

SILK WAY RALLY 2017: two IVECO trucks on the podium of the second stage

Excellent results for Team PETRONAS De Rooy IVECO at the end of the 2nd stage from Tcheboksary to Ufa: Team leader Gerard de Rooy finishes in 2nd place just ahead of Kazakh teammate Artur Ardavichus who crossed the line third.

With these placements, Gerard de Rooy and Artur Ardavichus now lie in second and third place respectively in the overall classification.

Dutchman Van Genugten didn't take risks on the slippery track and arrived 9th.

Ufa, 10th July 2017

The second special stage of the Silk Way Rally 2017 took the drivers from Tcheboksary to Ufa. Team leader Gerard de Rooy was the great protagonist of a perfect special stage on board his #302 IVECO Powerstar. He started behind the other Dutchman of the team and finished second, improving his overall placement. After two stages on very difficult terrain, De Rooy lies in 2nd place in the partial general classification. *"In the first section of the special stage, I drove carefully through the forest and in the water, while in the second part we went faster and we are able to overtake Kamaz. The steering is so precise, it never was of any danger. Today I really enjoyed myself: I can say for the first time I liked driving in the mud."*

Artur Ardavichus, this year's new entry pilot in Team PETRONAS de Rooy IVECO, did exactly what he wanted to do behind the wheel of his Powerstar: he drove very regularly and finished third: *"I was gentle with the truck in order to avoid any problems. The Powerstar is a winner vehicle and I only need to adapt to it. I want to grow up and improve with it. Tomorrow I will drive in Kazakhstan, my country: I'm very happy for this opportunity"* – said Ardavichus.

Ton Van Genugten (#306) left in the early morning (6.58h), ahead De Rooy and Ardavichus, and didn't take risks on the slippery track. Driving carefully, he placed his IVECO Trakker in 9th position in the day's ranking.

Today the Silk Way Rally will be engaged in the last special in Russia before crossing the border to Kazakhstan and reaching Kostanai at the end of the 329,25 km-long stage 3 and a total distance of 876,39 km. The stage starting from Ufa will be rather fast with many changes of direction; co-pilots will have to pay attention to the road book because of many fast and technical sections among the vegetation.

Stage 2 results – Silk Way Rally 2017

1. Maarten Van den Brink (Renault) 2.h09m45s

2. Gerard de Rooy (IVECO) +2m04s

3. Artur Ardavichus (IVECO) +3m17s

4. Anton Shibalov (Kamaz) +4m00s

5. Dmitry Sotnikov (Kamaz) +4m57s

9. Ton Van Genutgen (IVECO) +17m24s

Overall classification – Silk Way Rally 2017

1. Maarten Van den Brink 3h05m20s

2. Gerard de Rooy (IVECO) +0m13s

3. Artur Ardavichus (IVECO) +1m31s

4. Anton Shibalov (Kamaz) +2m26s

5. Martin Kolomy (Tatra) +5m38s

8. Ton Van Genugten (IVECO) +13m35s

Starting order for SS3 – 10th July

05.42h Maarten Van den Brink (Renault)

05.44h Gerard de Rooy (IVECO)

05.46h Artur Ardavichus (IVECO)

06.10h 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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