Membrado-Ribolleda want the victory in the Osona 2011.

With summer, the heat and the month of July comes one of the most charismatic events of the Catalonia Rally Championship, the Rally of Osona. This year will be no different and next Saturday (2nd), at 9:01a.m., the first competitor team will leave the podium in the Av. de la Generalitat in Vic. Josep M. Membrado-Josep R. Ribolleda, behind the wheel of a Mitsubishi Lancer Evo X N + of MC

Racing, won't miss the event and, furthermore, they will have a clearly defined goal: get back on the winning streak they had at the Osona Racing Team's event, which was broken two years ago.

The above mentioned winning streak started in 2003 and lasted until 2008. The past two seasons Membrado managed to be second, always close to the winner. This is what he had to say about the possible outcome of this year's race: We are extremely motivated and we're going to give everything we've got, despite knowing that our opponents won't make it easy for us. There's a very competitive inscription list and apart from Jordi Gaig's Porsche, we have to keep an eye on the other Mitsubishi teams, that will undoubtedly compete at a really high level. For our part, we have followed the usual ritual to prepare the rally; we are going to try and prevent some situations that could arise and once racing we'll see what happens. If we need to improvise... well, we'll do it. About the course, the driver from Olost knows it like the back of his hand and he likes it, but this year there is one exception: It's Alpens-Les Lloses, a nearly 20km long special stage that will certainly make a difference. Moreover, it'll be raced towards the end of the rally and in an area where rain can fall at any time. Anyway, it's true that I really like this course and that I feel confortable racing here.

For his part, Josep R. Ribolleda, who will once more be sitting next to Membrado in the Mitsu, was also confident: As I see it, it's a course where we'll be competitive. Josep M. has already proven that he can be amongst the fastest drivers and so fight for the victory. Last year we were really close (less than 2") despite having problems. We'll see what happens, especially in Alpens-Les Lloses, a special stage raced in the world championship some years ago and that can change everything at the very end of the rally.

As it has been stated, the novelty of the 43 Rally of Osona is the special stage Alpens-Les Lloses (19.97km), which will form a loop (raced twice) together with the Costa dels Gats (7.85km). It will no doubt attract the attention of the followers present on the side of the road from 5:31p.m. on Saturday (2nd).

At the beginning, the competitor teams will encounter two special stages common in the Vic event: La Vola (8.59km) and La Trona (12.81km), which will also be raced twice before going twice through the special stage of the Osona Circuit (0.94km).

The timed special stages add up to 100.32km, from a total of 473.90km that will have to be driven to finish the rally.

The Osona 2011 service park will be located within the premises of the Osona Circuit, where the pre-rally preparation phases will occur.

The rally will start in the centre of Vic, at 9:01 next Saturday, although the final service park and the awards ceremony will take place in the Osona Circuit.

Press Service.

Timetable - 43 Rally of Osona.

Sábado, 2 de Julio					
Podio-Passeig de la Generalitat	9h01				
La Vola (8,59 kms.)	9h54	12h41			
La Trona (12,81 kms.)	10h33	13h20			
Circuit d'Osona (0,94 kms.)	14h23	16h28			
La Costa dels Gats (7,85 kms.)	17h31	20h43			
Alpens-Les Llosses (19,97 kms.)	17h55	21h07			
Asistencia - Circuito de Osona	9h16	11h53	14h45	19h20	22h12
Final Rally - Circuito de Osona	22h30				



Fotos. www.fotoesport.com