

## STAGE FLASH

<b>Date:</b>	<b>27 February 2021</b>	<b>Flash N°:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Day:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Distance:</b>	<b>24.43 km</b>
<b>Special stage:</b>	<b>SS3 (Mustalampi 1)</b>		
<b>Weather:</b>	<b>Clear and sunny, -4 degrees</b>		
<b>Road conditions:</b>	<b>Strong ice base, no adverse conditions reported</b>		

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### **Car #1. SÉBASTIEN OGIER/JULIEN INGRASSIA**

"I tried to drive as fast as I can, that's always the plan. But was not so easy, let's see how the times are developing, I cannot say, I cannot say, but for sure it's still pretty slippery out there."

### **Car #33. ELFYN EVANS/SCOTT MARTIN**

"I struggled a bit in places but I can't really put my finger on why. [The conditions] are nice but I'm hoping for a little bit more."

### **Car #11. THIERRY NEUVILLE/MARTIJN WYDAEGHE**

"It was an okay stage but I can't understand. We made some changes on the intercom system but it doesn't work. I miss half of the words and I'm hesitating too much."

### **Car #69. KALLE ROVANPERÄ/JONNE HALTTUNEN**

"It was not good, we changed the set-up from yesterday and to be honest it didn't really get any better. I am struggling with the car and the balance. I have a lot of understeer and I just cannot be in the pace that I want. I need to push a lot but it's not safe anymore. We need to figure out something because I'm not in the speed where I should be. I don't know if we can do something now but we try to find something."

### **Car #18. TAKAMOTO KATSUTA/DANIEL BARRITT**

"I lost quite a lot, I think I was too careful on the icy sections, so that's one reason. Nothing special but I was quite careful in the narrow parts."

### **Car #44. GUS GREENSMITH/ELLIOTT EDMONDSON**

"For me it felt like I just was losing quite a lot of traction on the exit of corners so I might need to make some tweaks because for me it felt like a pretty smooth stage. Maybe I lost three or four seconds with Lorenzo Bertelli but the stage was quite okay."

### **Car #8. OTT TÄNAK/MARTIN JÄRVEOJA**

"This morning I was pushing quite hard and sometimes also hitting the banks. It's quite difficult today, far back the ice is already with some lines and it's changing a lot."

**Car #3. TEEMU SUNNINEN/MIKKO MARKKULA**

“For me we are having a good rhythm in slow places and when we are on a highway I can’t drive faster on the straights but I am really trying my best and giving everything I can. We are having a good fight with Taka [Katsuta].”

**Car #42. CRAIG BREEN/PAUL NAGLE**

“A lot of mistakes, I was in several snowbanks, which we should have been left stuck in. Just very, very slippery, I was expecting the grip to be much higher. I tried to do the best I could to be honest but it’s not entirely good enough. For sure we can make some changes.”

**Car #2. OLIVER SOLBERG/SEBASTIAN MARSHALL**

“It’s amazing, it felt quite good. I couldn’t find the rhythm in the beginning, very, very difficult, so narrow. Then I found the rhythm and it felt very good.”

**Car #7. PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET/VINCENT LANDAIS**

“It was nice, I tried my best. It was slippery in some parts, I really tried to stay on the line, we try to go fast!”

**Car #12. JANNE TUOHINO/REETA HÄMÄLÄINEN**

“Today it is nice, weather is nice, sun shines. In the beginning I tried to find confidence, in the end of the stage it went better. Yesterday was messy.”

**Car #37. LORENZO BERTELLI/SIMONE SCATTOLIN**

Stuck in snowbank 4.2 kilometres from stage start.

**Car #20. ANDREAS MIKKELSEN/OLA FLØENE**

“It was okay, I tried to push as hard as I could. I tried my best.”

**Car #21. ADRIEN FOURMAUX/RENAUD JAMOUL**

“I didn’t succeed to find the pace in the beginning of the stage. There was a lot of loose snow, we are here to improve and try different things.”

**Car #22. EYVIND BRYNILDSEN/VERONICA ENGAN**

“We have such perfect weather. The stage is perfect. I lost some power towards the end after I hit a snowbank.”

**Car #23. SEAN JOHNSTON/ALEXANDER KIHURANI**

“After the mistake yesterday, I had nothing to lose. It was a difficult stage. These roads are absolutely gorgeous. This will be an interesting loop. I’m enjoying the driving.”

**Car #24. JARI HUTTUNEN/MIKKO LUKKA**

Retired on SS1 due to a technical issue.

**Car #25. ESAPEKKA LAPPI/JANNE FERM**

“It went quite well. It wasn't that clean as I thought and I went to the snowbank as well. I lost four or five seconds due to a mistake. I tried to drive calmly and we will have to see how fast the others will go.”

**Car #26. OLE CHRISTIAN VEIBY/JONAS ANDERSSON**

“It was really slippery. I lost a lot of time in the end. We are missing a lot of grip in the car. I don't know what to do.”

**Car #27. NIKOLAY GRYAZIN/KONSTANTIN ALEKSANDROV**

“It was quite a difficult stage and from the middle of the stage we had no grip. But the first part wasn't that bad.”

**Car #28. GEORG LINNAMÄE/VOLODYMYR KORSIA**

No comment given.

**Car #29. MARTIN PROKOP/MICHAL ERNST**

“It was a very difficult and very technical stage. It wasn't easy to manage the car and the corners, super-slippery and narrow and a loss of grip. The day is very beautiful.”

**Car #30. TEEMU ASUNMAA/MARKO SALMINEN**

“The stage was very narrow and slippery in parts but it was okay. I don't know why it is not going so well. The sun is shining but the helmet visor helps.”

**Car #31. EMIL LINDHOLM/MIKAEL KORHONEN**

“The stage varies a lot with a lot of grooves. It was better than yesterday. A good stage for the morning but I lost some seconds.”

**COMMENTS**

Ott Tänak/Martin Järveoja began day two of Arctic Rally Finland Powered by CapitalBox in the same manner they finished the first with another stage victory, this time on the 24.43 kilometres of Mustalampi. The Hyundai-powered Estonian crew beat team-mates Thierry Neuville/Martijn Wydaeghe by 1.0s, but with Craig Breen/Paul Nagle 7.4s slower, their overall lead increased to 23.6s. Lorenzo Bertelli/Simone Scattolin were 4.2 kilometres from the stage start when they went off into a snowbank and got stuck.