

SERVICE FLASH

Date: 23 August 2019
Day: 2 **Flash C**
Service: C (Bostalsee)

1	OGIER Sébastien/INGRASSIA Julien	FRA/FRA	CITROËN C3 WRC	<p>“I am obviously happier when I am fighting for the top place, but at the moment we cannot follow the pace of Ott and Thierry. It’s also hard to drive, actually, because the car is not responding the way I want. We have a lot of understeer and it is difficult. I am forced to take more risks to get the car to turn. Unfortunately, at the end of the day I made some small mistakes, which added some extra seconds to the time loss we already had. It has not been a great day, but the rally is still very long and tomorrow is an especially long day, with Panzerplatte twice. A lot can still happen, but I am not so satisfied with the start of the rally.”</p>
4	LAPPI Esapekka/FERM Janne	FIN/FIN	CITROËN C3 WRC	<p>“We changed the roll bar, the balance between front and rear – the overall stiffness – we changed the front differential, we added more bulk on the front, and in the end I cannot really notice. It’s not worse, but it’s not better. It is very strange – it feels as though, for some reason, the car is not reacting to the changes. On paper it should be a really big change, but in reality it is not.”</p>
5	MEEKE Kris/MARSHALL Sebastian	GBR/GBR	TOYOTA Yaris WRC	<p>“It has been an interesting day. We are only 3.5 behind Seb. It is just a bit frustrating that I seem to lose a lot of time on the stage where we do the laps. There is something to learn in there. I said that if we ever do that stage again, Seb (Marshall, co-driver) is going to drive, because I can’t seem to manage to set a time in there. I’m quite satisfied with the day. I’m three seconds away from a podium place. Today was quite a short day in terms of mileage – tomorrow we have Baumholder, which can throw up some surprises. The number one priority is to stay out of trouble and see what the pace is like against Seb.”</p>
8	TÄNAK Ott/JÄRVEOJA Martin	EST/EST	TOYOTA Yaris WRC	<p>„Very clean loop. I had a really good run. No crazy risks, but still quite close to the limit and pushing quite hard. I’m happy. Thierry is doing very well, but rallying is never easy – never a walk in the park. There is still a big battle. It is nice to be in this kind of fight. At least tomorrow it will still be interesting. We’ll be pushing right from the morning. There is nothing else on my mind but pushing. We first have two loops in the forest in the morning, then the long Panzerplatte. You can’t push too hard and waste the tyres, I believe it will be difficult to make any big time difference, but we need to continue the same way as we did today. It is really important to keep it clean and tidy. If you make one small mistake you can lose two seconds, but two seconds is a big difference here.”</p>

10	LATVALA Jari-Matti/ANTTILA Miikka	FIN/FIN	TOYOTA Yaris WRC
<p>"I'm generally happy. I'm fifth and we managed to make a difference. So, we got better and better, but then came the last stage of the day, Wadern-Weiskirchen. When you want too much, you think you can get more and more speed, then it happens and you are in a field. It seems that your speed does not increase in the field, even though you feel like you are going faster. Tomorrow is a nice day. I'm looking forward to Freisen and Römerstrasse at the beginning, and then the Baumholder military area. I think we drove the long version back in 2010, a long time ago. I prefer it this way, so it is going to be a very interesting day."</p>			

11	NEUVILLE Thierry/GILSOUL Nicolas	BEL/BEL	HYUNDAI i20 Coupe WRC
<p>"I'm very satisfied. I could not really do much more. We had a good feeling from the beginning and were able to improve in the afternoon. We pushed very hard. We were able to avoid making any mistakes at all, which is why we are still in the fight with Ott. We still have the feeling that when it is really close he is able to go a little bit faster. In the afternoon we were able to catch three tenths, and if we continue like this tomorrow we will get very close. We are all more or less on the same level. In the end it is the set-up and the car that can make a little difference. At least the three guys at the front are pushing very hard and it is very close. I was able to make less mistakes than Sébastien today and had a good run to stay in touch with Ott. You always have the championship in mind, and also the Manufacturers Championship. Obviously, we lost Dani in the last stage, where he lost a lot of time. In the end, if we want to fight with them, we have to be ahead of them. There is always room for small improvements to go faster tomorrow."</p>			

89	MIKKELSEN Andreas/JÆGER Anders	NOR/NOR	HYUNDAI i20 Coupe WRC
<p>"It has been getting better. Of course, I am still not in the position I want to be in – really fighting for the top stage times. We've been closer on the last two stages, so it's going in the right direction. I'm hopeful for tomorrow."</p>			

21	ROVANPERÄ Kalle/HALTTUNEN Jonne	FIN/FIN	ŠKODA Fabia R5 evo
<p>"I'm really happy. It has been a nice day. I'm also a bit surprised that we can be this fast and consistent. I think there will be some punctures tomorrow, so there will be some problems. Hopefully not for us."</p>			

22	ØSTBERG Mads/ERIKSEN Torstein	NOR/NOR	CITROËN C3 R5
<p>"It was a tough day, there's no doubting that. I think we did everything we could. I think we drove really well, and the pace notes and everything were perfect. In that sense, it was enjoyable. However, we have had some challenges and some brake and gearbox issues this afternoon. They are new problems to me, but I think the team have some experience with similar situations on tarmac. Tomorrow we will change the gearbox, then we will experiment a little with the brakes. We don't really have anything to lose, as we are struggling on every stage."</p>			

54	GRIEBEL Marijan/WINKLHOFER Pirmin	DEU/DEU	ŠKODA Fabia R5 evo
<p>"The vineyards were quite okay. Wadern-Weiskirchen was relatively poor. One braking error and all of a sudden you're a few seconds too slow. It is still all to play for. Tomorrow will be the crucial day. Roughly 20 seconds off the podium is not so much, and I believe I can be quite happy with fourth place."</p>			



55	KREIM Fabian/BRAUN Tobias	DEU/DEU	ŠKODA Fabia R5 evo
<p>"We did not make any mistakes and everything worked great. The car was good and we made gradual progress with the set-up, so I don't have a lot to complain about. The evo is definitely very different to the old car. With the old car, you had a set-up that you were 100 percent used to and knew exactly what the car was doing. With the new car it is all different and you are given a set-up, with which you basically have to drive. We must now work with that set-up, in order to continue to develop. This year, I think the goal for Panzerplatte is just to survive."</p>			