

DANIEL RICCIARDO WINS FOR RED BULL WITH A TWO-STOP STRATEGY AFTER MAKING HIS SECOND STOP UNDER THE SAFETY CAR

A WIDE VARIETY OF TYRE STRATEGIES IN PLAY THROUGHOUT THE FIELD WITH ALL THREE COMPOUNDS USED BY MANY DRIVERS

A LONG SAFETY CAR PERIOD, TOGETHER WITH TRACK TEMPERATURES 20 DEGREES WARMER THAN PREVIOUS DAYS, INFLUENCE RACE STRATEGY

Shanghai, April 15, 2018 – Red Bull’s Daniel Ricciardo won the Chinese Grand Prix from sixth on the grid, having started on the ultrasoft tyre and making two pit stops. His second stop was made under a safety car, enabling him to re-start with new soft tyres and gain an advantage over those one-stopping on a different strategy. His Red Bull team mate Max Verstappen adopted a similar strategy, with both cars double-stacking in the pits.

Mercedes driver Valtteri Bottas in second adopted a completely different strategy, similar to his team mate Lewis Hamilton and both Ferrari drivers: starting on the soft and making just one stop to medium. Despite this wide range of tactics with many drivers using all three compounds, there was a very tight battle between the frontrunners – where managing the tyres was paramount – all the way to the finish.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

“After Bahrain, we enjoyed another race where some different thinking on tyre strategy among the leading competitors led to a very exciting conclusion, with many different tactics in play. Track temperatures today were around 20 degrees higher than they had been over the previous couple of days, which meant that the teams were facing a few unknown factors heading into the race, not having run in these temperatures here before. Another factor that influenced tyre strategy and ultimately the race victory was a lengthy safety car period, allowing both Red Bulls to change tyres at an advantageous moment, while reducing wear and degradation for everyone else who stayed out. In total, six drivers, including the race winner, used all three compounds.”

BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

		
Raikkonen 1m36.456s	Ricciardo 1m35.785s	Grosjean 1m37.410s
Hamilton 1m36.878s	Verstappen 1m36.206s	Ocon 1m37.985s
Bottas 1m36.987s	Hulkenberg 1m36.881s	Gasly 1m38.367s

LONGEST STINT OF THE RACE

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
MEDIUM	Hamilton	38
SOFT	Ericsson, Alonso	29
ULTRASOFT	Gasly, Ocon	25

TRUTHOMETER

Daniel Ricciardo won the race using two pit stops, going from ultrasoft to medium at the end of lap 17, and then from medium to soft under the safety car at the end of lap 31. He was one of only seven cars to start the race on the ultrasoft tyre.

Car	Driver	Start	Pit 1	Pit 2
3	RIC	USu	Mn (17)	Sn (31)
77	BOT	Su	Mn (19)	
7	RAI	Su	Mn (27)	
44	HAM	Su	Mn (18)	
33	VER	USu	Mn (17)	Sn (31)
27	HUL	USu	Mn (13)	Sn (31)
14	ALO	Sn	Mn (29)	
5	VET	Su	Mn (20)	
55	SAI	USu	Mn (12)	Sn (31)
20	MAG	Su	Mn (24)	
31	OCO	Sn	Sn (11)	USn (31)
11	PER	USu	Sn (12)	Sn (32)
2	VAN	Sn	Mn (22)	
18	STR	Sn	Mn (23)	
35	SIR	Sn	Mn (28)	Su (33)
9	ERI	Sn	Mn (29)	
8	GRO	USu	Mn (16)	USu (46)
10	GAS	Mn	Sn (20)	USn (31)
16	LEC	Sn	Mn (21)	
28	HAR	USn	Mn (10)	Sn (30)

US= Ultrasoft S= Soft M= Medium n= new u= used

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For further information
please contact

Roberto Boccafolgi • +39 335 125 6694
roberto.boccafolgi@pirelli.com

Anthony Peacock • +44 7765 896 930
anthony.peacock.ex@pirelli.com

Sara Vimercati • +39 366 620 9720
sara.vimercati@pirelli.com

Pirelli Tyre Press Office • +39 02 6442 4270
pressoffice@pirelli.com