



*Team DESSOUDE*



## PRESS INFO – RALLYE OILIBYA DU MAROC 2014

### LEG 4 – Zagora / Cheggaga

Liaisons : 153 km – SS : 226 km (7th October)

### Team DESSOUDE keeps the pace!

The fourth stage of the Oilibya Rally of Morocco proposed to competitors a real dive in a sea of sand, including the Erg Cheggaga, well known for its traps. Despite the heat and tough track conditions for the Buggy Juke, Thierry Magnaldi and François Borsotto have once again kept the right pace. Just one stop, a puncture at 30km from the finish and 6 minutes lost to replace the wheel. The crew jump in the overall classification by catching the 12th place. After yesterday's rollover, the Pathfinder of Laurent Levêque and Thierry Pacquelet was badly damaged and a retirement was possible. But the mechanics of Team DESSOUDE played magicians and the crew was able to be this morning at the start of this 4th stage.



Today, navigation was not extremely complicated but tricky and required to stay very attentive. This is exactly what Thierry Magnaldi and François Borsotto did during the 226 km of the stage.

*"It was not really a stage for us with sand, beautiful dunes but also large steps to jump*

and bumpy off piste. It was what I call a "shaker" stage. Despite this, we kept a very good pace and at the last CP we were at 11th place, ahead of all the other buggies. But 30 km from the finish, a puncture compromised our efforts. A real flat tire with a wheel to be changed. We lost about 6 minutes to replace it. We went up to 12th place overall but I cannot forget the mistake made on the second day. If we did not lose these 30 minutes that day, we would be in 7th place overall, which would have been perfect! "



Laurent Levêque and Thierry Pacquelet had a huge smile on their face when they crossed the finish line of the fourth stage between Zagora and Cheggaga. Not only for having produced a very good performance, but simply because they were happy to be there! The first words of Laurent were for the technical staff and for the work they did to allow the car to restart this morning.

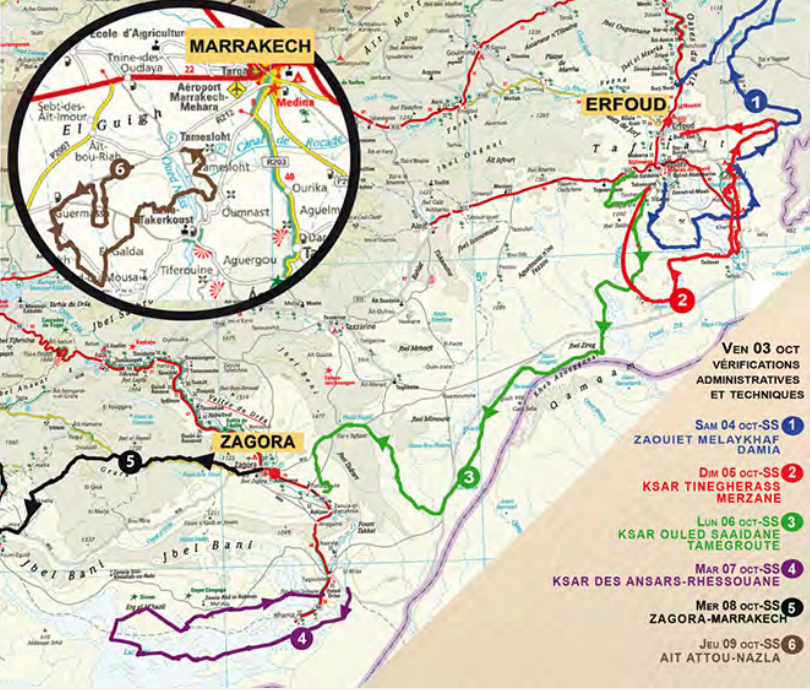
*"I would first of all say a huge thank you to all the staff who did an incredible work on the car. Regarding the very bad condition in which I brought them the car yesterday, I really was not sure we can restart. They worked all night long and this morning, it was a nice surprise to be able to go to the starting line.*

*Today I really took care of the car but I also had a lot of pleasure in driving. Thierry made a perfect navigation and we just stopped a short while on the top of a dune. Once again, scenery was amazing! I especially enjoyed the day, it was great! "*



Tomorrow, the stage between Zagora and Marrakesh will be 302 km long. From the mountains, to narrow tracks, to wadis crossings and then to wide and fast tracks, a full range of terrains in magical landscapes.





**CLASSEMENT ETAPE**  
**LEG CLASSIFICATION**  
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**CLASSEMENT GENERAL**  
**OVERALL CLASSIFICATION**  
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