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SEBASTIEN LOEB AND DANIEL ELENA, CITROEN C4 WRC, WIN THE RALLY D'ITALIA SARDEGNA

The third Day consolidates the Top-10 with Hirvonen (Ford Focus), still leader in the overall classification, who finishes in second position before Latvala (Ford Focus) and Gigi Galli (Ford Focus).

Michal Kosciuszko (Suzuki Swift) wins the JWRC Round, followed by Alessandro Bettega (Renault Clio RS R3).

Olbia 18th May 2008

The third Day, exciting and spectacular, does not reveal anything new and confirm the Top 10 of the Rally d'Italia Sardegna and the crew of Loeb and Elena as winner on the Citroen C4 WRC (Citroen Total WRT). Winner for the third times the French crew has perfectly managed the advantage got during the first two Days, leaving the other competitors fighting for the podium.

After a first SS raced under the rhythm imposed by Mikko Hirvonen (Ford Focus WRC), followed by Latvala (+5,1) and Loeb (+10,3), the Alsatian driver has attacked confirming his position in the Sardinian classification. The Finnish maintains the leadership in the overall classification followed by the compatriot Jari-Matti Latvala (Ford Focus Wrc) with whom has shared the second position until yesterday. In the following two SS, the classification doesn't change and Hirvonen and Latvala get the partial records, while Loeb manages the advantage without pushing too much and winning followed at no more than 10".

Cautious race for Gigi Galli (Ford Focus WRC) who leads the third SS, well managing the advantage on Daniel Sordo (Citroen C4 WRC - Citroen Total Wrt) confirming a satisfactory fourth position and supported by a large number of Supporters.

The JWRC, at its third Round, has been characterised by a real and exciting fight between Michal Kosciuszko (Suzuki Swift S1600) and Martin Prokop (Citroen C2 S1600). The winner has been decided just at the end of the Stage when the Croatian has been forced to give up renouncing at the leadership's conquest.

First victory for Kosciuszko in the JWRC, who has dropped on the podium in Porto Cervo with the fantastic Alessandro Bettega, together with Simone Scattolin, on Renault Clio R3 – TRT. The 27 age old driver from Trento, supported by the National ACI-CSAI for the 2008 season, has so conquered his best result in the Championship.



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by BRUNO PEGATE



IL MONDO DELL'UFFICIO

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MONTIRally d'Italia Sardegna
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Rally d'Italia Sardegna - Final Classification

1. Loeb – Elena (Citroen C4 Wrc) in 3h57'17"2; 2. Hirvonen – Lehtinen (Ford Focus Wrc) +10"6; 3. Latvala – Anttila (Ford Focus Wrc) +15"3; 4. Galli – Bernacchini (Ford Focus Wrc) +1'42"5 ; 5. Sordo – Marti (Citroen C4 Wrc) +2'05"6; 6. Atkinson – Prevot (Subaru Impreza Wrc) +5'08"6; 7. H.Solberg - Menkerud (Ford Focus Wrc) +6'01"0; 8. Aava – Sikk (Citroen C4 Wrc) +6'21"3; 9. Andersson – Andersson (Suzuki SX4 Wrc) +7'48"7 ; 10. P. Solberg – Mills (Subaru Impreza Sti) +9'41"0.

S.S. 13 Monte Olia

1) HIRVONEN Mikko (FORD Focus RS WRC) 14:03.2; 2) LATVALA Jari-Matti (FORD Focus RS WRC) +5.1 ; 3) LOEB Sébastien (CITRÖEN C4 WRC) +10.3; 4) GALLI Gigi (FORD Focus RS WRC) +18.3; 5) SORDO Dani (CITRÖEN C4 WRC) +19.8.

S.S. 14 Sorilis

1) LOEB Sébastien (CITRÖEN C4 WRC) 13:58.9; 2) HIRVONEN Mikko (FORD Focus RS WRC) +3.9; 3) LATVALA Jari-Matti (FORD Focus RS WRC) +4.3; 4) SORDO Dani (CITRÖEN C4 WRC) +9.3; 5) GALLI Gigi (FORD Focus RS WRC) +11.2

S.S. 15 Monte Olia

1) LATVALA Jari-Matti (FORD Focus RS WRC) 13:46.2; 2) HIRVONEN Mikko (FORD Focus RS WRC) +2.7 ; 3) GALLI Gigi (FORD Focus RS WRC) +9.3; 4) LOEB Sébastien (CITRÖEN C4 WRC) +9.5; 5) SORDO Dani (CITRÖEN C4 WRC) +16.4.

S.S. 16 Sorilis

1) HIRVONEN Mikko (FORD Focus RS WRC) 13:45.0; 2) LOEB Sébastien (CITRÖEN C4 WRC) +3.3; 3) LATVALA Jari-Matti (FORD Focus RS WRC) +4.1; 4) SORDO Dani (CITRÖEN C4 WRC) +7.6; 5) GALLI Gigi (FORD Focus RS WRC) +11.3

World Rally Championship Classification after the Sixth Round**Driver -**

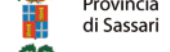
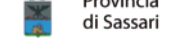
1. Hirvonen (Ford Focus RS Wrc) 43 points; 2. Loeb (Citroen C4 Wrc) 40; 3. Atkinson (Subaru Impreza Wrc) 31 ; 4. Latvala (Ford Focus Wrc) 24; 5. Sordo (Citroen C4 Wrc) 21; 6. Galli (Ford Focus RS Wrc) 17; 7 . H.Solberg (Ford Focus RS Wrc), 11; 8) Solberg P. (Subaru Impreza Wrc), 9; 9. Villagra (Ford Focus RS Wrc) 8; 10. Wilson (Ford Focus RS Wrc) 7.



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Organizzatore



Automobile Club d'Italia



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Manufacturers –

1. Bp Ford Abu Dhabi World Rally Team points 71; 2. Citroen Total WRT 64; 3. Subaru World Rally Team 42; 4. Stobart VK M-Sport Ford Rally Team 34; 5. Munich's Ford World Rally Team 16; 5. Suzuki World Rally Team 7

Junior World Rally Championship after the Third Round

1. Oigier 24 points; 2. Gallagher and Kosciuszko 16; 4. Burkart 11; 5. Molder and Bettega 8; 7. Albertini 7.



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