

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
February, 2005

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Valentine and PTG Out Early at Rolex 24 at Daytona



Daytona Beach, FL - February 5, 2005 RJ Valentine, the Boston-area businessman and endurance racing professional, had a quick end to his 20th Rolex 24 Hours At Daytona Saturday, when PTG, the team fielding two factory-backed BMW M3s, took the decision to withdraw both entries for safety reasons.

Valentine, running the Rolex 24 with Justin Marks, Kelly Collins and Tom Milner Jr., had driven 22 laps of the first stint when his BMW M3's wheel studs broke for the second time in the race. Team boss Tom Milner made the decision to withdraw both of his entries for safety reasons after seeing Collins and Valentine in the #22 car and Chris Gleason in the #21 car having wheel issues. The studs on the rear wheels broke a first time, then a second time at speed, prompting the team to play it safe and regroup for another race.

"I was looking forward to driving again for several hours at Daytona," said Valentine, 2004's 4th place finisher in the Grand-American Rolex Sports Car Series GT-class, "but it's better safe than sorry. The wheel manufacturer miscalculated something, and Kelly picked up on a vibration from the rear wheels on the banking at the Speedway. We had taken the GT lead at one point early in the race, so the car had showed speed and promise. Until that point, the car was perfect - excellent balance, great power and a perfect drivetrain - so I think that it'll be very competitive for the rest of the year."

Valentine and season-long co-driver Kelly Collins will resume their title hunt at the Grand Prix of Miami, March 3-5 at Homestead-Miami Speedway. Television coverage will be on Speed Channel.

Sponsors of the Valentine/Collins PTG BMW M3 will be:

F1 Air, a Premier Class Jet Charter Service - <http://www.flair.com>

SSC Northeast, a comprehensive karting distributor - <http://www.sscracing.com>

MBA Group, a holding company and small business network - <http://www.mbagroup.com>

F1 Boston, America's premier karting and entertainment center - <http://flboston.com>

Prestige Hospitality - <http://www.prestigehospitality.com>

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