

WIDE VARIETY OF STRATEGIES AND NON-STOP ACTION IN BRAZIL

LEWIS HAMILTON WINS RACE AND MERCEDES WINS MANUFACTURERS' TITLE

MOST DRIVERS OPT FOR A ONE-STOPPER IN RELATIVELY WARM CONDITIONS: FIVE DRIVERS SELECT A TWO-STOPPER

Interlagos, November 11, 2018 – With overtaking and action from start to finish, as well as several changes of lead and a tight battle for victory, Brazil delivered an excitingly strategic race, with three different tactical approaches from the three leading teams. In total, there were five different strategies in the top six, and many other variations further down the field.

Lewis Hamilton eventually won the race for Mercedes, with a one-stop supersoft-medium strategy, while Red Bull's Max Verstappen – the race leader until a clash with a lapped car – selected a supersoft-soft strategy, also used by his team mate Daniel Ricciardo to recover well from 11th due to a grid penalty.

Ferrari was the only team in the top 10 to start on the soft tyre, with Kimi Raikkonen ending up third with a single stop for the medium tyre, while his team mate Sebastian Vettel went for a two-stopper using all three compounds. At the flag, the top four were separated by just five seconds. Another impressive performance came from Sauber's Charles Leclerc, who used the same strategy as the race winner to maintain the strong P7 he scored in qualifying to the end of the grand prix.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

"As expected weather conditions were warmer today, which contributed to some cases of blistering. Brazil was definitely one of the most entertaining races of the year, where strategy was not only crucial but also very varied. Despite these extremely different approaches, the fight was very close among all the top teams and there was plenty of wheel-to-wheel racing, which is exactly the objective that we are all aiming for in Formula 1: drivers pushing hard for the win rather than managing pace. Red Bull and Max Verstappen made particularly good use of the tyres by showing consistent race-winning pace while using only the two softest compounds and stopping just once. Congratulations to Mercedes for another manufacturers' title, sealed with another victory for Lewis Hamilton."

BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

		
Raikkonen 1m11.769s	Bottas 1m10.540s	Vettel 1m10.831s
Hamilton 1m11.795s	Ricciardo 1m11.343s	Stroll 1m11.751s
Bottas 1m11.939s	Verstappen 1m11.578s	Sainz 1m12.169s

LONGEST STINT OF THE RACE

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
SUPERSOFT	Perez, Ricciardo	39
SOFT	Magnussen	41
MEDIUM	Sirotkin	53

THE WINNING STRATEGY

Lewis Hamilton won the race using one pit stop as we expected, going from supersoft to medium on lap 19. This was a bit earlier than we predicted, mainly due to the higher track temperatures than previous days causing more degradation than before.

Car	Driver	Start	Pit 1	Pit 2
44	HAM	SSu	Mn (19)	
33	VER	SSu	Sn (35)	
7	RAI	Su	Mn (31)	
3	RIC	SSu	Sn (39)	
77	BOT	SSu	Mn (18)	Sn (59)
5	VET	Su	Mn (27)	SSu (53)
16	LEC	SSu	Mn (35)	
8	GRO	SSu	Mn (32)	
20	MAG	Sn	SSn (41)	
11	PER	SSn	Sn (39)	
28	HAR	Mn	SSn (49)	
55	SAI	Sn	Mn (25)	SSn (48)
10	GAS	SSu	Mn (22)	
2	VAN	Sn	Mn (28)	
31	OCO	Sn	SSn (40)	
35	SIR	Sn	Mn (16)	
14	ALO	Sn	Mn (15)	SSn (54)
18	STR	Sn	Mn (17)	SSn (65)
27	HUL	Sn		
9	ERI	SSu	Mn (18)	

M = Medium

S = Soft SS = Supersoft

n = new

u = used

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