

RED BULL CLAIMS MONACO POLE ON HYPERSOFT WITH DANIEL RICCIARDO AFTER TOPPING EVERY FREE PRACTICE SESSION

**TRACK RECORD FALLS AGAIN ON HYPERSOFT DEBUT
WITH POLE MORE THAN 1.3 SECONDS FASTER THAN LAST YEAR**

**ONE PIT STOP STILL THE MOST LIKELY RACE SCENARIO
WITH THE HYPERSOFT SET TO BE USED EXTENSIVELY**

Monaco, May 26, 2018 – At one of the races where qualifying high up the grid is most important, Red Bull completed its dominance of the Monaco weekend so far by claiming pole position and a new track record with Daniel Ricciardo, on the debut for the new Pink hypersoft tyre.

Ricciardo became only the third driver this year (after Sebastian Vettel and Lewis Hamilton) to receive the Pirelli Pole Position Award, which on this occasion was presented by three-time Monaco winner Sir Jackie Stewart, having lowered last year's pole time by more than 1.3 seconds.

Although the hypersoft showed some degradation during free practice as expected, one stop is still the most likely race strategy due to the importance of track position on this famously narrow street circuit.

Conditions remained dry and warm today and are expected to stay the same tomorrow.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

"The hypersoft is definitely a tyre that will be used extensively during the race, but the key to it will be to avoid graining, especially at the front, in order to keep degradation under control. The drivers who are able to do that will have an advantage. As usual those starting outside the top 10 have a free choice of tyres, and it will be interesting to see if they adopt alternative tactics at a race where the strategy has always been quite straightforward up to now, depending as always on safety cars: a reasonably common occurrence here. While Monaco is typical of nowhere else, the extra speed and therefore degradation of the new hypersoft has already added another dimension. Tomorrow we will see how this translates into a race context: it's going to be particularly fascinating as well to see what Max Verstappen can do from the back."

HOW THE TYRES BEHAVED TODAY



PINK HYPERSOFT

Around a second faster than ultrasoft, so used for qualifying by most drivers.



PURPLE ULTRASOFT

Used in Q2 by Mercedes and a possible start tyre for anyone outside the top 10.



RED SUPERSOFT

Depending on hypersoft degradation, a potential option for the second stint.

FREE PRACTICE 3 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Ricciardo	1m11.786s	HYPERSOFT USED
Verstappen	1m11.787s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Vettel	1m12.023s	HYPERSOFT NEW

QUALIFYING TOP 10

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Ricciardo	1m10.810s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Vettel	1m11.039s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Hamilton	1m11.232s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Raikkonen	1m11.266s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Bottas	1m11.441s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Ocon	1m12.061s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Alonso	1m12.110s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Sainz	1m12.130s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Perez	1m12.154s	HYPERSOFT NEW
Gasly	1m12.221s	HYPERSOFT NEW

MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
SUPERSOFT	Ericsson	32
ULTRASOFT	Gasly, Hartley, Ocon	25
HYPERSOFT	Sirotkin	30

BEST TIME BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
SUPERSOFT	Hamilton	1m13.720s
ULTRASOFT	Hamilton	1m12.619s
HYPERSOFT	Ricciardo	1m10.810s

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