

News release
September 30, 2015
World RX of Turkey preview

Petter ready to do better in Turkey

We're winning again and we like it. Standing on the top step of the podium on the last round of the FIA World Rallycross Championship in Barcelona reminded me how much I'd missed it.

We had quite a tough summer. But we came through it and now we're stronger than ever coming to Turkey for this weekend's race across the river in... Asia.

I must admit, we left the Intercity Park track a little bit disappointed last year. Yes, we were world champions again – we'd won the title at the previous race in Italy – but then we retired from the final in Turkey. I don't like that and neither does the PSRX team. These guys work so hard to make the car perfect, we all find it hard to accept when something goes wrong.

Which is why we're out to put it right this time.

There's no doubt that the racing has been getting harder and harder as the season has progressed. You look at what the likes of Peugeot is doing with the car and the effort going into the 208 and we are, as a private team, always going to find it hard to match that resource. But don't worry – we haven't been standing still either. Every time the team gets back to Torsby, we get our heads down and study every aspect of the car to look for more development and more speed.

As you know, we're coming to the really sharp end of the season now, when points are so valuable to us. As a team, we have our target for every race and if we achieve those targets then we'll reach the big goal for 2015.

But... races like the last one in Barcelona don't really help. I just *love* racing! I know we have a plan as the team and everything, but I can't help how competitive I am in the car. Some times it's really tough to not listen to my natural instinct to attack and go for the win. When that gap opened up at the first corner in Catalunya, I was straight in there, chasing P1 and pushing for the win. That's what we're about.

This weekend will be another big fight between my head and my heart. But I know I have to go with the head. We showed last season that consistency wins titles and that's what we're after again this time around.

I'm also really glad to be back in Turkey and Istanbul. It's honestly one of the most amazing places in the world – so culturally different. And where else in

the world can you drive across a bridge and go from one continent to another?

Circuit:

Length: 1346m

Joker lap length: 1424m

Max width: 15m

Min width: 10m

Tarmac: 60%

Dirt 40%

Website: www.intercitypark.com

Timetable – all local times

Saturday October 3

1100 practice

1400 heat 1

1600 heat 2

Sunday October 4

0915 warm up

1030 qualifying heat 3

1200 qualifying heat 4

1500 semi-final/final

1610 press conference

Last time out... (World RX of Barcelona, September 19/20)

Petter returned the PSRX team to the top step of the podium with a quite breathtaking victory in the final. From row two, the two-time FIA World Champion flew up the inside of the opening left-hander at the Catalan circuit to hit the front. From then on, nobody else was getting a look in. Solberg was back to his winning ways.

Turkey in *sayılar*:

2 is the number of the world's seven continents Turkey spans

3.157 kg of tea is consumed by the average Turkish person every year (for info... your average dictionary weighs 1kg – so does a baseball bat!)

59 metres is how wide the Yavuz Sultan Selim bridge will be when it opens over the Bosphorus next month – that'll be the world's widest suspension bridge

74 is how many letters in Turkey's longest word

(Muvaffakiyetsizlestiricilestiriveremeyebileceklerimizdenmissinizcesineyken – hope it's not rude...)

453 is how many species of birds there are in Turkey

687 is how many times Petter's heart will beat in a four-lap race

1,650 is the length of Turkey's Black Sea coastline in kilometres

4,018 shops make up Istanbul's Grand Bazaar

5,137 metres is Turkey's highest point (the pinnacle of Mount Ararat)

252,500 tonnes of hazelnuts are exported by Turkey every year

Contacts:

Per-Espen Lochen PR/media manager

per-espen@pettersolberg.no

+46 76 110 7 110

+47 952 43 245

World RX of Turkey media

Serpil Çubukçu

+90 532 546 51 86

Email: serpilcubukcu@intercitypark.com

pettersolberg.com

@Petter_Solberg

www.facebook.com/PetterSolbergWRC

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