

## **A1 TEAM LEBANON FINISHES 16<sup>TH</sup> IN A1 GRAND PRIX OF NATIONS DUBAI**

11 December 2005.../A1 Team Lebanon raced at the Dubai Autodrome for the first time today, representing all Arabs around the world in the inaugural season of the A1 Grand Prix series founded by Sheikh Maktoum Hasher Maktoum Al Maktoum, finishing 16<sup>th</sup> in the Feature race.

The Feature race saw Shaaban start from the pitlane and the young Lebanese driver endured a tough race at the dusty desert circuit. He maintained position in the early stages, made his way higher up the order as the race progressed and with the team opting for a late pit stop, he led the race during a safety car period. Strong teamwork gave Shaaban a quick pit stop and at the end of the 30 lap race he was able to bring the Team Lebanon car home in 16<sup>th</sup> place.

Shaaban was unable to compete in the Sprint race after spinning into the barriers and extensively damaging the car. It was stranded on the circuit during this race, only returning to the pits with less than 45 minutes for the crew to repair the damage and prepare it for the Feature race. The crew's professionalism and teamwork saw the car leave the garage with minutes to spare to take the start of the race

After the Feature race Shaaban commented, "My thanks go to the Team Lebanon crew for all their hard work, they really pulled out all the stops today to get me out on track."

Tameem Auchy, A1 Team Lebanon Seat Holder, added, "Unfortunately our performance was below our expectations for our home race. However, the crew must be congratulated on their performance today. They were working against the clock to get our heavily damaged car back out on track in front of the home crowd. Our fans showed their appreciation with their cheers as we left the garage to take part in the Feature race."

The A1 Grand Prix series takes a seasonal break for the remainder of December, returning to competition for the second visit to Asia with the A1 Grand Prix of Nations Indonesia to be held in Sentul from 13 - 15 January next year.

Ends.

A1 Team Lebanon photographs are available for download from [www.a1gp-photo.com/lib](http://www.a1gp-photo.com/lib)

For further information contact:  
Alison Hill, Press Officer, A1 Team Lebanon  
Tel: +44 (0)7710 306588