



MEET THE CREWS (after SS15)

Day two, Friday 11 June 2016

Manufacturers

Michel Nandan, Hyundai Motorsport
Jost Capito, Volkswagen Motorsport
Richard Millener, M-Sport World Rally Team

Q: It has been another strong day for Thierry, now 16s lead. Can he hold that until tomorrow?

MN: Of course, it has been really a tough day difficult the most difficult in the rally it was a really nice fight between Henry Mattie Latvala and Thierry, I think it will continue tomorrow and yes I hope he can keep it

Q: We have seen great results coming in from Hyundai how important would it be to get a win here and for the team to see Thierry back on the podium

MN: I think it is important for Thierry too because he is really showing everybody that he is back he has feeling with the car and I think everything is going well and it is good for the team of course we will see how these stages will go but we are not at the end so let's not say anything.

Q: What are the chances for tomorrow can Latvala catch Neuville?

JC: Buona sera..I think that it will be very difficult 16s in 40km is really a lot but I think he said that these stages tomorrow suit him better than the ones today so he is up for the fight he wants to win the rally I think we will see a continuation of the the fantastic battle that we have seen today. It would be great if the two could swoop the position

Q: In the battle we also saw Andreas Mikkelsen he was really fighting back this afternoon but unfortunately we saw him going off the road. What happened out there?

JC: He did not go off the road he came in first gear in high speed around a blind corner there was a big rock in the middle of the road and it must have been the rock that came loose when Seb just drove away opening the road and he had no chance so he had to get it under the car and damaged his suspension, it was really just bad luck, not his fault.

Q: Talk to me about the day out there. It started really well this morning, we saw Mads Ostberg in maximum form in Monte Lerno, he was the fastest through and brilliant tire choice. Talk about this performance before.

RM: We saw a couple of people changing their minds with the tire choice. Mads seemed to be sure on what he wanted to do. He was clever enough to think that it was going to be on the limit on where the soft and hard tires were working and he ended up with the fastest



stage. Something that after the last few rallies we were really looking for. So it is great to do it and again in the afternoon some more great time, it was a successful day for us.

Q: Mads retired this afternoon, what were the reasons for that?

RM: We don't have the car back yet, so far Mads hit a rock and broke the drive shaft. He continued and it seems he eventually damaged the engine. At the moment we are not confident that we can fix it.

Q: Camilli had a superb morning, he almost picked up the fastest time, what did the team think about his performance?

RM: We celebrated like mad for about six minutes and then we had to stop, unfortunately. A second place for him and then three fastest times this afternoon, I can tell you that Malcolm Wilson is really happy with the progress. He keeps telling how little experience he has and what he has achieved is just phenomenal, really. Hopefully he can continue like that, on and on.

Drivers

Thierry Neuville, Hyundai Motorsport
Jari-Matti Latvala, Volkswagen Motorsport
Sebastien Ogier, Volkswagen Motorsport

Q: Congratulations Thierry, it is 16 seconds lead out there, are you feeling good? Confident? Can you take the win here?

TN: Oh, for sure we can, even if tomorrow it is a long day I will continue like today. I'll try to do a good stage and do my best. Of course Jari-Matti will push very hard, you know he never gives up, I am looking for a tough fight tomorrow.

Q: How much are you prepared to risk tomorrow to take the win? How much do you wanted, how passionate are you about getting that win here?

TN: I am so close now, I have been fighting for three days, I will not slow down now for sure. It is important for me to get a win here, we have done a pretty good job so far, to be honest I feel quite comfortable, just doing no mistakes is the main thing then we can keep the pace.

Q: Forty kilometres remaining, tough stages tomorrow?

TN: For sure. In Sardinia every single stage is tough and tomorrow there is a new stage, very sandy, very tricky and narrow. It is going to be hard challenging but I am sure if we have a clean run like today we will enjoy it pretty much and hopefully it is enough.

Q: A win here would be brilliant. How much are you prepared to risk and get it? All or nothing?

JML: Thierry has done an amazing job, he has been running really well. For sure my passion is try to win but I am in a position where I have to consider a lot and other things as well. The manufacturers points, also for myself the drivers points in the championship, now that especially Andreas Mikkelsen, Mads Ostberg are better now they could help me in the driver championship, so I have to think about this, so I can not play poor or reach game. Of course I'll try to get a good rhythm in the morning and we can press Thierry but, as I said, I can not go crazy.

Q: So with this you are going crazy, what does your heart say?

JML: Collect good points!

Q: Sixteen seconds, if you would get them down, what level would you get it down to? Do you think it is realistic to push harder?

JML: I think the first passage is important. The second time on the stage it is difficult to make big differences anymore. On the first it is more possible to do better and come closer. I mean, 16 seconds for the last day of the rally is quite a lot. Ok, you have to remember that the points are given only at the end of the rally so you have to finish first.

Q: Seb, you are in third position still at the end of the day, you have been under pressure from the guys behind. Seems it was a good day for you out there.

SO: Yes, so far it is a good rally. I have been pushing all the time, I have done everything I could, today it was probably one of the toughest day of my career. The conditions were very difficult on the road, I tried my best, the gap was quite small in the morning but this afternoon I managed to have a little more gap after the first stage, Andreas Mikkelsen had some problems, Mads Ostberg on the last stage for sure, now it looks more comfortable for the third place for sure, as I said it is the best that I could have achieved and so I have to be happy with that.

Q: You mentioned there might have been a little problem with the rear of the car; was there anything or was it in your mind?

SO: There was certainly a problem that started on the first stage of the loop but it was disturbing me in the fast sections, most of the places are more technical. It was ok, but, yes, there is something wrong in the differential of the suspension. On the high speed sections I was losing a lot from the rear, a lot of stability was gone from the rear. I had to fight harder with the steering wheel but we managed to make it and I am happy to be here tonight, it was a long day. I feel exhausted, I gave everything, I am going to sleep like a baby tonight!