

## DANIEL RICCIARDO CLAIMS POLE POSITION ON HYPERSOFT 1.5 SECONDS FASTER THAN 2017 BENCHMARK

### THE TOP SIX ON THE GRID WILL START ON ULTRASOFT AFTER SETTING FASTEST TIMES WITH THEM IN Q2

### A TWO-STOPPER SET TO BE THE QUICKEST STRATEGY FOR THE RACE TOMORROW, WITH WARMER WEATHER EXPECTED

Mexico City, October 27, 2018 – Red Bull Racing continued its clean sweep of the free practice sessions in Mexico by claiming pole in cool conditions on the hypersoft with Daniel Ricciardo.

The top six on the grid set their fastest times in Q2 on ultrasoft, which will be their start tyres for tomorrow's race. The ultrasoft benefits from greater durability compared to the hypersoft, which has shown extra pace but also high degradation, so should allow a longer first stint.

However, tomorrow's 71-lap race looks set to be held in very different conditions to today, with warmer weather expected. A two-stopper is theoretically the quickest strategy, but a one-stop is possible as well with a high degree of tyre management.

#### MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

*"With damp conditions earlier today, the circuit effectively reset itself, providing a new challenge. The key strategic element was the tyre choice for Q2, determining the start tyres for tomorrow. With no real advantage in starting on the hypersoft, given the expected levels of degradation, the top six drivers all qualified on the ultrasoft. A wide mixture of strategies are available for the race, with a two-stopper fastest but a one-stopper just about possible too, if the hypersoft is carefully managed. Nonetheless, with the variable conditions we have seen so far posing a few open questions, it could be helpful to keep the strategy plans flexible. All three compounds have a role to play; it was interesting to see the supersoft even in Q2, as two drivers tried to see if they could qualify on it in the top 10."*

#### HOW THE TYRES BEHAVED TODAY



RED **SUPERSOFT**

Used in Q2 by Force India and key to all the possible strategies.



PURPLE **ULTRASOFT**

The choice for six drivers in Q2, just over 0.5s slower than hypersoft.



PINK **HYPERSOFT**

The quickest but most degrading tyre here, needs to be managed in the race.

## FREE PRACTICE 3 – TOP 3 TIMES

| DRIVER     | TIME      | COMPOUND      |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Verstappen | 1m16.284s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Hamilton   | 1m16.538s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Vettel     | 1m16.566s | HYPERSOFT NEW |

## QUALIFYING TOP 10

| DRIVER     | TIME      | COMPOUND      |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Ricciardo  | 1m14.759s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Verstappen | 1m14.785s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Hamilton   | 1m14.894s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Vettel     | 1m14.970s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Bottas     | 1m15.160s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Raikkonen  | 1m15.330s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Hulkenberg | 1m15.827s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Sainz      | 1m16.084s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Leclerc    | 1m16.189s | HYPERSOFT NEW |
| Ericsson   | 1m16.513s | HYPERSOFT NEW |

## MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR

| COMPOUND         | DRIVER    | LAPS |
|------------------|-----------|------|
| <b>SUPERSOFT</b> | Raikkonen | 31   |
| <b>ULTRASOFT</b> | Bottas    | 25   |
| <b>HYPERSOFT</b> | Hartley   | 21   |

## BEST TIME BY COMPOUND SO FAR

| COMPOUND         | DRIVER     | TIME      |
|------------------|------------|-----------|
| <b>SUPERSOFT</b> | Perez      | 1m17.220s |
| <b>ULTRASOFT</b> | Verstappen | 1m15.640s |
| <b>HYPERSOFT</b> | Ricciardo  | 1m14.759s |

**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 Boccafogli • +39 335 125 6694  
[roberto.boccafogli@pirelli.com](mailto:roberto.boccafogli@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)