



2016 Dakar / SS10: Four MINI ALL4 Racing vehicles now hold top-10 positions in the overall standings

- Nani Roma finishes fourth today
- Nasser Al-Attiyah second overall

The 10th stage – from Belén to La Rioja – was a true challenge and jumbled the overall standings massively. With today's 244-kilometre special stage contested, Nasser Al-Attiyah (QAT), Mathieu Baumel (FRA) and their MINI ALL4 Racing now hold second position in the overall standings – behind Stéphane Peterhansel. Mikko Hirvonen (FIN) and Michel Périn (FRA) still are fourth. Meanwhile, Nani Roma and Alex Haro (both ESP) impressed with a sensational performance, finished fourth and leaped up to seventh overall. Harry Hunt (GBR) and Andreas Schulz (GER) also once again delivered in great style and finished eighth. Orlando Terranova and Ronnie Graue (both ARG), however, encountered a day to forget and had to settle for finishing 33rd.

Today, Nani Roma was the lucky dog of the MINI ALL4 Racing camp and so, he finally could smile again despite all the bad luck he had had to cope with on the previous days. "What a positive day," he said beaming. "Although it was a tough day for everybody. too. We rolled in the opening stages but Harry helped us back on our wheels. Then, our windscreen wipers unfortunately failed and that wasn't rather inconvenient when we were driving in the water. Alex did a great job! He decided to leave the main tracks and this decision proved to have been perfect. We didn't make any mistakes after our rollover. Later I had to make a short stop to help Orly. Today's result helped us back in a good position in the overall standings and that boosts Alex' and my confidence." In addition, Roma und Haro even are in a position allowing them

www.x-raid.de



to hope for more. The gap to the sixth-placed adversaries, for instance, adds up to just 18 seconds.

Dakar rookie Hunt was the second fastest MINI ALL4 Racing driver today, worked his way up to 10th place overall and said with his well-known beaming face: "It was a really good day. We knew that today's stage would be really gruelling and therefore, we took it easy in the early stages. Sometime we saw Roma lying on the side and pulled him back on the wheels. Later we lost several minutes while looking for a waypoint but succeeded in avoiding getting involved in any other problem. Only after the neutralisation we got stuck for a few minutes. I just can't believe it that we are 10ths, now."

For Al-Attiyah it was both a good and a bad day. On the one hand he benefited from the problem the Peugeot of Carlos Sainz struggled with and gained a position in the overall standings. On the other hand, he also had his problems, today. "This was anything but an easy day," revealed Al-Attiyah who finished 14th. "Some five kilometres after the start we rolled. This incident cost us a lot of time. We had to put the car back on its wheels and check if everything was alright before we could rejoin the action. Later, we lost our way for a short time as the navigation was truly difficult, today. And then we got stuck and lost another 20 minutes. Nonetheless, we now hold second position in the overall rankings. We lost a lot of time but it was important to make it to the finish. After all, there still are several days to go."

Today, Hirvonen had to face all the perils a Dakar has in store and after having tackled all the problems he crossed the finish line in 14th position. "We got lost but fortunately found our way back. Later we got deeply stuck what cost us a lot of time," admitted Hirvonen. "Afterwards, things went rather well. We got stuck another time but quickly got going again. What can you say? That's part of the game. This was the first day for me to witness how difficult navigation can be."

Tomorrow's stage 11 will take the field from La Rioja to San Juan and keeps any kind of sand ready: soft, hard, Fech Fech. At the same time, the 431-kilometre special stage also will feature several riverbeds. Altogether, the competitors will have to cover 712 kilometres.

Result stage 10 (for latest version click [here](#))

1st S. Peterhansel (FRA) / J.-P. Cottret (FRA) Peugeot – 3h 58m 32s

2nd C. Despres (FRA) / D. Castera (FRA) Peugeot – 4h 04m 12s

3rd V. Vasilyev (RUS) / K. Zhiltsiv (RUS) Toyota – 4h 11m 28s

- 4th J. Roma (ESP) / A. Haro (ESP) MINI ALL4 Racing – 4h 13m 05s
5th S. Loeb (FRA) / D. Elena (MCO) Peugeot – 4h 16m 12s
...
8th H. Hunt (GBR) / A. Schulz (GER) MINI ALL4 Racing – 4h 32m 57s
...
14th N. Al-Attiyah (QAT) / M. Baumel (FRA) MINI ALL4 Racing – 4h 50m 57s
...
16th M. Hirvonen (FIN) / M. Périn (FRA) MINI ALL4 Racing – 4h 54m 36s
...
26th J. Przygonski (POL) / A. Rudnitski (BLR) MINI ALL4 Racing – 6h 02m 40s
...
28th B. Garafulic (CHL) / F. Palmeiro (POR) MINI ALL4 Racing – 6h 15m 28s
...
33rd O. Terranova (ARG) / B. Graue (ARG) MINI ALL4 Racing – 6h 41m 29s
...
37th A. Malysz (POL) / X. Panseri (FRA) MINI ALL4 Racing – 7h 05m 34s
...
41th N. Lopez (ARG) / S. Lafuente (URU) MINI ALL4 Racing – 7h 20m 34s
...
43rd E. van Loon (NDL) / W. Rosegaar (NDL) MINI ALL4 Racing – 7h 29m 47s

Overall standings with 10 stages contested (for the latest version click [here](#))

- 1st S. Peterhansel (FRA) / J.-P. Cottret (FRA) Peugeot – 32h 44m 59s
2nd N. Al-Attiyah (QAT) / M. Baumel (FRA) MINI ALL4 Racing – 33h 44m 59s
3rd G. De Villiers (ZAF) / D. von Zitzewitz (GER) Toyota – 33h 57m 30s
4th M. Hirvonen (FIN) / M. Périn (FRA) MINI ALL4 Racing – 34h 08m 50s
5th L. Poulter (ZAF) / R. Howie (ZAF) Toyota – 34h 18m 57s
...
7th J. Roma (ESP) / A. Haro (ESP) MINI ALL4 Racing – 34h 35m 24s
...
10th H. Hunt (GBR) / A. Schulz (GER) MINI ALL4 Racing – 35h 13m 40s
...
14th E. van Loon (NDL) / W. Rosegaar (NDL) MINI ALL4 Racing – 37h 37m 16s
15th O. Terranova (ARG) / B. Graue (ARG) MINI ALL4 Racing – 37h 39m 09s
...
17th J. Przygonski (POL) / A. Rudnitski (BLR) MINI ALL4 Racing – 38h 06m 06s
...
27th B. Garafulic (CHL) / F. Palmeiro (POR) MINI ALL4 Racing – 41h 13m 00s

...
47th N. Lopez (ARG) / S. Lafuente (URU) MINI ALL4 Racing – 53h 39m 03s

...
49th A. Malysz (POL) / X. Panseri (FRA) MINI ALL4 Racing – 56h 32m 16s