

## RED BULL'S MAX VERSTAPPEN WINS THE RACE WHILE MERCEDES DRIVER LEWIS HAMILTON WINS THE TITLE, USING DIFFERENT TWO-STOP STRATEGIES

### HIGH DEGRADATION, BUT FERRARI'S KIMI RAIKKONEN FINISHES ON THE PODIUM WITH JUST ONE STOP AND A 54-LAP STINT ON SUPERSOFT

### FINAL 2019 DEVELOPMENT TEST ON TUESDAY AS SAUBER TESTS FOR PIRELLI, FOLLOWED BY A DEMONSTRATION RUN BY TATIANA CALDERON

Mexico City, October 28, 2018 – With high tyre degradation, also provoked by the thin air at high altitude that deprived cars of downforce and caused some degree of sliding, there was a mixture of one and two stop strategies, and even a three-stopper for the Mercedes of Valtteri Bottas in fifth – who set the fastest lap of the grand prix.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the race with a two-stop strategy, but fourth place for Lewis Hamilton – on a different two-stopper – was enough for the Mercedes driver to claim his fifth driver's title.




Five of the top 10 finishers used just one-stop: including three drivers who began the race on the hypersoft tyre, and then completed a very long final stint on the supersoft. Kimi Raikkonen was another driver to complete an extremely long 54-lap stint on supersoft to the flag, having instead started on ultrasoft. In total, there were six different strategies in the top 10.

Pirelli now remains in Mexico for a final 2019 development test on Tuesday with Antonio Giovinazzi driving for Sauber, following which Colombian driver Tatiana Calderon will make her Formula 1 debut in a demonstration run.

### MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

*"From the point of view of tyre management it was a tricky race, with a two-stopper confirmed as the winning strategy, but also with many drivers opting to stop just once. From the beginning, the teams had to manage tyres, degradation and also graining, with a number of different approaches seen. In fact, neither of the top three teams used identical strategies with both of their cars: a sign of how difficult it was to call. As expected, the teams also had to react to race circumstances as they happened, with virtual safety cars adding to the strategic complexity. Congratulations to Lewis Hamilton and Mercedes for a well-deserved driver's championship after a dominant season."*

### BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

		
Verstappen 1m19.186s	Vettel 1m19.522s	Bottas 1m18.741s
Ricciardo 1m19.462s	Hamilton 1m20.728s	Grosjean 1m21.438s
Vettel 1m20.112s	Verstappen 1m20.923s	Sainz 1m22.386s

### LONGEST STINT OF THE RACE

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
<b>SUPERSOFT</b>	Sirotkin	58
<b>ULTRASOFT</b>	Ocon	39
<b>HYPERSOFT</b>	Ericsson	16

## THE WINNING STRATEGY

As we expected, a two-stopper proved to be the quickest strategy. Max Verstappen went for the theoretically fastest strategy that we predicted: an initial stint on ultrasoft followed by two stints on supersoft. Verstappen made his first stop in the 71-lap race on lap 13 and his second stop on lap 48.

Car	Driver	Start	Pit 1	Pit 2	Pit 3
33	VER	USu	SSn (13)	SSn (48)	
5	VET	USu	SSn (17)	USn (47)	
7	RAI	USu	SSn (17)		
44	HAM	USu	SSn (11)	USu (47)	
77	BOT	USu	SSn (11)	USu (48)	HSu (62)
27	HUL	HSu	SSn (12)		
16	LEC	HSu	SSn (13)		
2	VAN	USn	SSn (12)		
9	ERI	HSu	SSn (16)		
10	GAS	HSn	SSn (5)	SSn (26)	
31	OCO	SSn	SSu (1)	USu (30)	
28	HAR	SSn	USn (1)	SSn (24)	
18	STR	USn	USn (10)	SSn (23)	
35	SIR	USn	SSn (11)		
20	MAG	SSn	USn (43)		
8	GRO	SSn	USn (44)	HSn (60)	
3	RIC	USu	SSn (12)		
11	PER	SSn	USu (30)		
55	SAI	HSu	SSn (11)		
14	ALO	USn			

SS = Supersoft      US = Ultrasoft      HS = Hypersoft  
 n = new                      u = used

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 Boccafolgi • +39 335 125 6694  
[roberto.boccafolgi@pirelli.com](mailto:roberto.boccafolgi@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)