

SERVICE FLASH

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

1	OGIER Sébastien/INGRASSIA Julien	FRA/FRA	FORD Fiesta WRC
<p>"I congratulated Tommi Mäkinen on another strong performance from Ott and his team. I would never say it is impossible to beat Ott with the Toyota package, but it looks difficult at the moment. I feel good in my car, the chassis feels good this weekend. It was fun driving it today. The only frustration comes when you look at the time board and see that you always lose a few tenths or seconds. By the end of the day the gap is already 12 seconds. But we'll keep trying. Tomorrow is a different day, with Baumholder, different surface and different characteristics. You never know."</p>			
2	EVANS Elfyn/BARRITT Daniel	GBR/GBR	FORD Fiesta WRC
<p>"What Ott has done today has been particularly impressive, I've not come close to him on any stage. That's a bit of a surprise, but he must have driven well as well. We just have to concentrate and keep going. It is very close in the mid-pack, so we have plenty of work to do tomorrow."</p>			
4	MIKKELSEN Andreas/JÆGER Anders	NOR/NOR	HYUNDAI i20 Coupe WRC
<p>"Our day was okay. We definitely improved in the afternoon. I changed my style a bit and it was getting better. Still not happy with the overall result, of course."</p>			
5	NEUVILLE Thierry/GILSOUL Nicolas	BEL/BEL	HYUNDAI i20 Coupe WRC
<p>"We are pushing very hard all the time. I think there were two things this afternoon: we changed the gearbox for some reason and we have a different differential, which is not optimal for the vineyards, we know that. However, it should work tomorrow in the Baumholder stages. We lost a bit of time there, and being first out on the road was not always easy, because there was a lot of mud and it dried out, so I had to make some lines sometimes. I guess I lost more time through that."</p>			
6	SORDO Dani/DEL BARRIO Carlos	ESP/ESP	HYUNDAI i20 Coupe WRC
<p>"We were hoping for a little bit more. The people at the front were really fast and we were unable to match that. Tomorrow is a new day."</p>			
7	LATVALA Jari-Matti/ANTTILA Miikka	FIN/FIN	TOYOTA Yaris WRC
<p>"It was okay. We were losing time in the morning, but we improved in the afternoon."</p>			
8	TÄNAK Ott/JÄRVEOJA Martin	EST/EST	TOYOTA Yaris WRC
<p>"I can't complain, obviously. The performance was really good today. I can feel that the car is working well. Before the rally we had no idea how we would compare, because everything was new to me. But I have been adapting quickly. This afternoon, the conditions were actually pretty tricky. However, I still managed to find a good rhythm and push hard. Seb is never an easy guy to fight for the victory. Even though I have won five stages, each one has been by just point something or one second. It is not easy."</p>			

9	LAPPI Esapekka/FERM Janne	FIN/FIN	TOYOTA Yaris WRC
<p>"I struggle a lot in these dirty corners. I'm not brave enough. That is why we are losing a lot of time. The car feels nice, it is not about the car. The problem is in my head. I guess I need mileage and mileage, to repeat and repeat, and to try to understand what the limit is in these dirty corners. Tomorrow is a really long day. We have dropped a position, but that is actually good for tomorrow's starting position. We are only five seconds shy of fourth place, so it's okay."</p>			

10	ØSTBERG Mads/ERIKSEN Torstein	NOR/NOR	CITROËN C3 WRC
<p>"The morning was quite okay. Everything is quite fresh and I obviously need to learn the car and to find a good set-up. We were on the same pace as Craig [Breen] in the morning, which was important to me, and up there with Andreas [Mikkelsen]. I was quite happy with that. In the afternoon we had some issues from when we left service. The afternoon was very difficult for me, with a drop in engine performance."</p>			

22	GRIEBEL Marijan/RATH Alexander	DEU/DEU	CITROËN DS3 WRC
<p>"Super cool. It was really excellent. There are so many fans out on the route, and an awful lot of German flags. We had a few minor problems this morning, but nothing too dramatic. It was obviously a bit complicated in the rain, but we had a problem-free race and a lot of fun. Long may it continue that way. It was clear from the start that I would not have a chance against the full-time professionals with even better cars. I think I was twelfth fastest on six occasions today, so there was never an R5 car in front of me."</p>			

43	KREIM Fabian/CHRISTIAN Frank	DEU/DEU	ŠKODA Fabia R5
<p>"Definitely some highs and lows. The puncture obviously cost us a lot of time. That put us well down the standings. We were not able to make up any positions, but were able to set competitive times. I was not perfect on the first stage of the afternoon. There were a lot of corners that I did not get quite right. We lost ten or twelve seconds there. However, apart from the puncture, I am generally happy with the day. It is always a highlight when you win a stage. That is where you want to be, at the top. You work hard to get to the top at some point."</p>			

87	SCHWEDT Roman/GERLICH Christoph	DEU/DEU	PEUGEOT 208 R5
<p>"The second half was much better. The weather was stable, which really helped us. Unfortunately, we had a few technical problems on the second stage of the second loop. We had to stop completely once and restart the car. That aside, we had a great stage. We are pleased to have ended the day cleanly and are looking forward to tomorrow."</p>			