

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019



## BARCELONA TEST 02 – DAY 3

Circuit de Barcelona – Catalunya

Driver: **Alexander Albon** - Car: **STR14-02**

Best time: **1:16.886** - Laps: **118**

### Alexander Albon (Car 23):

"I'm quite happy with how winter testing went as I was able to do a lot of laps and maximize my time in the car. It's still early days and we won't know until Melbourne what everyone else has been working on, but I think we can be satisfied with how everything turned out the past four days. We managed to have another day cracking the 100-lap mark, so that's a testament to the team's hard work and the reliability from Honda. Coming into testing you always want to get the most mileage as possible and we've done that, so it's been a lot of learning and getting comfortable with the car – something I wouldn't have been able to do if we weren't reliable. Overall, we're in a good position with the car and there's been no nasty surprises. There's still a few things we need to tick off tomorrow before we finish testing, but it's been a successful pre-season test as we were able to trial many things to see what works well for us. It was a great job by the team to get a good baseline for the car so that we could build on it throughout the two weeks."

### Jody Egginton (Deputy Technical Director):

"As this is the final day of winter testing for Alex, the programme was focused towards qualifying and race simulations whilst also making best use of the remaining time for further background and aero test items. As one would expect given his approach so far in testing, Alex made good progress in the qualifying simulation, adapting well to each compound and circuit evolution. The afternoon race simulation, although not fully completed due to a red flag, included the use of the C1 compound. Alex could therefore achieve further experience of long run tyre optimisation and this demonstrated his increasing confidence with the car. It also provided some very useful tyre data for the engineers to review and act on for the final day of testing. In terms of pace we are reasonably satisfied, even if tyre wear and graining has been a topic and something we expect to be a challenge for all teams at some events in 2019, hence we have taken the opportunity to work on minimising its effects here."

### Toyoharu Tanabe (Honda F1 Technical Director):

"Alex Albon has now completed his pre-season testing in these two tests that saw him drive a Formula 1 car for the first time. He completed just under 500 laps in his four days in the cockpit. That represents a significant contribution in terms of our PU development work and we are now looking forward to his debut race. Tomorrow is our final track session before Melbourne and we hope to end this test on a positive note."

Hi-res still and moving images are available on:

<https://www.redbullcontentpool.com/str>

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