

Montagny Should Be Banned For Life, Says Racing Legend

Racing legend Mario Andretti has remarked that [Franck Montagny](#) should be permanently banned from the sport. Andretti made this comment after Montagny tested positive for a cocaine derivative recently.

Mario told reporter Simon Pausch in an interview with Germany's *Die Welt* that the career of Franck Montagny would be over if he had his way. Andretti said it is a big disappointment for us all, as he also endangered every other driver on the track and added what he did is unforgivable in our sport.

However, Mario remarked [doping](#) is far from widespread in the sport. The racing legend said current anti-doping regulations in place are doing what they are designed to do. Mario remarked there are always some black sheep but there is no doping or drug problem in racing. He went on to remark that the fact that Montagny was busted just shows that the control system works.

Franck Montagny recently competed in the first two races of the 2014-15 FIA Formula E season for Andretti Autosport that is run by Michael Andretti, Mario's son and former open-wheel standout. The French motor racing driver, who competes in Formula E for Andretti Autosport, briefly raced for the Super Aguri Formula One team in 2006. It is believed by some that the 37-year-old Frenchman's brush with cocaine may actually date all the way back to his F1 career that spanned test roles at Toyota and Renault.

Once considered a top prodigy in formula and [endurance racing](#), the French driver won five American Le Mans Series races (including thrice at the Petit Le Mans). Montagny finished the 24 Hours of Le Mans on the podium four times and contested seven grands prix for the Super Aguri team. In 1988, Montagny started racing karts and won the cadet class in the French Karting Championship in 1992 and the National 1 class in 1993. In 1994, he made his debut in cars and won the French Renault Campus championship. In 1998, Franck Montagny had a breakthrough year in Formula Three where he went ahead of experienced drivers including Luciano Burti, Mark Webber, Enrique Bernoldi, and Peter Dumbreck. In 2009, Montagny made his IndyCar Series debut with Andretti Green Racing at the Indy Grand Prix of Sonoma at Infineon Raceway.

Andretti Autosport has now announced that Montagny was replaced in Punta Del Este by Jean-Eric Vergne.

The former Super Aguri driver fears his motorsport career may be over after he was suspended from competition pending final confirmation of any sanction. French newspaper *L'Equipe* has quoted that the ex-Formula 1 driver has not contested the result of a test carried out after the second Formula E round in Malaysia on November 22 2014. Montagny was quoted as saying that auto sports is perhaps over for him and said he saw the guy who tests signaling to him at the end of the race and he understood immediately that it was dead. Montagny told French publication *L'Equipe* that he is at fault and he will not argue. Montagny now waits for a final ruling from the FIA.