



Rafael Galiana

BEHIND THE SCENES TALENT

Rafael Galiana, Managing Director, Tecpro Barriers

Every year more new technologies appear in the motorsport industry than in any other sport. One of the most important elements is the safety around the track and for a long time it has remained fixed in an old system of tires assembled with fastidious installation and maintenance.

In 2006, Tecpro Barriers and the FIA innovated by proposing a new absorption system to protect when a crash occurs: the Tecpro High Speed Barriers. The same year, Rafael Galiana, creator and CEO of Tecpro barriers, accepted the Safety Award at the Professional Motorsport World Expo.

“Our barriers system consists of polyethylene blocks connected to each other by straps. This internal tension permits to absorb 40% more damages than the tires. The system cannot dissociate, uses less space than tires and is extremely easy to install and maintain” Said Mr. Galiana.

“For the Singapore GP, they needed a protection easy and fast to install, disassemble and one that would be extremely efficient on a small area. Tecpro have proved all of that with 3 weeks of assembly and by installing the last fifty percent of the track in the 4 nights before the GP!”

The Grand Prix was also a perfect demonstration of the evolution accomplished in an F1 race in terms of security. In 2008, Giancarlo Fisichella hit the rumble strip at turn 10 and launched into the air briefly before crashing into the Tecpro Barriers. The Tecpro technicians intervened with the SGP maintenance team in only 10 minutes replaced the barrier damaged by the new one.

In 2010, Michael Schumacher went out of the track at turn

14 and the shock was absorbed by Tecpro, allowing him to finish the race with no damage.

“The Abu Dhabi project was crazy in terms of aesthetics, of modernity and of durability. It was these three conditions that have determined the organizers’ choice for our safety barriers” said Rafael Galiana.

In 2010, during the FIA GT1 World Championship Yas Marina race, Natasha Gashnang was the victim of an impressive crash at turn 8, at the incredible speed of 120mph and she owes her survival to Tecpro, as published in the more recent FIA Institute report.

Again this year, Tecpro Barriers has been contacted for many racing circuits’ projects around the world. The F1 circuit of Silverstone was equipped by the Tecpro High Speed Barriers safety system for the GP 2010 for the first time. Circuits are continuously renewing their confidence each year in Tecpro Barriers with an increase of their protected turns (Monaco) or simply using the expertise of their expert technicians on board and for training intervention teams (Paul Ricard, Singapore, Abu Dhabi).

Tecpro barriers are present at more than 300 circuits in over 30 countries: Go-kart (Monaco Kart Cup, Skusa Supnationals Las Vegas), Events circuits (Race Of Champions, Red Bull Events) and F1: Monaco, Monza, Barcelona, Valencia, Silverstone, Macao, Paul Ricard, and the totality of the Singapore GP and the Abu Dhabi track.

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