



Official TEST Report
2016/3/31~4/1 OKAYAMA International Circuit
2nd Official test

At Okayama International Circuit, where the cherry blossoms were almost at their best, 20 SF14, including HONDA's test car, gathered for the 2nd official test, the last before the season opener.

Early in the morning of the first day of the test, the circuit was shrouded in a heavy fog. However, just before the test began, a little sunlight was coming through the cloud, and it became stronger from time to time to dry the surface.

There were so many things to be done for practical simulation and set-up development, such as checking YOKOHAMA tires and the new brakes, pit-stop and start practice, a long run with a full tank, simulation of race and QF attack, and so on. Nojiri and Vandoorne drove around vigorously.

Nojiri was in 4th place in the morning session. In the afternoon session, Vandoorne, who drove at OKAYAMA for the first time, recorded the 3rd fastest lap by only 0.022sec from the 2nd.

Vandoorne, who is also a reserve driver for McLaren Honda, flew for Bahrain to participate F1 Bahrain GP.

Day2 was cold and rainy, nothing like yesterday. Nojiri proceeded with programs, mainly testing YOKOHAMA's rain tires, however, perhaps for the low temperature, he could not get enough grip of tires.

A similar tendency was seen among other drivers, and many cars spun one after another. A red flag condition was thrown nine times in the morning. In the afternoon, the surface was still wet even the sun shined in, and there were only 45min to drive with slick tires on. While all the drivers performed QF simulation in the last 10min, Nojiri could not obtain proper balance of the car and finished Day2 in 15th position.

#40: Tomoki Nojiri Day1: Position 6th (3rd among HONDA users)

Day2: Position 15th (6th among HONDA users)

I learned something good, something bad and also something new though the various tests on Day1, and I recorded the highly ranked laps constantly. But on Day2, I could not draw out good performance, I mean, I felt like I was confirming what was bad and this affected my lap time.

Regarding set-up on condition of low surface temperature and the rain, I have to



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examine with the team and get ready. The season opener for my third year of Super Formula will start finally. I will push with Vandoorne, who has made his F1 debut.

#41: Stoffel Vandoorne Day1: Position 4th (2nd among HONDA users)

Unlike SUZUKA, Okayama is low speed track. It is very narrow and challenging course because cornering speed is high. The morning session was a little difficult and I had a lot to learn from the car, the track and the team. The afternoon was OK. I feel more and more comfortable in the car and now I am looking forward to my first race at SUZUKA.