

FERRARI'S KIMI RAIKKONEN GOES FASTEST IN FREE PRACTICE 1.4 SECONDS FASTER THAN THE EQUIVALENT 2017 SESSION

PROBABILITY OF RAIN TOMORROW MAKES TODAY'S DATA PARTICULARLY CRUCIAL WHEN IT COMES TO FORMULATING RACE STRATEGY

AROUND ONE SECOND BETWEEN SUPERSOFT AND SOFT SO FAR THIS WEEKEND: A BIGGER GAP THAN EXPECTED

Spa-Francorchamps, August 24, 2018 – Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen continued his strong track record of performance at the epic Spa-Francorchamps circuit by topping Friday's free practice times on the P Zero Red supersoft tyre. His best time of 1m43.355s, set in FP2, was nearly a second a half faster than the equivalent time last year.

The weather remained cool and dry, despite a few drops of rain in the morning, allowing the teams to complete plenty of running and collect data that will be particularly crucial for Sunday's race if it rains tomorrow, as is expected.

So far, there's a performance gap of around a second between the supersoft and soft compounds: a bigger gap than expected. This may change during the weekend, depending on the weather conditions.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

"The track was very quick right from the first session this morning, also as a result of the rubber laid down by the recent Spa 24 Hours, which we supply exclusively as well. There were no real surprises from the practice sessions, apart from the fact that the performance gap of around a second between the two softest compounds was somewhat bigger than the 0.6 seconds we expected. We're expecting the gap between soft and medium to be in the region of 0.8 seconds, but we still have to look at all the data carefully tonight. Tomorrow, everyone is expecting rain, although the weather forecast seems to be constantly changing, which is not unusual here. So far, the tyres have performed consistently and strongly on what is well-known as one of the most demanding tracks of the year, with only a few small cases of blistering reported in the afternoon."

FREE PRACTICE 1 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Vettel	1m44.358s	SOFT NEW
Verstappen	1m44.509s	SOFT NEW
Hamilton	1m44.676s	SOFT NEW

FREE PRACTICE 2 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Raikkonen	1m43.355s	SUPERSOFT NEW
Hamilton	1m43.523s	SUPERSOFT NEW
Bottas	1m43.803s	SUPERSOFT NEW

FP1 - BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
SUPERSOFT	Bottas	1m44.998s
SOFT	Vettel	1m44.358s
MEDIUM	Bottas	1m44.724s


FP2 - BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
SUPERSOFT	Raikkonen	1m43.355s
SOFT	Raikkonen	1m44.400s
MEDIUM	Hamilton	1m44.369s

MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR



COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
SUPERSOFT	Stroll	25
SOFT	Bottas, Sirotkin	20
MEDIUM	Vandoorne	20

TYRE STATISTICS OF THE DAY

			
Kms driven*	1470	2395	2990
Sets used overall**	15	30	35

* The above number gives the total amount of kilometres driven in FP1 and FP2 today, all drivers combined.

** Per compound, all drivers combined.

MIN. STARTING PRESSURES (slicks)		EOS CAMBER LIMIT	
	24.0 psi (front) 22.0 psi (rear)	-2.75° (front) -1.50° (rear)	

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