



INTERSPORT



PRESS INFO – DAKAR 2014

Leg 11 – Antofagasta / El Salvador

Liaison : 144 km – SS : 605 km (01/16/2014)

The famous dunes of Copiapo ...

The eleventh leg between Antofagasta and El Salvador proposed a huge diversity and allowed the drivers to prove their talents of driving , especially in the dunes of Copiapo. These famous dunes of the Atacama desert need to be crossed safely and require a quite good habit of the sand.



Last night , the arrival of Yves Tartarin at the bivouac was announced as imminent but the driver of the Pickup 03 was ... far away. In fact, about thirty kilometers from the finish of the first section of the stage, Yves broke the front wheel bearings . Forced to repair on spot, minutes and hours were gone. And when the crew wanted to start the second part of the stage; it was too late and the car was excluded of the race. Really a pity to finish the rally like this, so close to Valparaiso.

Meanwhile Frédéric Chavigny continues its momentum and add another good result to his record by signing the 32th time of the day and 33th overall. A long step which has not so far

disturbed the morale ...

"We are at the bivouac, so still in the race ! The day was long but we approached the right side, mile after mile while staying on the right pace . We overtook a lot of cars today and this allowed us to get a good result. But, we punctured twice. The first time at km 150 and then km 470, but the second time two of the four wheels had to be changed. It was a bit hot as we made the last 130 km without any spare wheel and the last 50 with no brakes as a stone cut the bracket in two ...

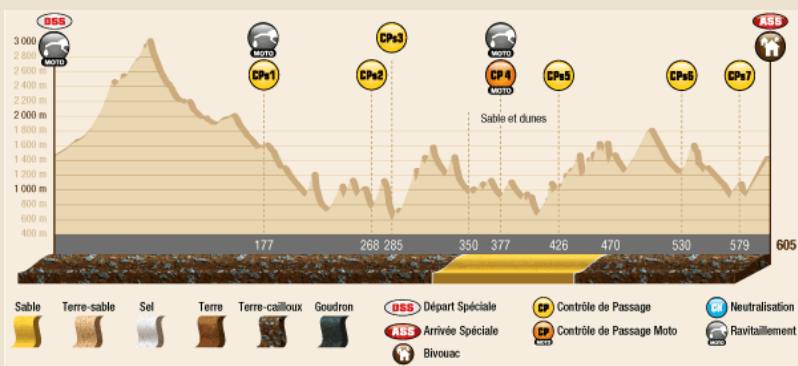


We did not make any mistake on navigation or driving on this beautiful stage which confirms the previous nine, disregarding the fifth that we will keep as a bad memory until the end. The Atacama is comfortable in the Atacama and no problem to be reported. The car and the crew are in perfect shape. We take positions overall everyday and look forward to bring the colors of Team Dessoud to Valparaiso ! "

Tomorrow, more dunes about 100 km ... at the end of the 350 km stage. The remaining competitors will "almost" for the last time take the opportunity to express themselves at the wheel.

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Sable Terre-sable Sel Terre Terre-cailloux Goudron DSS Départ Spécial ASS Arrivée Spécial Bivouac
 CP Contrôle de Passage CP Moto Contrôle de Passage Moto Neutralisation Ravitaillement

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TOTAL



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