

NESTE OIL RALLY FINLAND FIA SUPER 2000 WORLD RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP (FOR DRIVERS)

29 - 31 JULY 2010 ROUND 6 OF 10

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1. EVENT SUMMARY

Guest driver Hänninen storms to victory on home rally

Finnish guest pairing **Juho Hänninen** and Mikko Markkula triumphed over the S-WRC field this weekend in their Škoda Fabia at Neste Oil Rally Finland, the sixth round of the 2010 FIA Super 2000 World Rally Championship. Swedes **P-G Andersson** and **Patrik Sandell** completed a Škoda full house on the S-WRC podium, the two former J-WRC Champions having battled with one another throughout the rally.

Making his S-WRC début in a Fabia, Hänninen sat tight in second for the opening stages on Day One, the central part of a Finnish trio leading the field sandwiched between championship contender **Jari Ketomaa** and fellow guest driver **Matti Rantanen**. However, Hänninen was catapulted into the lead when early leader Ketomaa suffered a penalty of over four minutes for leaving midday service late as his team tried to repair an electrical problem. A quick and confident drive then left Hänninen untouchable, cruising home to finish over a minute ahead of the rest of the S-WRC field and ninth overall to claim 25 S-WRC points and 2 WRC points on his first rally of the season.

Having lost the lead, Ketomaa's high hopes of closing the gap in the S-WRC standings with current leader **Xevi Pons** – absent in Finland - were obliterated as his rally went from bad to worse. He finished Day One in ninth, only to hit a pylon leaving parc fermé on the morning of Day Two and damage the front of his Fiesta. His Ford was fixed in time to start SS12, but the repairs could not withstand a heavy landing over a jump on the following stage and Ketomaa was forced to retire from his home rally.

Fellow countryman Rantanen benefitted from Ketomaa's misfortune and climbed to second only to leave the road on SS13 and damage his Fabia beyond repair. The retirements of the two Finns left the way clear for Andersson and Sandell to scoop places on the podium, having fought their way up the field together over the course of the weekend. Andersson's 18 S-WRC points also elevated him to

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second in the overall standings, while a tenth place overall also earned him another WRC point.

Martin Prokop (CZE), Michael Kościuszko (POL) and Nasser Al-Attiyah (QAT) were unable to touch the Scandinavians up front, while Finn Janne Tuohino was plagued by difficulties which left him disappointed with having to settle for sixth in his home rally. The final S-WRC competitor **Albert Llovera (AND)** retired on SS14 due to engine problems.

2. DRIVER QUOTES

1st – **JUHO HÄNNINEN (FIN):** "The rally was great, I'm very happy to come in first. I enjoyed the stages and it is a great privilege to win in Finland on myhome rally."

2nd – **P-G ANDERSSON (SWE):** "You have to be happy with second place. Hämninen drove fantastically well and we didn't have the pace this weekend. I wanted to win really, but I couldn't catch him."

3rd – PATRIK SANDELL (SWE): "I'm happy with what we have done, especially because we had a problem with our brakes yesterday and lost 30 seconds. We really showed that we can drive a car this weekend."

3. RESULTS (EVENT) * subject to scrutineering and routine fuel analysis										
POS	CAR#	DRIVER	CO-DRIVER	CAR	TIME	POINTS				
1	51	Juho Hänninen (FIN)	Mikko Markkula (FIN)	Škoda Fabia	2:40:34.6	25				
2	53	P-G Andersson (SWE)	Anders Fredriksson (SWE)	Škoda Fabia	+1:10.7	18				
3	24	Patrik Sandell (SWE)	Emil Axelsson (SWE)	Škoda Fabia	+1:30.0	15				
4	21	Martin Prokop (CZE)	Jan Tománek (CZE)	Ford Fiesta	+4:07.2	12				
5	23	Michal Kościuszko (POL)	Maciek Szczepaniak (POL)	Škoda Fabia	+5:55.1	10				
6	27	Janne Tuohino (FIN)	Marko Sallinen (FIN)	Ford Fiesta	+6:09.7	8				
7	22	Nasser Al-Attiyah (QAT)	Giovanni Bernacchini (ITA)	Ford Fiesta	+17:15.5	6				

4. DRIVER CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS 2010 FIA SUPER 2000 WORLD RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP														
POS	CAR #	DRIVER	CAR	SWE	MEX	JOR	NZL	PRT	FIN	DEU	JAP	FRA	GBR	PTS
1	28	Xavier Pons (ESP)	Ford Fiesta	-	25	25	18	18	-					86
2	53	P-G Andersson (SWE)	Škoda Fabia	25	-	15	-	10	18					68
3	21	Martin Prokop (CZE)	Ford Fiesta	15	18	-	-	-	12					60
4	29	Jari Ketomaa (FIN)	Ford Fiesta	-	-	8	25	25	R					58
5	24	Patrik Sandell (SWE)	Škoda Fabia	12	-	10	12	-	16					49
6	25	Eyvind Brynildsen (NOR)	Škoda Fabia	10	12	18	-	2	-					42
7	23	Michal Kościuszko (POL)	Ford Fiesta	-	15	R	-	15	10					40
8	22	Nasser Al-Attiyah (QAT)	Škoda Fabia	-	R	12	10	6	6					34
9	27	Janne Tuohino (FIN)	Ford Fiesta	18	-	R	R	4	8					30
10	G	Juho Hänninen (FIN)	Škoda Fabia	-	-	-	-	-	25					25
11	26	Bernardo Sousa (PRT)	Ford Fiesta	8	-	R	-	12	-					20
12	30	Albert Llovera (AND)	Fiat Punto	-	10	-	R	1	R					11
13	G	Vitor Pascoal (PRT)	Peugeot 207	-	-	-	-	8	-					8
14	G	Per-Arne Saav (SWE)	Škoda Fabia	6	-	-	-	-	-					6
15	G	Matti Rantanen (FIN)	Škoda Fabia	-	-	-	-	-	R					0

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5. TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS2010 FIA WRC CUP (FOR TEAMS) * subject to the official publication of the results by the FIA												
POS	TEAM	SWE	MEX	JOR	NZL	PRT	FIN	DEU	JAP	FRA	GBR	PTS
1	Nupel Global Racing	-	25	25	18	18	-					86
2	Czech Ford National Team	18	18	-	15	-	18					69
3	Red Bull Rallye Team	15	-	12	12	-	25					64
4	FCACA Shanghai World Rally Team	-	-	10	25	25	R					60
5	JanPro	25	-	R	R	8	12					55
6	Škoda-Rene Georges Rally Sport	12	12	18	-	6	-					48
7	Dynamic World Rally Team	-	15	R	-	15	15					45
8	Barwa World Rally Team	-	R	15	10	10	10					45
9	Team Ford / Quinta do Lorde	10	-	R	-	12	-					22

6. NEXT ROUND

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19 - 22 AUGUST 2010, ROUND 7 OF 10