



## Paul Holmes and Team Audemar win Pont de Vaux 2011!

**Pont de Vaux, France (19th – 21st August 2011)**

The prestigious 2011 Maxxis Pont de Vaux 12 hour endurance team event was held last weekend in the picturesque town of Pont de Vaux, France. It was the 25th annual edition of the world famous event and the competition was tougher than ever. Reigning Champions Paul Holmes, Romain Couprie and Joe Maessen teamed up again to run the number one plate on the Team Audemar YAMAHA and took an exceptionally stylish overall victory in front of thousands of spectators. The team have certainly made their mark in the PDV history book, winning the race twice in 2 consecutive years.



*Paul Holmes, Romain Couprie, & Joe Maessen*

The usual format of the 12 hour race being split into 3 sessions saw Holmes and team blast straight to the top of the timing screens after the first 3 hour session, where they had a comfortable lead over their rivals and had lapped every one of the 96 teams at least once.

After setting an amazing pace and winning stage one, Holmes and team rode consistently, only needing to push when necessary. This resulted in zero bike problems, pitting only for rider change-overs and scheduled fuel stops. At the end of the race Holmes and team had a nice 2 minute cushion over 2nd placed French team, Drag'on Laeger's Yamaha. 3rd place went to English team Rocketman Suzuki.



Teams 1 and 2 celebrate 1st and 2nd place

Holmes now joins the small list of riders to not only win this prestigious race, but to win 2 years running. This major addition to his list of achievements comes just two weeks after winning round 5 of the European Championship in Latvia. Holmes really has some momentum rolling as he heads into his next event which is Round 5 of the British Championship at Langrish in a few days.

**Holmes commented after the event:** "I am so pleased to have had the opportunity to race again here at Pont de Vaux, It is an incredibly crazy yet superb race held in a fabulous location with the most incredibly enthusiastic and enormous audience in attendance over a fantastic weekend. Winning again whilst running with the number 1 plate from last year means a lot and I am really happy. This race is unbelievably special and at the same time exceedingly tough and without the amazing team it wouldn't have been possible to win again. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mickael Montezin for building another remarkable race winning ATV, my team mates Romain and Joe, all members of Team Audemar, Francino Fratton, Katia, all my great sponsors and most of all my parents and girlfriend who joined me this weekend and made it really special."

