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NEWS BUREAU

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HYUNDAI MOTORSPORT SCORES VICTORY IN WRC RALLY ITALIA

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- Hyundai Motorsport has taken its third WRC win as Thierry Neuville stormed to victory at WRC Rally Italia Sardegna
- Dani Sordo finished in fourth place for the fourth rally in a row, and moves up into second place in the 2016 Drivers' Championship
- New Generation i20 WRC is once again proven as a performance oriented and a class-leading competitive rally machine

June 13, 2016 - Hyundai Motorsport has secured its second victory of the 2016 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) season with a dominant performance by the Hyundai Motorsport team's Thierry Neuville in WRC Rally Italia Sardegna (June 9~12).

Thierry Neuville has been on sublime form throughout the rally, extending his lead over Volkswagen Motorsport's Jari-Matti Latvala on the final day to win the rally by 24.8 seconds.

The result marks the second victory for the New Generation i20 WRC this season, and the team's third win in total after Rallye Deutschland in 2014 and Rally Argentina back in April.

Hyundai Motorsport team driver Dani Sordo also had a trouble-free run to claim his fourth consecutive fourth place position. Kevin Abbring, meanwhile, was on top of their game to finish second in the Power Stage, securing their first WRC points.

For Thierry Neuville, the victory is the result of a concerted team effort as well as the improved performance of the New Generation i20 WRC, and marks his first victory in WRC since Germany 2014. It is the most accomplished performance of his career with nine stage wins within his rally history.

Thierry Neuville commented: "A truly fantastic weekend! Great things come to those who earn them, and it's definitely a nice feeling to share this victory with an amazing team. The New Generation i20 WRC has performed very well, class-leading. It's been great fun to drive and we've felt comfortable. We didn't feel too much pressure in final stages, but just focused on getting the car safely through to the end. We did everything we needed to and we can now celebrate our second WRC victory."

Hyundai Motorsport has now taken podiums in five out of six rallies this season, with two victories, making it the team's most successful WRC season even before reaching the halfway point. Next round of the FIA WRC, WRC Rally Poland, takes place from June 30 to July 3, and will mark the halfway point of the 2016 WRC Championship.

About Hyundai Motor

Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Company is committed to becoming a lifetime partner in automobiles and beyond. The company leads the Hyundai Motor Group, an innovative business structure capable of circulating resources from molten iron to finished cars. Hyundai Motor has eight manufacturing bases and seven design & technical centers worldwide and in 2016 sold 4.86 million vehicles globally. With more than 110,000 employees worldwide, Hyundai Motor continues to enhance its product line-up with localized models and strives to strengthen its leadership in clean technology, starting with the world's first mass-produced hydrogen-powered vehicle, ix35 Fuel Cell and IONIQ, the world's first model with three electrified powertrains in a single body type.

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