

Press release
20 July 2016

Silk Way Rally 2016 – Al Rajhi retains third overall after Stage 10 in the Chinese desert. Five MINI ALL4 Racing inside top eight. Today’s Stage 11 cancelled due to sandstorm.

Today’s MINI ALL4 Racing family plan to push hard for leading positions postponed until tomorrow after Stage 11 is cancelled. MINI ALL4 Racing crews fill positions three to sixth overall.

Munich. Hot and dusty racing continues to cause problems for competitors in Chinese territory as the Silk way Rally progresses east across the Gansu desert region.

Tuesday’s Stage 10 (19-07-2016) was the last day an official stage result was given because today’s 609.66 km Stage 11 had to be cancelled. Support aircraft were grounded due to a sandstorm in the region.

The Silk Way Rally entourage and frustrated car and truck competitors then had to make their way in convoy to the Jiayuguan bivouac in preparation for tomorrow’s Stage 12.

Stage 10’s 525.24 km route proved to be a good one for Harry Hunt (GB) and Andreas Schulz (GER) in MINI ALL4 Racing #105. They completed this stage in third place to position them third overall.

“It was a good clean stage with no real problem. I’m happy,” said Hunt. It was quite bumpy in the middle and my neck and arm are still quite bad. But it was fast and so the heat didn’t really cause a problem even though it was still 45-degrees. I didn’t think we would get to our present position after getting stuck in the first, second proper stages. There are still some big days to go so... who knows?”

The MINI ALL4 Racing (#103) crew of Yazeed Al Rajhi (KSA) and Timo Gottschalk (GER) completed Stage 10 in fifth. Presently they are still the highest placing of the MINI ALL4 Racing family in third position overall.

Firma
Bayerische
Motoren Werke
Aktiengesellschaft

Postanschrift
BMW AG
80788 München

Al Rajhi: “It was a good track even though it was very bumpy and, at 190 km exactly, we lost the power steering. But we made it ok to drive the last kilometres, and finally we do it well and not lose too much time, maybe three or four minutes.”



Press release

Date 20 July 2016

Topic Silk Way Rally 2016 – Al Rajhi retains third overall after Stage 10 in the Chinese desert.

page 2

MINI ALL4 Racing #103 of Russian pairing Vladimir Vasilyev and Konstantin Zhiltsov (X-raid Team) are relentless in their consistent pace and retain fourth overall after completing Stage 10 in sixth.

Stage 10 saw the two Astana Motorsport MINI ALL4 Racing crews cross the stage finish point in tandem. Aidyn Rakhimbayev (KAZ) / Anton Nikolaev (RUS) completed in seventh. With just two seconds time difference, Bauyrzhan Issabayev (KAZ) / Vladimir Demyanenko (RUS) in MINI ALL4 Racing #109 followed up for eighth place. Rakhimbayev sits in sixth place overall with Issabayev at position eight.

Weather conditions allowing, Stage 12 will see the MINI ALL4 Racing crews taking part in the longest stage of the Chinese route. A total of 666.92 km will cover many dunes and sand sections before moving lower into the valley area and onto hard-packed terrain.

For further information about the Silk Way Rally 2016, please visit:

www.silkwayrally.com

Silk Way Rally 2016: MINI ALL4 Racing Overall Classification after Stage 10

Position	Driver	Co-driver	#	Team	Time
3 rd	Yazeed Al Rajhi (KSA)	Timo Gottschalk (GER)	103	X-raid Team	+00h:28m:00s
4 th	Vladimir Vasilyev (RUS)	Konstantin Zhiltsov (RUS)	101	G-Energy Team	+00:45:46
5 th	Harry Hunt (GB)	Andreas Schulz (GER)	105	X-raid Team	+01:19:13
6 th	Aidyn Rakhimbayev (KAZ)	Anton Nikolaev (RUS)	106	Astana Motorsport	+01:28:37
8 th	Bauyrzhan Issabayev (KAZ)	Vladimir Demyanenko (RUS)	109	Astana Motorsport	+02:07:29

Find reports, photos and videos in high resolution of previous MINI ALL4 Racing activity on the BMW Media Website by clicking [here](#).

For any queries, please contact:

MINI Motorsport Communications

MINI MOTORSPORT COMMUNICATIONS



Press release

Date 20 July 2016

Topic **Silk Way Rally 2016 – Al Rajhi retains third overall after Stage 10 in the Chinese desert.**

page 3

Danilo Coglianese
Telefon: +49-176-601-72405
E-Mail: danilo.coglianese@bmwgroup.com
Internet: www.press.bmwgroup.com