

Media Information
Rally Kazakhstan
02 June 2018

Rally Kazakhstan 2018 – Round 5, FIA Cross Country Rally World Cup.

- **MINI John Cooper Works Rally crew of Yazeed Al Rajhi and co-driver Timo Gottschalk win Rally Kazakhstan 2018.**
- **Jakub ‘Kuba’ Przygonski extends his lead of the 2018 FIA Cross Country Rally World Cup with second place overall.**
- **Luc Alphanth / Andreas Schulz secure fifth place in a MINI John Cooper Works Buggy.**
- **Victor Khoroshavtsev / Dmitriy Pavlov take sixth in their first outing with a MINI John Cooper Works Rally.**

Munich. Rally Kazakhstan 2018 proved to be a victorious race for MINI and the four official MINI Family crews. The final result after six legs and 2447.92km of race action delivered an impressive one-two for MINI and all four official MINI racing crews completing the race inside the top ten.

Yazeed Al Rajhi (KSA) and co-driver Timo Gottschalk (GER) in a MINI John Cooper Works Rally appeared to make light work of Kazakhstan’s arid conditions on their way to take the win, but in reality the race was filled with punctures, dealing with many areas of fesh-fesh and tough desert grass. Despite all of this, Al Rajhi and Gottschalk in a MINI John Cooper Works Buggy took four stage wins and led the race from start to finish.

Two stage wins and top three stage finishes saw Jakub ‘Kuba’ Przygonski (POL), along with regular co-driver Tom Colsoul (BEL) in the ORLEN Team complete the race in second place overall. Przygonski’s determination to succeed was underlined with the difference in race time of only +4m: 07sec between Przygonski and eventual winner Al Rajhi. Today’s result also means the young Polish star retains his position at the top of the FIA World Cup driver standings.

Luc Alphanth (FRA) and co-driver Andreas Schulz (GER) continued their development of the MINI John Cooper Works Buggy in a successful way by completing the race in fifth place. However, Rally Kazakhstan was definitely a case of what could have been for Alphanth and MINI Motorsport; Alphanth and Schulz were unlucky to suffer numerous punctures and during one stage become stranded in soft sand for nearly an hour.

Victor Khoroshavtsev (RUS) and Dmitriy Pavlov (RUS), newcomers to the MINI Family, produced an outstanding result of sixth overall even though Rally Kazakhstan was their first taste of long distance rally action at the controls of a MINI John Cooper Works Rally. Their delight at the result was plain to see after completing the last 235.6km of the final leg (Leg 6).

Jakub 'Kuba' Przygonski: "Until the end of the rally nobody knew how the results would be. So we had to push all the way to the end. We really enjoyed this rally even though it was a long distance. It was also good to race with Yazeed and make it close with the eventual time. For sure we had no major problems with the MINI John Cooper Works Rally and this really helps to make good racing! "

Luc Alphand: "After a hard week we finally had two good days. The MINI John Cooper Works Buggy is improving with every race – we were competitive and on the pace with the quicker crews. Now we turn back to work and be ready for the next race."

Rally Kazakhstan 2018: MINI race end results

Driver	Co-driver	Auto	#	Team	Position
Yazeed Al Rajhi (KSA)	Timo Gottschalk (GER)	MINI John Cooper Works Rally	208	X-raid Team	1st
Jakub Przygonski (POL).	Tom Colsoul (BEL)	MINI John Cooper Works Rally	201	Orlen Team	2nd
Luc Alphand (FRA)	Andreas Schulz (GER)	MINI John Cooper Works Buggy	206	X-raid Team	5th
Victor Khoroshavtsev (RUS)	Dmitriy Pavlov (RUS)	MINI John Cooper Works Buggy	210	X-raid Team	6th

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