

ALEIX ESPARGARÓ WITH APRILIA IN THE NEXT TWO SEASONS

IMPORTANT CONFIRMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE APRILIA MOTOGP PROJECT

ALEIX: "MY MISSION IS TO TAKE THE RS-GP TO THE PODIUM"

On the eve of the GP of France in Le Mans, the most important news for Aprilia is actually a long-awaited confirmation: Aleix Espargaró will be astride the Aprilia RS-GP in the 2019 and 2020 seasons as well. This consolidates a technical and sport project in which Aleix has participated enthusiastically from the first tests on the Italian bike in November 2016.

Aleix's confirmation guarantees further continuity to the still young, but increasingly more solid Aprilia project in the premier motorcycle racing class, with the goal of capitalising on the hard work done since their return to MotoGP and achieving those results which, since the latter part of last season, have appeared to be close on several occasions. An expert, skilled and technically savvy rider, Espargaró is one of the fundamental components of a development path which goes beyond just the sport aspect for Aprilia and the entire Piaggio Group. This is a path that aims to create a range of innovative products on the cutting-edge of technology and performance, worthy of the history and tradition of a brand like Aprilia.

Aleix Espargaró

"I am very happy to stay with Aprilia for another two years. For the first time in my career, I am able to have stability and this is important to improve and grow together. I have a sole objective, an obsession and that is to take the RS-GP to the podium. I wish to thank Aprilia and my entire team. We will continue working at 100% through 2020."

Romano Albesiano - Aprilia Racing Manager

"This renewal is first and foremost acknowledgement of Aleix's qualities. He is a fast rider and an exemplary professional. From the time he arrived, he has brought passion and motivation to the garage with a positive effect on the entire team. His contribution to the growth of the RS-GP is undeniable and I am certain that the next two years will allow us to achieve important results and above all that they will bring us back to involving, thrilling and inspiring young people and the many fans that Aprilia has all over the world. The signs are there, so giving the technical project continuity with a rider who knows the team and bike well lets us plan development in the best possible way with an eye to the future."

Aleix Espargaró - Spain - #41

Born in Granollers, Spain on 30 July, 1989. Spanish 125 champion in 2004, after a series of placements in the 125 and 250 classes, he made a name for himself in 2012 as the best rider astride a CRT (the ART developed by Aprilia Racing) in the Grand Prix Motorcycle Racing premier class, a result that he repeated the following year. Overall, in MotoGP, Aleix Espargaró has taken two pole positions and a podium finish, as well as seventh place in the rider standings as his best position at the end of the championship season.