

Barcelona, Spain, Sunday 10th June 2007

KONICA MINOLTA Honda takes hard-fought point at scorching Catalunya

KONICA MINOLTA Honda scored a point at today's exciting Catalan MotoGP race. Ducati's Casey Stoner took the win after a fierce battle with Yamaha's Valentino Rossi and Repsol Honda's Dani Pedrosa. KONICA MINOLTA Honda will now stay on at the Barcelona track and spend tomorrow looking at the data from this weekend to test further set-up and tyre combinations in a bid to improve their performance before heading to Donington Park for the British Grand Prix in two weeks' time.

Gianluca Montiron – Team Manager KONICA MINOLTA Honda

"Today was a very exciting race and probably one of the best that I have ever seen! Perfect for the 112,000 fans watching at the circuit. Obviously for us we were expecting to get a better result today, but we suffered a little from the nature of the Montmeló circuit where the grip levels can change with the track temperature or conditions. When Shinya tried to push hard in the corners he would run wide, but tonight we can look at the data again as we are staying at the circuit to test tomorrow and I'm sure all the Team members will be working hard to find an improved set-up combination for our Honda RC212V. I think we are in a transitory period at the moment, where we have to work hard with the package we have, safe in the knowledge that our Technical Partners and the Team will find a solution for improved performance. We have a proven, race-winning Team and this along with having one of the best sponsors in the paddock means I am confident that we will soon be racing with the top group of riders once more."

Shinya Nakano – Rider, KONICA MINOLTA Honda (15th position)

"It was a very frustrating and difficult race for me. I said yesterday that I had a good feeling in hot conditions but we just didn't have that today for some reason. When I pushed hard the bike would run wide in the corners. I'm looking forward to tomorrow and having more time out on the track so we will be working hard again to make more improvements. This is important as we still have a further two races to come this month."

Giulio Bernardelle – Technical Director, KONICA MINOLTA Honda

"This morning we tested our race setting and were satisfied, but temperatures were lower than this afternoon's race. Shinya's comments were that he felt he had less grip than yesterday and this was the reason why he could not push as hard as he would have liked during the race. The Catalunya circuit is well known for the changeable track conditions, but it was the same for everybody. At the beginning of the race we were able to do a good lap time but again we lost out a little when it came to running consistently good times. We now need to look at the data once again and find ways of moving forward before the next Grand Prix, which takes place at Donington Park. Tomorrow we will test some new Michelin tyres, which have a new construction and these will be the tyres we will look at using in the next few MotoGP races. We are confident both in our Technical Partners and the Team's ability to find a solution to help us to improve performance for the remaining races in the 2007 season."

GP of Catalunya - Race results

1) Casey Stoner	Ducati	43' 16.907"
2) Valentino Rossi	Yamaha	43' 16.976"
3) Dani Pedrosa	Honda	43' 17.297"
4) John Hopkins	Suzuki	43' 24.721"
5) Randy de Puniet	Kawasaki	43' 34.760"
15) Shinya Nakano	Honda	44' 11.100"

For more information, please contact: KONICA MINOLTA Honda Press Office

Gianna Targi – E-mail: press@jir-mc.com Telephone: +39 346 001 37 04

Bertie Simmonds – Telephone: +44 7899 961912



HONDA

HRC



dixell



Classeditori

ecodcm

VUEMME

GIANNELLI

SINTER



Beta

adige

flex

EURODIESEL

UGS

