



## SERVICE FLASH

Date: 7 May 2010

Day: 1

Service: Flexi Service, Queens Wharf

Flash No: B

### Car 1. Sébastien Loeb/Daniel Elena

Today I lost the rear of the car going to the corner and we hit the bridge. I am now in seventh place and I am trying very hard to catch up. It will be very difficult now. Maybe it is not possible to catch up but I will try.

### Car 11. Petter Solberg/Phil Mills

Today has been very good, very good. I enjoyed my day and I was pleased to be on the pace properly. For tomorrow I think it's better to be first now. For tomorrow we don't have a any choice anyway. I am going to have to have some big balls. What will happen on Sunday? We will find out that tomorrow. I will take it as it comes. I'm not in any position to make a strategy.

### Car 2. Dani Sordo/Marc Marti

Toady was not bad. The times were not bad and for tomorrow I don't have a bad position on the road. But I lost four seconds on the super special stage, in one kilometre. But for the day I am happy. It's okay.

### Car 3. Mikko Hirvonen/Jarmo Lehtinen

I didn't have the pace today but at least we are still in a good position that we can fight from. Hopefully we will make the car better for tomorrow. Maybe I can step up my speed myself some more

### Car 4. Jari-Matti Latvala/Miikka Anttila

I tried very hard on the last stage but I couldn't match Petter's pace.

### Car 5. Matthew Wilson/Scott Martin

It's been good today. We had a problem with the gearbox halfway through the last proper stage (SS8) and lost maybe 10 or 12 seconds there. But we've been setting some really good times and we've had no massive problems. We lost the window this morning which made things difficult. But sixth on the road for tomorrow is a perfect position. And they're nice stages tomorrow. I'm not looking forward to the tarmac (at Hampton Downs racetrack) but tomorrow's gravel stages are some of my favourites, so it should be a good day.

### Car 9. Federico Villagra/Jorge Perez Compagnon

There were a lot of people at the Super Special (run in the dark at the Auckland Domain). It was interesting. I mean it was not a difficult stage to do but it was good for the people and a good show. It has been a difficult day for me. We started this morning with a differential problem and in the afternoon we struggled a bit with the brakes. Tomorrow hopefully it's a little better. We will see tomorrow how it comes.

### Car 28. Xavier Pons/Alex Haro

The Super Special was okay. I am happy. It has been a long day. In the morning it was very slippery with a lot of gravel and this afternoon I was more confident and I am happy now because we have a good position for tomorrow. Second for my category. It's a good result.

### Car 38. Hayden Paddon/John Kennard

It's been good today. We've been going at a fairly steady pace. Obviously it's a long rally and I'm not taking any risks. But now I find myself in a difficult position, with a two-minute lead in Group N. I need to go to bed tonight and try to set some goals for the rest of the rally.

### Car 64. Dean Sumner/Paul Fallon

I've been struggling for pace a bit. It's my first time in these Pirelli tyres and I think the set-up on the car is not right. It's been difficult today, but we're trying our best and we're fourth in Group N.

### Car 50. Emma Gilmour/Glenn Macneall

It was a very long day but still a positive day, just a tough start and a better afternoon. It's ended up okay. Tomorrow we will improve on what we were working on this afternoon - it's a bit different driving on these days – the level of grip, braking, that sort of thing. So we'll work on that and improve.

**Car 21. Martin Prokop/Jan Tomanek**

The morning was very good and the afternoon we were losing a lot of time. The reason we don't know why because we were pushing and keeping the same speed as this morning so we are not happy as we lost almost one minute to Xevi. So we have to try to tune the car in the service, see if everything is okay and then we will start fighting again tomorrow.

**Car 34. Kingsley Thompson/Malcolm Peden**

We survived the day – which was a bit of a tough one for us. We had a few car problems and the driver was struggling a little bit but we got there in the end.

**Car 54. Michel Jourdain/Oscar Sanchez**

Well okay – we are here. We had a little problem with a bridge. I hit with the right-rear, we have a bent shock-absorber so we are going to fix it now. It was a good day – I am happy.

**Car 45. Rui Wang/Hongyu Pan**

I am happy – very good. Problem with gearbox – I don't know. Tomorrow maybe it will be okay.

**Car 61. Mark Tapper/Jeff Cress**

It's good – we haven't done anything dumb all day. We had a couple of silly spins, one about four corners in to stage one – which had me scratching my head and wondering what I was doing. But I gathered my wits through stage one and we were still slightly quicker than Richard (Mason) and Hayden (Paddon) – which was good – it made me feel good straight away and knew that the pace was about. Then in stage four we had a small problem with the engine oil breather bottle was overfull and dripping oil on to the left-front brake rotor – blowing it out on to the front inner-guard and dropping it on to the brake rotor. I didn't know what I was doing wrong. Once I nearly spun and once I did spin – with the helicopter following for live TV above me. I was braking hard and it was locking the right-front wheel but the left-front was so was turning the car around. Otherwise it's be pretty much driving down the middle of the road.

**Car 62. Chris West/Chris Cobham**

It's been a mixed day – a tough ol' day really. It started off not where we would have liked. Perhaps we didn't have the car setup for the tyre and this year it has really shown with these guys that have run them before – there is a bit of work and a bit of an art in getting the best out of them. So we really focussed on that day and thought we were doing better. The car felt fine to start with but progressively got worse during the day and I'm at a loss to explain why.

**Car 68. Patrick Malley/Malcolm Read**

After all the dramas we've had today – they always seem to come in three's I tell you. We got stuck, lost seven minutes, no power steering for the past two kilometres and no map-light on the way in the darkest stage we ever had. But to be here at the end – really happy.

**Car 65. Glenn Smith/Campbell Ward**

I couldn't get my act together all day. We did some changes – diff settings, but made it worse. I don't know what I'm going to do because I have no confidence in the car at all – it's just got not handling and slides everywhere and just can't keep it in the corners.

**Car 63. Stewart Taylor/Warwick Searle**

I was going too fast for what I could see – I thought I knew where I was going but as I turned in to the corner it was all black and I just misread it. Up's and down's. I was feeling pretty good and something like this knock's you about a bit.

**Car 66. Glenn Inkster/Glenn Goldring**

To be fair it's been a relatively hassle free day. We got caught a lot in dust and found out our car is not that dust proof. But apart from that we are behind the front bunch – who are really close. But we're learning our car. So tomorrow our plan will be to stay with them and as long as we keep getting better it's going to be good and always good to get to the end of day one.

**Car 70. Sloan Cox/Tarryn Cox**

Very happy to be here. Had a few moments the beginning of the day before the service – but ended the day really well.