

## MERCEDES DRIVER LEWIS HAMILTON TAKES POLE POSITION ON SOFT TYRE AND BEATS HIS OWN TRACK RECORD

### HIGH TRACK TEMPERATURES PEAK AT MORE THAN 40 DEGREES CENTIGRADE

### A ONE-STOPPER IS THE QUICKEST STRATEGY FOR TOMORROW'S RACE, DEPENDING ON SOFT TYRE DEGRADATION RATES

*Silverstone, July 7, 2018* – Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton set pole position for his home grand prix, earning the Pirelli Pole Position Award from a driver close to his heart: Billy Monger, the British teenager who lost his legs in a fearsome Formula 4 accident last year, but bounced back to finish on the podium in his comeback race. Hamilton set his pole time on the soft tyre, which was used throughout most of qualifying by all the drivers. In doing so, he beat his own track record from last year. Track temperatures peaked at more than 40 degrees centigrade in qualifying, with 27 degrees ambient. Similar conditions are expected for the race tomorrow, which gets underway just after 2pm. A one-stop strategy, which won the race last year, is theoretically fastest.

#### MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

*“Again we had unusually warm track temperatures today, with the drivers able to use their experience of similar conditions yesterday. With the soft tyre being approximately a second per lap faster than any other compound, we saw everyone using this in Q2, with no drivers trying a harder compound to start the grand prix as has been the case in recent races. The degradation rate of the soft tyre will determine the strategy tomorrow. A one-stop strategy is theoretically quickest, but if high degradation is encountered on the soft – a distinct possibility in these warm conditions – a two-stop strategy would be better. As we could see throughout qualifying, the gap between the top teams is very close, so strategy might make the difference; especially as there could be a reasonably wide pit stop window.”*

#### HOW THE TYRES BEHAVED TODAY



ICE BLUE **HARD**

Not seen in qualifying at all but could be an option in a one-stop strategy.



WHITE **MEDIUM**

Both Mercedes drivers and the Ferrari of Raikkonen used these in Q1.



YELLOW **SOFT**

Used for the majority of quali, a full two seconds faster than the hard tyre.

### FREE PRACTICE 3 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Hamilton	1m26.722s	SOFT NEW
Raikkonen	1m26.815s	SOFT NEW
Bottas	1m27.364s	SOFT NEW

### QUALIFYING TOP 10

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Hamilton	1m25.892s	SOFT NEW
Vettel	1m25.936s	SOFT NEW
Raikkonen	1m25.990s	SOFT NEW
Bottas	1m26.217s	SOFT NEW
Verstappen	1m26.602s	SOFT NEW
Ricciardo	1m27.099s	SOFT NEW
Magnussen	1m27.244s	SOFT NEW
Grosjean	1m27.455s	SOFT NEW
Leclerc	1m27.879s	SOFT NEW
Ocon	1m28.194s	SOFT NEW

### MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
SOFT	Gasly	23
MEDIUM	Vettel	24
HARD	Hulkenberg, Sirotkin	20

## BEST TIME BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
<b>SOFT</b>	Hamilton	1m25.982s
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Hamilton	1m26.818s
<b>HARD</b>	Bottas	1m29.573s

Updates are available also on our official media channels



Twitter @Pirellisport



Instagram/pirelli\_motorsport



Facebook/PirelliMotorsport



The Racing Spot: [Racingspot.pirelli.com](http://Racingspot.pirelli.com)



Pirelli F1 Press Area: [f1pressarea.pirelli.com](http://f1pressarea.pirelli.com)

For further information please contact

Roberto Boccafoli • +39 335 125 6694

[roberto.boccafoli@pirelli.com](mailto:roberto.boccafoli@pirelli.com)

Anthony Peacock • +44 7765 896 930

[anthony.peacock.ex@pirelli.com](mailto:anthony.peacock.ex@pirelli.com)

Sara Vimercati • +39 366 620 9720

[sara.vimercati@pirelli.com](mailto:sara.vimercati@pirelli.com)

Pirelli Tyre Press Office • +39 02 6442 4270

[pressoffice@pirelli.com](mailto:pressoffice@pirelli.com)