

Mastercraftsman's Technician Solid in Oak Test

Sunday, October 27, 2019 at 12:06 pm

5th at LCP, Gr. Stk, €350,000 G1 Prix Royal-Oak (15 1/2f) Winner: **Technician (Ire)**, c, 3 by Mastercraftsman (Ire)



Pierre-Charles Boudot & Technician return to scale / photo by Scoop Dyga

By Sean Cronin

Team Valor International's **Technician (Ire)** (Mastercraftsman {Ire}) posted victories at each of the lower stakes levels this term, in tandem with tackling increasing trips in his five latest starts, and went postward for Sunday's G1 Prix Royal-Oak at ParisLongchamp returning off a win over the Bois de Boulogne venue's same 15 1/2-furlong trip in the Oct. 5 G2 Prix Chaudenay on Arc weekend. Encountering much softer conditions than

ever before here, he maintained his perfect record at the track and the in-form streak of Pierre-Charles Boudot with a hard-fought 1 1/4-length tally from last year's G1 Prix du Cadran hero **Call the Wind (GB)** (Frankel {GB}) with defending champion **Holdthatgreen (Fr)** (Hold That Tiger), who annexed last month's G1 Prix du Cadran, 3 1/2 lengths back in third. The 5-2 second choice had previously annexed this term's June 13 Listed Prix Ridgway here, and the Aug. 17 G3 Geoffrey Freer S. at Newbury, and ran sixth in Doncaster's Sept. 14 G1 St Leger in his only prior start at the highest level. Tracking the leaders in fourth until making ominous headway once into the home straight, he seized control with 300 metres remaining and was ridden out thereafter to secure a personal best in game fashion.

"He's developed into a really nice stayer and has been better and better with each race this term," beamed assistant trainer Freddie Meade. "He's been a fantastic servant to the yard this year and has gone right through the ranks from a Listed win to, now, a Group 1 win. I imagine he will stay

in training, I certainly hope so, and his target will be the top staying races next year if he does. That is the plan at this stage and he'll have a good break now."

Technician is one of four winners, and the leading performer, produced by a stakes-winning full-sister to G3 Give Thanks S. victress Tamarind (Ire) (Sadler's Wells) and MGSW sire Crimson Tide (Ire) (Sadler's Wells). The grey is full-brother to the hitherto unraced 2-year-old filly Crafty Rosa (Ire) and a yearling filly, and a half to G3 Atalanta S. third Water Hole (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}). His dam Arosa (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), one of five stakes winners out of Sharata (Ire) (Darshaan {GB}), is also kin to GII Garden City Breeders' Cup H. winner Pharatta (Ire) (Fairy King), herself the second dam of G1 Prix du Moulin G1 and Prix d'Ispahan hero Recoletos (Fr) (Whipper). Technician's third dam Shademah (Ire) (Thatch), who produced G1 Epsom Derby and G1 Irish Derby-winning sire Shahrastani (Nijinsky II), is kin to GI Bowling Green H. victor Sharannpour (Ire) (Busted {GB}) and G1 Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud victor and G1 Prix du Jockey Club runner-up Shakapour (Ire) (Kalamoun {GB}).

Sunday, ParisLongchamp, France

PRIX ROYAL-OAK-G1, €350,000, ParisLongchamp, 10-27, 3yo/up, 15 1/2fT, 3:40.13, vhy.

1–**TECHNICIAN (IRE)**, 122, c, 3, by **Mastercraftsman (Ire)**

1st Dam: Arosa (Ire) (SW-US), by **Sadler's Wells**

2nd Dam: Sharata (Ire), by **Darshaan (GB)**

3rd Dam: Shademah (Ire), by **Thatch**

(€40,000 Ylg '17 GOFORB). O-Team Valor International; B-Barronstown Stud (IRE); T-Martyn Meade; J-Pierre-Charles Boudot. €199,990. Lifetime Record: GSW-Eng, 10-5-1-1, €424,066.

*1/2 to Water Hole (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}), GSP-Eng. **Werk Nick Rating: A.**

2–**Call The Wind (GB)**, 130, g, 5, Frankel (GB)–In Clover (GB), by Inchinor (GB). O/B-George Strawbridge (GB); T-Freddy Head. €80,010.

3–**Holdthisigreen (Fr)**, 130, g, 7, Hold That Tiger–Greentathir (Fr), by Muhtathir (GB). O/B-Jean Gilbert & Claude Le Lay (FR); T-Bruno Audouin. €40,005.

Margins: 1 1/4, 3HF, 2HF. Odds: 2.50, 2.20, 2.80.

Also Ran: Lah Ti Dar (GB), Way to Paris (GB), Iskanderhon. Scratched: Called to the Bar (Ire), Pedro Cara (Fr).