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HYUNDAI MOTORSPORT READY TO BOUNCE IN SARDINIA

Press release n. 10

Hyundai Motorsport's drivers Sordo and Neuville are ready for next weekend's Rally Italia Sardegna, the sixth round of the 2016 FIA WRC. Dani Sordo and his co-driver Marc Martí are the most experienced of the Hyundai Motorsport crews on the Sardinian isle. After three consecutive fourth-place finishes, the Spanish crew are keen to secure their first podium of 2016. Sordo commented: "Sardinia is always a nice event. It is really narrow in places with many stones on the sides. Road position will be an influencing factor because the first cars will be required to clean the surface. The stages will be very slippery and tricky for those cars, but that's part of the rally. We had a good one-day test last week in preparation for this event. It's likely to be very hot inside the cars, so it'll be physically demanding for us drivers. We are getting more confident with the New Generation i20 WRC with each rally, and we've taken three fourth-placed finishes in a row. I am hoping for a trouble-free rally in Sardinia, allowing us to show our ability to fight towards the front." Also Thierry Neuville and co-driver Nicolas Gilsoul will be looking for a good results in Sardinia, where they finished on the podium in third last year. Neuville commented: "Sardinia is a very special place for me. It was the scene of my first rally some years ago with a four-wheel-drive car and after that I have scored many points there. I have finished twice on the podium, taking second in 2013 and third place with Hyundai Motorsport last year. Hopefully this year we can secure another strong result there. After our fuelling issue in Portugal, we have fully worked through what went wrong and are ready to move forward. As a team, we're in good spirits despite the difficulties from the last rally. We're ready to put that behind us and fight for a representative result in Sardinia."

THE RACE. Edition 2016 of the Rally Italia Sardegna is scheduled for 9–12 June and will unfold in an itinerary embracing 324,60 km timed split in 19 stages. Alghero will host the headquarters again, as service park and the press room of the event. The shakedown will kick off the programme on Thursday June 9th in Olmedo at 8.00. In the evening, the 2 km long super stage "Ittiri Arena Show" will open the race at 18.00. On 10,11,12 June the gravel roads of Mount Acuto, Sassari and Nurra will stage the three legs of the race, that will reach its conclusion on Sunday June 12th in the Alghero city harbour, with the prize ceremony scheduled in the early afternoon.

