

## SERVICE FLASH

**Date:** 17 August 2018  
**Day:** 2 **Flash B**  
**Service:** B (Bostalsee)

1	OGIER Sébastien/INGRASSIA Julien	FRA/FRA	FORD Fiesta WRC	<p>“The decision regarding the tyres was a close one. We knew that things can change very quickly here, and it could be a similar situation again in the afternoon. The weather was dry and the conditions were also as we expected. We did our best. Honestly, I’m happy with my driving on this loop. I couldn’t have done much more than that. Ott is very fast.”</p>
2	EVANS Elfyn/BARRITT Daniel	GBR/GBR	FORD Fiesta WRC	<p>“It was quite dirty in places for us, but we are still here and still okay. The wet conditions could change very quickly: it could either dry very quickly or there may be more rain. Who knows. We have to wait and see what the weather forecasters say now.”</p>
3	SUNINEN Teemu/MARKKULA Mikko	FIN/FIN	FORD Fiesta WRC	<p>“We were quite close to the others, then we had quite bad rain in the middle of the second stage and, of course, lost some time. There are obviously a lot of things I can improve. Also, I believe that the previous car did not have rain, so the weather makes a difference.”</p>
4	MIKKELSEN Andreas/JÆGER Anders	NOR/NOR	HYUNDAI i20 Coupe WRC	<p>“The first round was okay and the first two stages were fine, we had clean runs. I was trying to work on my driving style a bit. On the last stage we really tried, because there were a lot of junctions. That is where I lose the most time, so I tried a new technique, which definitely did not work.”</p>
5	NEUVILLE Thierry/GILSOUL Nicolas	BEL/BEL	HYUNDAI i20 Coupe WRC	<p>“No big issue [with the oil leak]. There was just a little bit of oil leaking. I got some on my windscreen, but we were able to fix the hole, so the car was fine. There was a risk of rain, but apparently the rain came just 20 minutes after we were on the stage. I was not in the mood to take big risks. I am leading the championship and have a good gap ahead of the others. I’m not in the position to take risks, so today I took a safer choice. Okay, I was a bit heavier and probably lost a bit of time as a result, but we were still able to set good times and are still close enough to fight for the podium.”</p>
6	SORDO Dani/DEL BARRIO Carlos	ESP/ESP	HYUNDAI i20 Coupe WRC	<p>“I was trying to do my best, but it was difficult. The times at the front are really fast and we are trying to do good times and to push a little bit, but it was not easy.”</p>
7	LATVALA Jari-Matti/ANTTILA Miikka	FIN/FIN	TOYOTA Yaris WRC	<p>“It was dry, which is nice. However, there is still more gravel on the road than I expected. You have to work hard as you enter the corner, and that can result in a bit more understeer and not give you the greatest confidence.”</p>

8	TÄNAK Ott/JÄRVEOJA Martin	EST/EST	TOYOTA Yaris WRC
<p>"It's never easy. Obviously we are really pushing hard. This is my first time in Germany with this car and there is still quite a bit of learning to do. I was actually not so confident on the first stage this morning. The car was not as stable as I expected, so I had to work a bit harder and was perhaps a bit scared in places. But I've never driven this car in these conditions, so I was learning on every stage and making some minor changes. We were not miles away and the balance was nice."</p>			

9	LAPPI Esapekka/FERM Janne	FIN/FIN	TOYOTA Yaris WRC
<p>"Generally okay. No surprises, let's say. Mittelmosel is quite familiar to everyone from previous years. But they were nice stages and in good condition. The section at the end, in the forest, was already really muddy for me. I was too slow and too scared in that. Otherwise, it was a nice morning."</p>			

10	ØSTBERG Mads/ERIKSEN Torstein	NOR/NOR	CITROËN C3 WRC
<p>"I was quite happy with my first stage, even though I did not win the stage. I think you have to look at the field: there is a lot of tarmac experience around, and to be on a similar pace to my team-mate [Craig Breen] is really good. He is a specialist and knows the car much better than me. I think the morning has been quite okay. It was not perfect, but in the end it was not a bad morning."</p>			

11	BREEN Craig/MARTIN Scott	IRL/GBR	CITROËN C3 WRC
<p>"Not so bad. Unfortunately, we got caught in a rain shower, unlike the rest of the field. It just arrived when we were in Mittelmosel. So, not the best way to start the rally."</p>			

22	GRIEBEL Marijan/RATH Alexander	DEU/DEU	CITROËN DS3 WRC
<p>"On the whole, okay. We set the twelfth fastest time on every stage, which is what we expected. I had a few problems finding my rhythm on the first stage. The car is capable of going faster there. We really made a super cool start to the second stage and had great fun, then the rain came and the intercom failed at the same time. Particularly when it is wet, you really have to be able to think ahead. You cannot brake hard or steer suddenly to react to anything. With that in mind, it was really, really tricky. I was also without intercom on the last stage. However, everyone knows that circuit off by heart, so it was no problem."</p>			

43	KREIM Fabian/CHRISTIAN Frank	DEU/DEU	ŠKODA Fabia R5
<p>"Ultimately, we are not at all unhappy. Sure, the puncture is frustrating. Without that, if you look at the split times on the first stage of the morning, it would not have been bad at all. In fact, I could have been right up there. As it was, we lost over a minute. The overall position looks a bit daft, but the car ran smoothly. The important thing is that the confidence was still there on SS2, even after the puncture. We showed that we can compete, which is the most important thing for me. Unfortunately, we can no longer aim for a top result, but that's the way it goes sometimes."</p>			

82	THURN UND TAXIS Albert/WICHA Klaus	DEU/DEU	ŠKODA Fabia R5
<p>"That was quite brutal. The first stage was good with no major problems. We were maybe a little bit cautious. On stage two, the word was that it would rain when we reached the finish, but it started to rain after two or three kilometres. A kilometre or two later it really poured down. The rest of the stage was a real struggle, because in all the quick sections, where it is also very narrow and there has been quite a lot of corner-cutting, it was very slippery. On the whole, it was really great fun. Particularly the last stage: that was damned good fun."</p>			



87	SCHWEDT Roman/GERLICH Christoph	DEU/DEU	PEUGEOT 208 R5
<p>"Everything was fine on the Stein und Wein stage, then 1.5 kilometres into Mittelmosel it really started to rain and we had hard slicks on. With that in mind, we had the wrong tyres and really had to take our foot off the gas. We had a bit of a problem with a sensor when it came to changing gear. The gear did not sit properly. That made matters worse. Our goal was then to finish the stage and solve the issue. Now it is all good and we were able to drive freely and have a lot of fun. We are now very motivated ahead of the second loop."</p>			