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Star Mazda Champion Adam Christodoulou to Race McLaren GT at 24 Hours of Spa

Confirming yet again that the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear is both a major step on the Mazda Road to Indy and a gateway to many forms of world-class motorsports, Adam Christodoulou, who won the 2009 Star Mazda Championship with JDC Motorsports, has been one of the first drivers to be selected to compete in the brand new McLaren MP4-12C GT3 race car, taking part in the Total 24 Hours at Spa-Francorchamps this weekend in Belgium.

The 12C GT3 is the first race car converted from a McLaren road car to make a 24 hour race debut since the McLaren F1 GTR at Le Mans sixteen years ago, and the welcome return has been long anticipated. Over seventy cars and dozens of manufacturers will be battling out on track to claim the crown at this prestigious 24 hour endurance race.

Winning the Star Mazda Championship was the best thing that ever happened to my career," says Christodoulou. "I learned a lot, and it led to a series of great opportunities. My scholarship prize for winning was a full-season MAZDASPEED sports car in the Grand-Am GT1 class, and that led to racing in the Le Mans series and the VLN Endurance Championship. This weekend at Spa will actually be my third 24-hour race so far this year! For any young driver, whether your goal is IndyCar or endurance racing, Star Mazda should be a part of your education on the way up."



Also racing in the three McLaren's this weekend are CRS Racing Team Principal Andrew Kirkaldy and McLaren Automotive Chief Test driver Chris Goodwin. The enterprise is led by McLaren Group CEO Martin Whitmarsh and includes McLaren Racing Head of Vehicle Engineering Mark Williams.

A Director of the new McLaren GT company, Chris Goodwin said: "I'm delighted with the quality of the drivers we have enlisted as we take the 12C GT3 to its first 24 hour race. "This level of endurance racing is a crucial test for the car technically, and we need the best possible team working with us to ensure we receive intelligent, objective feedback on the 12C GT3 driving experience. We will use this feedback as we continue to develop the car in readiness for customers to go racing next year."

The race runs from 30th-31st July 2011, starting at 4pm on Saturday, and television coverage will be on Motors TV. For further information, contact Adam Christodoulou at: enquiries@adamchristodoulou.com or follow him at: [Twitter.com/AdamChristo](https://twitter.com/AdamChristo)



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