton

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## KV RACING TECHNOLOGY HAS BEST QUALIFYING SESSION OF INAUGURAL INDYCAR SEASON

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA -- JULY 25, 2008 -- Round #13, 2008 IndyCar Series season – KV Racing Technology had the best qualifying session of its inaugural IndyCar season as drivers Oriol Servia qualified a season high third and Will Power fifth for tomorrow's Rexall Edmonton Indy on the on the 1.973-mile, 14-turn City Centre Airport temporary circuit in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Servia, KV Racing Technology #5 Honda/Dallara/Firestone, making his fourth appearance at Edmonton, recorded a fast qualifying time of 60.8584 seconds (116.710 mph). He will lineup on the inside of Row # 2. Power, KV Racing Technology #8 Aussie Vineyards – Team Australia Honda/Dallara/Firestone, contesting his third race at Edmonton, qualified with a lap of 61.0154 seconds (116.410 mph) and will start on the inside of Row #3.

"I am very happy with the performance of the whole KV Racing Technology team," Servia said. "We are the only transition team to have both drivers in the top-five which I think says a lot about where we have come from and where we are right now. The car has felt really good all weekend, so we have everything in our hands to leave Edmonton with a very good result tomorrow."

Power said, "It was good to get to the Firestone Fast Six, but I'm just disappointed to have ended up in fifth. The Aussie Vineyards – Team Australia car has been very good and the KVRT crew has done a great job all weekend. It's just frustrating for me because in that last session I tried hard and just didn't have enough. We have the race tomorrow so I'll look forward to that."

Servia, started the day second on the speed charts after yesterday's twin practices with a time of 62.3900 seconds (113.845 mph). In this morning's practice, which was run in two groups, he went out with the first group of 13 cars and recorded the second fastest time in his session and the third quickest when the times from both groups were combined recording a lap of 61.4566 seconds (115.574 mph). Power, the fastest yesterday with a time of 62.3404 seconds (113.936 mph), went out with the second group this morning and ran the fastest lap of his session and the second best overall posting a time of 61.4364 seconds (115.612 mph).

In Round #1 of qualifying, Servia ran in Group #1 and recorded the fifth fastest time with a lap of 61.8441 seconds to advance to Round #2. Shortly thereafter Power, in Group #2, also advanced when he again posted the fastest lap in his session, 61.4640 seconds. In Round #2, which featured the top-six drivers from each of the two groups from Round #1, Servia was sitting in seventh place, one spot away from qualifying for the final round, the Firestone Fast Six Shootout, with time and fuel running out. He pitted for a splash, did his out lap, and then miraculously posted a lap of 61.0979 to vault into second place and advance to the finals. Power easily made the finals after posting a time of 61.1174 earlier in the session. In the final round both drivers fell just short, Servia by .1273 seconds and Power by .2843, of taking their first IndyCar pole.

Commenting on his last lap in Round #2 of qualifying which put him in the Firestone Fast Six Shootout, Servia said, "I knew I had it in the #5 KVRT car. I had a couple of laps that I got traffic and I got frustrated

because I knew I had the lap time to get me into the top-six, but fortunately we had that one lap wonder to pull it together and the car performed.”

This is the second time that each KVRT driver has individually made the final round of qualifying in four road/street races this season (Servia in Watkins Glen, Power, St. Petersburg). It is the first time that both drivers have made it at the same time.

Power, 27, who captured the pole here last year and has a best finish of sixth in his Edmonton debut in 2006, has now qualified in the top-10 five times in 13 races this year (four times in top-five) with a best starting position of second at St. Petersburg. The talented Australian, who will be making his 43<sup>rd</sup> career start and 34<sup>th</sup> on a road/street circuit, is 11<sup>th</sup> in the championship race with 245 points and second in the Bombardier Learjet Rookie of the Year race. Power has earned all three of his career victories and all six of his career poles on street or road circuits.

Servia's third place starting position today is his best in four tries here in Edmonton and is the third time he has qualified in the top-five. He has finished in the top-six in all three of his previous races at Edmonton with a best showing of second in 2005. This is Servia's seventh top-10 starting spot and second in the top-five in 13 races this year. The 34-year-old native of Spain, who is contesting his first IndyCar season, but is not a rookie, is currently 10<sup>th</sup> in the championship standings with 250 points. He is the highest ranked driver transitioning from Champ Car to IndyCar and second highest ranked among drivers not a member of Andretti Green, Ganassi or Penske. Servia will be making his 138<sup>th</sup> start and 103<sup>rd</sup> on a street/road circuits tomorrow. He scored his only career victory and his only pole on street/road circuits.

This is the fourth time KVRT has raced in Edmonton and the fifth time this year, fourth with all the IndyCar teams, that KVRT is racing on a track they have been to before. However, it is the first time that the teams transitioning from Champ Car to IndyCar have the advantage of competing on a circuit that they have raced on, but the established IndyCar Series teams have not.

The Rexall Edmonton Indy will be held tomorrow, Saturday, July 26. The race will be televised live on ESPN at 5:00 p.m. ET.

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