

SILK WAY RALLY 2017: All drivers of Team PETRONAS De Rooy IVECO in the top ten of Stage 12

Team Leader Gerard De Rooy, on his Powerstar Evo 2, crossed the finish line in this difficult stage in 4th position, ahead of his teammates

Artur Ardavichus finished in 7th place on his Powerstar, improving his overall ranking to 4th place two stages from the end of the Silk Way Rally

Ton Van Genugten and new co-pilot Bart De Gooyert arrived 8th, placing the third IVECO truck in the top ten of the day



Alashan Youqi, 21 July 2017

For Team PETRONAS De Rooy IVECO yesterday's stage, from the bivouac in Jiayugan to Alashan Youqi, finished with very good results. Team leader Gerard De Rooy did particularly well, crossing the finish line with a time of 4h14m33s. The new completely renovated Powerstar arrived fourth in the day's stage: *"We lost time because of a problem with a tyre, otherwise we could have made an even better time – said Gerard – We enjoyed very much driving in the dunes: the cloudy weather and milder temperature helped us"*.

Artur Ardavichus, behind the wheel of the other IVECO Powerstar, drove carefully avoiding risks in order to maintain or improve his place in the overall. Marco Alcayna Ferran, in his second stage as co-pilot (he replaced injured Belgian Serge Bruynkens) explained: *"Today we faced beautiful dunes. I will say it was one of the most difficult legs since the beginning of the rally. The truck has a lot of power and this was really important to cross the long kilometers of sand."* Thanks to the result obtained yesterday after leg 12, the Kazakh pilot is in the 4th position of the general with an advantage of more than 12 minutes ahead of Nikolaev's Kamaz.

Dutchman Ton Van Genugten (#306) also completed the SS12 in the top ten of the partial classification, crossing the finish line in 8th place. Now in his second day with new co-driver Bart De Gooyert, he drove faster and he was also able to improve the overall position: behind the wheel of his IVECO Trakker, he is now in 7th place.

Thanks to the team's mechanical experts – John Peeters, Niels van Tilborg, Ramon Peters, Franklin Geerts, Paul Starmans, Peter van Rooij, Corne van Drunen, Clim Smulders, Koen Hendriks and Pjotr Hylla

– Team PETRONAS De Rooy IVECO was able to resolve all unforeseen events occurred in the particularly tough stages of the Silk Way Rally.

Today, July 21st, competitors left early to face magnificent landscapes and especially to cross cathedrals of dunes in the first special stage. The show promises to be really great. The second SS also includes a lot of navigation with some small but very technical sections of dunes. It is a pure pleasure to surf in this sand especially on the ridges and this should allow the most adventurous to save a lot of time. This leg will probably add some pages to the history of the Silk Way Rally. Total distance: 690.31 km of which 318.66.

Stage 12 results – Silk Way Rally 2017

1. Airat Mardeev (Kamaz) 4h04m08s
2. Anton Shibalov (Kamaz) +2m15s
3. Eduard Nikolaev (Kamaz) +3m01s
- 4. Gerard De Rooy (IVECO) +10m25s**
5. Siarhei Viazovich (Maz) +13m33s

- 7. Artur Ardavichus (IVECO) +22m20s**
- 8. Ton Van Genugten (IVECO) +23m13s**

Overall classification – Silk Way Rally 2017

1. Dmitry Sotnikov (Kamaz) 38h16m38s
2. Anton Shibalov (Kamaz) +3m04s
3. Airat Mardeev (Kamaz) +17m54s
- 4. Artur Ardavichus (IVECO) +2h03m14s**
5. Eduard Nikolaev (Kamaz) +2h15m53s

- 7. Ton Van Genugten (IVECO) +8h42m34s**
- 13. Gerard De Rooy (IVECO) +215h24m54s**

Starting order for SS14 – 21th July 2017

- 06.33 Airat Mardeev (Kamaz)
- 06.37 Anton Shibalov (Kamaz)
- 06.43 Gerard De Rooy (IVECO)**

- 06.57 Artur Ardavichus (IVECO)**
- 06.59 Ton Van Genugten (IVECO)**

IVECO

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The brand's wide range of products include the Daily, a vehicle that covers the 3 – 7.2 ton vehicle weight segment, the Eurocargo from 6 – 19 tons, the Trakker (dedicated to off-road missions) and the Stralis, both over 16 tons. In addition, the IVECO Astra brand builds off-road trucks, rigid and articulated dumpers as well as special vehicles.

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