



STAGE FLASH

Date: 8 May, 2010

Day: Two

Special Stage: 17

Weather: Overcast, cool and calm

Road Conditions: Tarmac with liberal coating of gravel

Flash No: 17

Distance: 4.68km

Car 11. Petter Solberg/Phil Mills

For some reason we can't go any faster. Alright we made some mistakes this morning. Let's see if we can pick up anything for tomorrow.

Car 4. Jari-Matti Latvala/Miikka Anttila

It was cleaner on this stage in the second run. Overall we did not do as well as I would have liked.

Car 7. Sébastien Ogier/Julien Ingrassia

Today was very good. We could not match Sébastien but our car was strong all day. No problems at all and we are still in the lead.

Car 2. Dani Sordo/Marc Marti

I would have liked to have pushed harder but it was a tough day. Quite difficult roads with a lot of gravel. We can push hard tomorrow.

Car 3. Mikko Hirvonen/Jarmo Lehtinen

It was okay and good with so many people here. We did not expect to have so much gravel on the road and I went too wide on two corners because of that so not as good as I wanted.

Car 5. Matthew Wilson/Scott Martin

It was good actually. The track was a lot cleaner this time which made it a lot fairer for everyone. It was a good way to end a good day – a difficult one but a good one..

Car 1. Sébastien Loeb/Daniel Elena

Yes, it was a very good day. We pushed hard all day and had some very very good times and now we are second. I don't know what to say. I wanted to do this. I knew with my road position that I could take time. Overall today was not so bad. We have had worse. It was a great day for me.

Car 6. Henning Solberg/Ilka Minor

Yes this afternoon was much better. I am quite busy at this time. This was a lot of fun.

Car 9. Federico Villagra/Jorge Perez Companc

It has been a tough day but we finished the day pretty good. We are getting better speed all the time

Car 29. Jari Ketomaa/Mika Stenberg

It was a very, very good day all day. The morning didn't start so well but we went well through the Te Akau stage and got better this afternoon.

Car 28. Xavier Pons/Alex Haro

Strong day, yes. The car is good. It is a good position for the championship. Today I push very hard and okay second place is very good for us.

Car 21. Martin Prokop/Jan Tomanek

Today was very good for us. We lost three or four minutes when Mark stopped on the stage. It will be changed I think because we had nowhere to go and had to stop. Otherwise the car was very good. We lost a lot of time yesterday so it is not possible to fight for victory. If we keep third position it is still good.

Car 22. Nasser Al-Attiyah/Giovanni Bernacchini

Yes actually we enjoy a lot today. We make one mistake in the morning and we lost 30 seconds. That's ok. In the afternoon we improve a lot and we are happy. Still tomorrow will be a long day. I will try my best.

Car 38. Hayden Paddon/John Kennard

It's great to lead the PWRC. Obviously we had a bit of a lead going into today and we have just been sensible today and kept it on the straight and narrow and not pushed 100 per cent. We concentrated on getting to the end. Obviously there's another day to go but it's looking good so far. We won't get too far ahead of ourselves. Whaanga Coast can be a cruel stage. Tomorrow is about conserving and getting through and finishing this off.

Car 24. Patrik Sandell/Emil Axelsson

It's been an interesting day. We have been trying to push more and more. We were a little bit in the dust on the last long stage and I overtook a car this time. We had a really fun day and think we are in a good position for tomorrow.

Car 27. Janne Tuohino/Risto Pietilainen

Not so good today. We survive but we tried to push some stages very hard and we still lose 30 seconds per stage. I don't know if I have to look in the mirror or we find some technical problem.

Car 32. Toshi Arai/Daniel Barritt

Today is much, much better than yesterday. The car was very comfortable and very competitive today so today is certainly much better.

Car 62. Chris West/Chris Cobham

I like it here in front of the home crowd. It's good fun. I can't say my finish was deliberately intended though.

Car 50. Emma Gilmour/Glenn Macneall

All in all, a good day. It was a much better afternoon. We had a puncture this morning which lost a lot of time with that so still a positive day. We were probably a bit too sideways in that final super special.

Car 64. Dean Sumner/Paul Fallon

We needed those championship points after yesterday. That's great. We still got another day to go and we have to try to do the same tomorrow. That's no easy feat. Everyone's absolutely flying. For a three day rally no one is holding back.

Car 63. Stewart Taylor/Warwick Searle

I am pretty happy with that after starting the day with a bit of a difficult handling car. I am pretty pleased with that. We lowered the tyre pressure which helped and got the alignment sorted.

Car 66. Glenn Inkster/Glenn Goldring

It was a down first 3km but the rest has been getting better. We had a really good run through the last proper gravel stage and had a heap of fun around this stage at Hampton Downs.

Car 72. Ben Jagger/Ben Hawkins

The afternoon was a lot better than the morning. It's good to come back to this place and have another play.

Car 70. Sloan Cox/Tarryn Cox

It's been a lot better. We had a couple of moments and a bit of damage to the car but otherwise ok.

Car 34. Kingsley Thompson/Malcolm Peden

We struggled a bit this morning after we lost a pair. We still managed to get some pretty reasonable times and so I am really happy. We were losing a bit at Te Akau stages. That result so far is pretty good for a first time Rally NZ.

Car 65. Glenn Smith/Campbell Ward

A little bit too cautious this afternoon. I lost fifth gear so I've only had four gears. But still it was a bit of fun especially here at Hampton Downs.

Car 75. Jean-Louis Leyraud/Benjamin Searcy

The afternoon has gone really well. We had no problems.

Car 69. Matt Jansen/Jason Farmer

The afternoon has been a little bit better. We crushed the exhaust unfortunately in the second to last stage and lost all power so it's been a mission to get around here.

Car 71. Josh Marston/David Calder

Good afternoon and had a really good middle stage in that block of three. And the last one was not quite a good. The pace is a lot better today. Really good.

Car 80. Stephen Barker/Richard Ellis

It was a nice conservative pace today. Ben (Jagger No 72) who has been our battle for the day unfortunately rolled in the second to last stage so we are in cruise mode and get to the finish. There's only two Fiestas left now.

Car 46. Chaodong Liu/Anthony McLoughlin

We had a much better day today. This afternoon has been very good with no issues and we have pushed very hard which is good.

Car 33. Gianluca Linari/Massimo Salvucci

It's okay. It's difficult in these stages with a rally car but this afternoon is better with the three stages.

Car 73. Dave Strong/Bruce McKenzie

Yeah much better this afternoon. The brakes are working now and I knew what to do around here. There's too much over-steer on these tyres but that was better.

Car 87. Phil Campbell/Venita Fabbro

It's been good today, much better than yesterday. We made it to the finish today. It's been good.

Car 77. Dominick Unterberger/Sarah Coatsworth

We are slowly taking time off our first run through and not too bad. Coming down here is a great way to end the day. I missed a gear around the track but it was all great fun.

Car 85. Dermott Malley/Linzi Malley

It was a lot better around here with the dirt gone. You could see where the road was this time. It was real fun.

Car 84. Tony Burrowes/Michelle Parry

Woo, smell those brakes. We had a great day in the office today, I must say.

Car 86. Trevor Taylor/Tim Eddington

We have had a good afternoon. Everything has gone well. We've kept in on the track – everything has gone well. Great afternoon.