

LEWIS HAMILTON WINS FOR MERCEDES WITH JUST ONE HYPERSOFT-SOFT TYRE CHANGE IN SINGAPORE, AS USUAL WITH A SAFETY CAR

WIDE VARIETY OF DIFFERENT TYRE STRATEGIES SEEN: ALL THREE COMPOUNDS USED DURING THE RACE

NEW RACE LAP RECORD ESTABLISHED WITH THE HYPERSOFT: MORE THAN THREE SECONDS FASTER THAN PREVIOUS BENCHMARK

Singapore, September 16, 2018 – Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton won the Singapore Grand Prix from pole, having stopped just once. Like all of the top 10 on the grid, Hamilton started on the P Zero Pink hypersoft, which on Friday and Saturday had proved to be more than a second and a half quicker than the ultrasoft. He made a single stop for the soft compound on lap 15 and then managed his advantage to the finish, without ever losing the lead, thanks to a pace that was faster than those who instead changed to ultrasofts. Like all those who started on the hypersoft, Hamilton benefitted from four laps under the safety car at the start of the race, which prolonged the life of the softest compound.

A number of other strategies were tried, including a hypersoft-ultrasoft one-stopper used by Sebastian Vettel to finish third, behind Red Bull's Max Verstappen – on the same strategy as Hamilton. Verstappen's Red Bull team mate Daniel Ricciardo also used a hypersoft-ultrasoft strategy to good effect, showing plenty of speed at the end of the race. The highest-placed driver to begin the race on ultrasoft was McLaren's Fernando Alonso, who finished seventh after starting from outside the top 10 on the grid. The fastest lap of the race was set by Haas driver Kevin Magnussen, beating the previous race lap record by more than three seconds.

Singapore kept up its 100% safety car record with an early appearance: because of this it did not substantially affect race strategy.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

"As expected, Singapore was a very long, complex, and demanding race, while the 100% safety car record was maintained. This added another strategic element to what was already a tactically complex race. We saw a number of different strategies at work and a varying number of stops, with the top 10 on the grid all starting on the hypersoft that gave them extra speed at the very beginning of the race but left them open to the possibility of losing track position to those who completed a longer opening stint on a harder tyre or operated an alternative strategy."

BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

		
Hamilton 1m42.913s	Ricciardo 1m43.120s	Magnussen 1m41.905s
Alonso 1m43.164s	Vettel 1m44.669s	Hamilton 1m44.403s
Verstappen 1m43.345s	Stroll 1m46.033s	Hartley 1m44.889s

LONGEST STINT OF THE RACE

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
SOFT	Hamilton	46
ULTRASOFT	Vettel	47
HYPERSOFT	Ricciardo	27

THE WINNING STRATEGY

Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton won the race using one pit stop, which we predicted as the optimal strategy, going from hypersoft to soft on lap 15. On paper, the quickest one-stopper was actually ultrasoft to soft, which was used by Alonso to claim seventh.

Car	Driver	Start	Pit 1	Pit 2	Pit 3
44	HAM	HSu	Sn (15)		
33	VER	HSu	Sn (17)		
5	VET	HSu	USn (14)		
77	BOT	HSu	Sn (16)		
7	RAI	HSu	Sn (22)		
3	RIC	HSu	USn (27)		
14	ALO	USn	Sn (38)		
55	SAI	USn	Sn (37)		
16	LEC	USn	HSn (38)		
27	HUL	HSu	USn (15)		
9	ERI	USn	HSn (44)		
2	VAN	USn	Sn (43)		
10	GAS	HSn	USn (26)		
18	STR	Sn	USn (40)		
8	GRO	HSu	Sn (16)		
11	PER	HSu	USn (17)	Sn (33)	
28	HAR	HSn	USn (14)	HSn (36)	
20	MAG	USn	Sn (26)	HSn (36)	HSn (48)
35	SIR	USn	Sn (3)	HSn (45)	
31	OCO	HSu			

S = Soft

US = Ultrasoft

HS = Hypersoft

n = new

u = used

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