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PRESS RELEASE no. 39 The biggest favorite Kopecký picked a starting position no. 1

The Czech driver Jan Kopecký after winning the Qualifying stage picked a starting position no. 1 for Saturday's Leg 1. He beaten Russian Alexey Lukyanuk, driving with Belarusian license, by 0.111 seconds therefore he had the right to choose first in front of the City Hall Zlín. The defending Czech champion Václav Pech starts fourth and the current leader of European Championship Polish Kajetan Kajetanowicz starts his engine as the fifth one.

Kopecký with his car Škoda Fabia R5 won the 4.71 km long section from Komárov to Pohořelice and confirmed his strong position in the starting field before the night's stage. On the weekend he is going to try his luck to win the fourth title at Barum Czech Rally Zlín and a fifth consecutive victory in domestic championship which he leads. "Czech championship is our priority but we would like to be at the top of the overall standings," said Jan Kopecký.

His biggest rival in his way to the victory will be the defending Czech champion Václav Pech. At the Qualifying stage he finished third with his car Mini John Cooper Works S2000, but for Leg 1 he picked position no. 4. "There were many people around the roads even in the morning. Our car is working well and we are looking forward to the rally," said the defending winner of Barum Rally.

Based on the results of the Qualifying stage the fastest fifteen drivers pick their starting position for Saturday's Leg 1. Other crews will start off according to their time at the Qualifying stage and their categories ERC1, ERC2 and ERC3.

Starting position for Leg 1 on Saturday:

- 1. Kopecký Dresler (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5)
- 2. Lukyanuk Arnautov (BLR, Ford Fiesta R5)
- 3. Consani Manzo (FRA, Citroën DS3 R5)
- 4. Pech Uhel (CZE, Mini John Cooper Works S2000)
- 5. Kajetanowicz Baran (POL, Ford Fiesta R5)
- 6. Breen Martin (IRL, Peugeot 208 T16)
- 7. Kostka T. Kostka L. (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5)
- 8. Tarabus Trunkát (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5)
- 9. Valoušek Havelková (CZE, Škoda Fabia S2000)
- 10. Kobus De Wild (NLD, Škoda Fabia R5)
- 11. Odložilík Tureček (CZE, Ford Fiesta R5)
- 12. Neubauer Ettel (AUT, Ford Fiesta S2000)
- 13. Tlusťák Kučera (CZE, Škoda Fabia S2000)
- 14. Martin Salva (FRA, Peugeot 208 T16)
- 15. Jakeš Novák (CZE, Citroën DS3 R5)

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