

## PRESS RELEASE no. 39 Flash info after Super SS

We interviewed the front line of elite crews at the finish of the stage in the streets of Zlín. Shortly before the start, there was a slight rain, but the roads were dry when the elite got on in. Before the beginning of the Barum Rally, many of the crews had a problem warming up their tires. As a result, they pushed harder, which led to tire overheating. Few cobbles in the Svit area got loose and caused a lot of trouble for some pilots. As every year, along the track are thousands of spectators who were eagerly awaiting the start of this year's Barum Czech Rally Zlín.

### **Yohan Rossel (FRA, Peugeot 208 R2, No. 41):**

"It wasn't easy. There were a lot of people there, and it's a tough test. Cobbles made it slippery."

### **Erik Cais (CZE, Ford Fiesta R2T, No. 40):**

"It was bad enough for me. I had the lights in front, and behind me, I couldn't concentrate."

### **Florian Bernardi (FRA, Renault Clio R3T, No. 38):**

"We made a big mistake on a bump, stopped completely, and wasted a lot of time. Overall, I did not do well. I am not satisfied."

### **Sindre Furuseth (NOR, Peugeot 208 R2, No. 37):**

"It was a mess. I hear it's tough on cobbles. We decided to get quite a high tire pressure and after the first lap they completely overheated, then we tried to finish. It's a beautiful SS, and I enjoyed it."

### **Efrén Llarena (ESP, Peugeot 208 R2, No. 36):**

"Tires on the front axle got overheated. I don't think it was that bad, but I don't know the final time at all."

### **Ken Torn (EST, Ford Fiesta R2T, No. 35):**

"It seemed to me, it is a bit like rallycross. We caught Bernardi, but he drove a little faster than we did, so he didn't delay us much."

### **Andrea Nucita (ITA, Fiat 124 Abarth RGT, No. 31):**

"It's a funny stage. I chose too soft tires for this type of track."

### **Dariusz Poloński (POL, Fiat 124 Abarth RGT, No. 30):**

"It was tiring, a lot of work. This test was great, we enjoyed it a lot."

**Zelindo Melegari (ITA, Fiat 124 Abarth RGT, No. 29):**

“At the bus station, we made a donut. But it’s OK, it’s just the first stage, and we haven’t lost that much.”

**Petr Trnovec (CZE, Hyundai i20 R5, No. 28):**

“In some places, it slipped, and cobbles were thrown out. But overall good. We enjoyed it.”

**Aloisio Monteiro (PRT, Škoda Fabia R5 Evo, No. 27):**

“We drive well, but I have to be more careful about the brakes. Besides, we enjoyed it a lot.”

**Antonín Tlustý (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 26):**

“It’s over, it’s good. We didn’t take the wheel, so it’s OK.”

**Martin Březík (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5 Evo, No. 25):**

“It was good. Unfortunately, we caught the car in front of us, but we lost only a few seconds, nothing terrible.”

**Albert von Thurn und Taxis (DEU, Škoda Fabia R5 Evo, No. 24):**

“We tried to go clean, not to make mistakes. I look forward to tomorrow, hopefully, we will make a good overall result, but it will be a long race.”

**Tomáš Pospíšilík (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 23):**

“We concentrated on not making any mistakes. We’re here, so it’s good.”

**Roman Odložilík (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 22):**

“It’s a tough test. It is hot in the car. I’m not sure about the time yet, but we’ll see.”

**Martin Vlček (CZE, Hyundai i20 R5, No. 21):**

“I think it was good. We waited until the last minute to select the tires, but we got it right. It’s going extremely fast, and I have to say that the guys from Europe are working hard.”

**Miroslav Jakeš (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 20):**

“Very slippery and dangerous test. We hit a piece of concrete. It wasn’t quite successful.”

**Jaromír Tarabus (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 19):**

“It was OK. We may have gone too cautiously, but overall, it is good.”

**Simon Wagner (Škoda Fabia R5 Evo, No. 18):**

“The car is all right. We tried to enjoy it, and we look forward to tomorrow, it will be an important day.”

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**Tomáš Kostka (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5 Evo, No. 17):**

“I was driving very carefully on the cobbles. The organizers are trying to clean it up, but it’s difficult.”

**Vojtěch Štajf (CZE, Volkswagen Polo GTi R5, No. 16):**

“We put on the same tires as in the qualification. We were told there was a lot of rocks, so we were careful. We made some mistakes in the first round. I think time will not be great, but we will see.”

**Hiroki Arai (JPN, Citroën C3 R5, No. 15):**

“I slept two hours before the SS, just to be sure I didn’t fall asleep in my car. But after this test, I am awake again for a long time.”

**Paulo Nobre (BRA, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 14):**

“I do not like urban SS very much, but I understand that they are important for the audience. It’s quite different from last year’s nightmare. We’ve had even come fun this year.”

**Miko Marczyk (POL, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 12):**

“It’s good to be here. It’s a difficult SS, it’s important not to make a mistake. But I did my best.”

**Mattias Adielsson (SWE, Ford Fiesta R5, No. 11):**

“Fantastic. Our car is doing well, it’s all new to us, but it was great anyway. I don’t even know the time, but, honestly, I don’t care at all.”

**Nikolaj Grjazin (LVA, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 10):**

“We did not manage well the first lap, and I was too wide in dusty places. In other laps, it was better, but the car was understeering. You mustn’t put too much pressure on the brakes; otherwise, they will overheat.”

**Václav Pech (CZE, Ford Fiesta R5, No. 9):**

“Everything OK. Very nice test, it slipped in the beginning before the tires were sufficiently warmed up. We can be satisfied with our performance.”

**Marijan Griebel (DEU, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 8):**

“I’ve been here before, trying to get a better track to beat myself.”

**Jan Černý (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 7):**

“It was OK. I think we hit something, but it’s OK. We tried to push, but we enjoyed it anyway.”

**Norbert Herczig (HUN, Volkswagen Polo Gti R5, No. 6):**

“Everything was good. I was careful because last year we had two punctures. Fortunately, bad luck avoided us, but we drove cautiously anyway.”

**Filip Mareš (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 5):**

“There are a lot of spectators, so we enjoyed it. A lot of fun to start with.”

**Jan Kopecký (CZE, Škoda Fabia R5 Evo, No. 4):**

“We had a minor technical problem, so I think we could have been even faster, but I’m happy.”

**Chris Ingram (GBR, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 3):**

“I tried to drive as cleanly as possible not to make any mistakes. This rally is one of the most challenging in the season, very strenuous and treacherous, but I enjoy it all the more. I’m looking forward to tomorrow’s stage.”

**Łukasz Habaj (POL, Škoda Fabia R5, No. 2):**

“It has been fabulous. I have driven this SS twice with Fiesta, which is more flowing than Fabia, so it was interesting. Fabia is better for this kind of track, so it worked.”

**Alexey Lukyanuk (RUS, Citroën C3 R5, No. 1):**

“It has been fabulous. I couldn’t wait for the Barum Rally anymore. It was a good test, I enjoyed it.”

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