**STAGE FLASH**

**Date: 21 April 2022**

**Day: 1 Flash N°: 1**

**Special stage: Shakedown (Okić) Distance: 3.65 km**

**Weather: Overcast but dry, five degrees**

**Road conditions: Clean and dry for early runners**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Car #69. KALLE ROVANPERÄ/JONNE HALTTUNEN**

“No quote available”

**Car #11. THIERRY NEUVILLE/MARTIJN WYDAEGHE**

“We have to see. The target is to fight for victory. We were fast here last year, however we know we are struggling with the car still on Tarmac. Let’s see what we can do this weekend.”

**Car #44. GUS GREENSMITH/JONAS ANDERSSON**

“It’s quote a good stage, but the one thing that isn’t representative is the weather at the moment! Friday looks wet…”

**Car #18. TAKAMOTO KATSUTA/AARON JOHNSTON**

“I am confident. It’s different to last year and the weather is going to be tricky, so I have to make no mistakes. It will be difficult but I will try to enjoy.”

**Car #42. CRAIG BREEN/PAUL NAGLE**

“It feels good. We went on a hard tyre there, so it wasn’t easy to get everything up to temperature quickly. The car feels good so we’re looking forward to it.”

**Car #4. ESAPEKKA LAPPI/JANNE FERM**

“It felt good. Now it’s dry conditions and the rain is during the weekend. There will be a lot of variation, so it’s not going to be so simple. First we need to finish – that’s already a big target.”

**Car #2. OLIVER SOLBERG/ELLIOTT EDMONDSON**

“Beautiful roads, but very tricky. I missed one junction and almost had a spin. I lost maybe two or three seconds.”

**Car #8. OTT TANAK/MARTIN JARVEOJA**

“I never drove on the slick in the test – it was full wets. It’s quite important to get the feeling on the slick tyres today, but so far the feeling is good.”

**Car #33. ELFYN EVANS/SCOTT MARTIN**

“We’ve got to focus on doing a good job. It’s not going to be an easy weekend out there, but that’s the plan.”

**Car #16. ADRIEN FOURMAUX/ALEXANDRE CORIA**

“We have different road conditions for tomorrow, so I am taking the experience from last year but it’s like a new rally. I will just drive how I want to drive and let’s see at the end.”

**Car #7. PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET/VINCENT LANDAIS**

“It was fine. I enjoyed a lot and the car is looking good, so we hope to do well this weekend. I am really happy to be back in this kind of car.” This is Sébastien Loeb’s winning car from Rally Monte-Carlo. “I have everything, so normally I have to do well!”

**Car #20. STÉPHANE LEFEBVRE/ANDY MALFOY**

“Let’s see. The first part of shakedown is done, and it was OK.”

**Car #21. YOHAN ROSSEL/VALENTIN SARREAUD**

“Honestly, the feeling is good. We’ve had two days of testing in France. The feeling with the car is good, maybe soft, but I think it’s a good solution. I haven’t had a test in the rain, but we will see. Tomorrow, it will be very hard conditions. See you tomorrow!”

**Car #22. ERIC CAMILLI/THIBAUT DE LA HAYE**

“The biggest challenge will be to try to be fast because I discovered all the roads here in the recce and it’s quite new for me. I was quite surprised during the recce about the grip, so I need to understand and discover it to try to get a good speed.”

**Car #23. NIKOLAY GRYAZIN/KONSTANTIN ALEKSANDROV**

No quote available

**Car #24. KAJETAN KAJETANOWICZ/MACIEJ SZCZEPANIAK**

No quote available

**Car #25. ERIK CAIS/PETR TĚŠÍNSKY**

No quote available

**COMMENTS**

Shakedown for the second Croatia Rally to count for the FIA World Rally Championship took place in dry conditions with an air temperature of five degrees centigrade and a ground temperature of six degrees centigrade, and a clear road surface for the first pass. Ott Tänak/Martin Järveoja were fastest over the first runs in a Hyundai i20 N Rally1 followed by Esapekka Lappi/Janne Ferm. World championship leaders Kalle Rovanperä/Jonne Halttunen were third fastest.

**ENDS**

**Media contacts:**

Marko Šivak, [press@rally-croatia.com](mailto:press@rally-croatia.com)

[www.rally-croatia.com](http://www.rally-croatia.com/)

[www.facebook.com/WRCcroatiarally](http://www.facebook.com/WRCcroatiarally)