



Hyundai Motorsport accelerates development of the i20 WRC

- Hyundai Motorsport continued the development of the i20 WRC with a total of 15 days of testing on gravel and tarmac during October
- Juho Hänninen, Bryan Bouffier and Chris Atkinson alternated behind the wheel of the i20 WRC at tests in Spain and Germany
- Homologation process started for i20 WRC

Alzenau, Germany

October 31, 2013 - As the start of the 2014 FIA World Rally Championship season rapidly approaches, Hyundai Motorsport continued to prepare for its upcoming challenge during October, testing the i20 WRC for a total of 15 days and driving more than 1000km on both gravel and tarmac.

“This month was exceptionally busy for us: we were out testing the i20 WRC on both surfaces for more than half of the month, with our three test drivers swapping the seat on four separate test sessions. We now have two latest-spec i20 WRC, which allows us to further intensify the development schedule by alternating between the two chassis,” said Hyundai Motorsport Team Principal Michel Pandan. *“Overall, it was a positive month as we managed to test new parts, try different set-up solutions and cover some good mileage with the car.”*

October’s testing kicked off with a four-day gravel test in the south of Spain where the team continued to assess the behaviour of the i20 WRC in warm weather conditions with both Juho Hänninen and Chris Atkinson on duty. *“During this test we took the opportunity to continue the development of the car on gravel conditions, similar to the ones we will find in Portugal and Sardinia next year. We tried several*

configurations for these kinds of terrains and evaluated some new components which we hadn't tested before," explained Nandan.

The Hyundai Motorsport team then moved from the south of Spain up to the Catalonia region for a five-day gravel test. This was followed by a tarmac test in Baumholder, Germany, home of the iconic Arena Panzerplatte, which forms part of Rallye Deutschland's itinerary.

"After concentrating on loose surfaces in the first part of October, we took the i20 WRC to tarmac for a test on the same conditions of Rallye Deutschland. We had some new suspension parts to try as we hadn't tested on tarmac since August," Nandan continued.

In the final week of October, the team continues tarmac development in Catalonia on the roads of Rally de España, the penultimate round of the WRC, which was held last week. *"Testing on the same roads as the rally allows us to start to have some references on the stages we will tackle next year,"* concluded Nandan.

This month marked also the beginning of another important process for the Hyundai Motorsport team. The dossier for the homologation of the i20 WRC needs to be compiled and lodged by the FIA by the end of October.

-Ends-

About Hyundai Motor

Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Co. has grown into the Hyundai Motor Group, with more than two dozen auto-related subsidiaries and affiliates. Hyundai Motor – which has seven manufacturing bases outside of South Korea including Brazil, China, the Czech Republic, India, Russia, Turkey and the U.S. – sold 4.4 million vehicles globally in 2012. Hyundai Motor, which employs over 90,000 worldwide, offers a full line-up of products including small to large passenger vehicles, SUVs and commercial vehicles.

Further information about Hyundai Motor and its products is available at <http://worldwide.hyundai.com> and www.hyundaiglobalnews.com.

About Hyundai Motorsport GmbH

Established on 19 December 2012, Hyundai Motorsport GmbH is responsible for Hyundai's global motorsport activities and primarily for its recently announced World Rally Championship programme. Based in Alzenau on the outskirts of Frankfurt in Germany, the company is in the process of establishing Hyundai's return to WRC with a bespoke team of skilled staff developing a WRC-specification i20.

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