

REPORT FROM SERVICE PARK (after SS9)

Car #1 – S. Ogier / J. Ingrassia: “Everything went well in the afternoon, this was the goal of today, to stay before Mikkelsen and Ostberg. It will be difficult to win this time even if I am pushing really hard. Tomorrow Monte Lerno stage will be very selective but beautiful, hard on tires, that tomorrow will be crucial. We could do the same choice as this morning, I am thinking about it”.

Car #2 – JM. Latvala / M. Anttila: “It is difficult pushing more with the understeering problems that I have in the afternoon. There is something wrong in the differential, this is the feeling I have but we will see. For sure I could do better, but it is OK, I am just 11 seconds from Neuville”.

Car #3 – H.Paddon / J. Kennard: RETIRED AND NOT RUNNING ON SATURDAY.

Car #4 – D. Sordo / M. Marti: “Honestly i am not happy, I was not at ease on the stages , I do not know why I could not find the rhythm. Hope to do better tomorrow.”.

Car #5 – M. Ostberg / O. Floene: “I am really happy that we are fighting for the podium. Tomorrow it is the longest day of the season and the task is to do our best”.

Car #9 – A. Mikkelsen / A. Jaeger: “I can say that I am happy, I knew that it would have been difficult doing better times as I was second on the road . Let's get ready for tomorrow that is a very tough day and we could also regain some positions since it is always an open race”.

Car #16 – H. Solberg / I. Minor: We had a really big scare when the gas pedal blocked during a stage and we had to turn off the car to solve the problem. Now it seems that we solved it. This afternoon we pushed really hard, I am happy.

Car #20 – T. Neuville / N. Gilsoul: “Taking advantage of my start position I am in the lead and finally this good result has arrived. I am 11 seconds ahead on Latvala, small but relevant advantage . Tomorrow I will try my best to keep driving like today, the setup is perfect, the stages are very technical and very long, it is going to be a long day”.

Car #21 – M. Prokop / J. Tomanek: It was not a good day. We had a few good stages but overall it was quite complicated. Tomorrow the race is really different, it could be another rally, very different. Car is good, we will do some improvements to get a better feeling.

Car #37 – L. Bertelli / S. Scattolin: We compromised our day this morning with differential issues. If he had not had that problem we would have been in the first ten position. In the afternoon two punctures slowed us again, one was my fault, the other I do not know how it happened. If the car is ok we can go well . Tomorrow I know the stages, let's hope on a good day.

Car #42 – N. Fuchs / F. Mussano: We lost about 15 seconds on the last stage because of a spin and we were slowed down a little by Abbring who was slowed by trasmission issues. Tomorrow we will try to attack. I really like the stages except Monte Lerno that is a little rough.

Car #34 – T. Suninen / M. Markkula: We had a puncture on the rear right hitting a rock on SS7 and this made us lose precious time. It was a narrow point so it was not possible to avoid it. Tomorrow we will push hard to recover.

Car #35 – E. Lappi / J.Ferm: “I am satysfied and very happy but I try to do my job without focusing on the WRC2 front battle. Saturday's stages are long and I like them very much. So I think that tomorrow's leg will be better for me”.

Car #44 – U. Scandola / G. D'Amore: “We are happy. Everything is very well. The car was perfect, the tires woprked at their best, I did not have problems and so we can be satisfied. Tomorrow's stages are very different, Monte Lerno is clearly tricky for its lenght so we have to be very careful”.