



wrc.com



via A. Pozzo 1 - 07026 Olbia

tel.: +39 0789 645052 - fax: +39 0789 648433 press@rallyitaliasardegna.com

RALLY ITALIA SARDEGNA SECOND DAY HAS BEEN VERY SELECTIVE

Hirvonen, Citroën DS3 WRC, is in the lead after the resounding retirement of Loeb, Citroën, Latvala and Solberg, Ford.

Olbia 19 October 2012 - At the end of Day 2, Finnish driver Mikko Hirvonen, Citroën DS3 WRC, is leading Rally Italia Sardegna. The event organized by Automobile Club d'Italia, with the support of Regione Sardegna, confirmed its reputation of being a tough and difficult race for everybody, even for the big rally champions. At the end of this second day several important champions are missing, like Sébastien Loeb, who went off road in the first stage of today, Thierry Neuville, who rolled on SS3 and couldn't start the next stage, Jari-Matti Latvala, who went off road in the first pass of the Castelsardo stage, and also Petter Solberg, who went off road in the penultimate stage of the day, Tergu - Osilo 2. A series of retirements, that influenced the end of the day overall standings. Hirvonen, and his co-driver Jarmo Lehtinen, are definitely in the lead, over 1 minute ahead of the Russian Evgeny Novikov, at the wheel of a Ford Fiesta RS WRC. In third place the other Ford Fiesta RS WRC of Tanak, preceding the Škoda Fabia S2000 of Sébastien Ogier. The French driver obtained the best time in the first pass on stage Tergu- Osilo. Then, in the Overall standings, there is Chris Atkinson, the Australian is obtaining very good results for the MINI John Cooper of the WRC Team MINI Portugal. Very good performances for the Norwegian Andreas Mikkelsen, Škoda Fabia Super 2000, and Mads Østberg, Ford Fiesta RS WRC, Martin Prokop, Ford Fiesta RS WRC, and for the Estonian driver Karl Kruuda. Tenth place overall for Petter Solberg, even if he retired today he has the possibility to restart tomorrow following the Super Rally rules. Eleventh overall the Italian driver from Brescia, Luca Pedersoli, co-driven by Luca Romano, in a Citroën DS3 WRC. Among the best Italian drivers there are the Sardinian driver Francesco Marrone, Mitsubishi Lancer EVO X, and the driver from Vicenza Mauro Spagolla, Peugeot 207 Super 2000.

Overall Classification after Day 2

1. Hirvonen – Lehtinen (Citroën DS 3 WRC) 1h 56'35"1 ; 2. Novikov – Minor (Ford Fiesta RS WRC) + 1'09"6; 3. Tanak – Sikk (Ford Fiesta RS WRC) + 2'18"3; 4. Ogier – Ingrassia (Škoda Fabia S2000) + 3'36"7 ; 5. Atkinson – Prevot (MINI John Cooper Works WRC) + 3'54"9; 6. Mikkelsen – Floene (Škoda Fabia Super 2000) + 4.40"3; 7. Østber – Andersson (Ford Fiesta RS WRC) + 4'46"0 ; 8. Prokop – Hruza (Ford Fiesta RS WRC) + 7'13"0 ; 9. Kruuda – Jarveoja (Ford Fiesta Super 2000) + 8'26" 2; 10. Solberg - Patterson (Ford Fiesta RS WRC) ; 11. Pedersoli - Romano (Citroën DS 3 WRC) + 12'25"9



wrc.com