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The X-TREM Challenge Andorra gets on the way... on the field.

The firsts zones were harder on the mechanics than expected.

The beginning of the 5th X-TREM Challenge Andorra had as the main characteristic the roughness of the 6 firsts zones around Canòlich.

There have been many mechanical problems and as for now (7 pm) many teams are working to repair their cars and keep competing. Amongst the teams in a delicate situation, the winner of 2010, the veteran driver Tony Baskill, who overturned his car just at the start of the competition.

In order to be able to race, the 34 participant teams had to go through the technical and administrative verifications. As expected, they all passed the tests and were able to drive forming a convoy from the centre of Sant Julià de Lòria to Canòlich.

During the verifications, Albert Cabanes emphasized the enthusiasm people had to race in Andorra and not only the teams that managed to enter the participants' list. This is what he had to say: ***Earlier this week, more precisely on Tuesday, a team called us to say they would not be able to come to Andorra for the race. We immediately talked to a team in the waiting list and, despite having only a couple of days to get ready, they confirmed on the spot their attendance. Just now they've passed all the verifications.***

As it has been already stated, today has been really hard for a lot of teams; there is still a lot of activity in the zones. Amongst the teams that have started the X-TREM of Sant Julià de Lòria on the right foot, there's the Andorran team of Marc Ambor and Amandio Caçador and their Nissan GR. Marc talked to us about their great beginning: ***We've selected the zones properly and we've found little traffic in each of the 6 zones. We've had more than enough time in each of them and we had finished by 6 pm. I must say, we've been of to an amazing start.*** These were also the words of the favourites to win, the Belgian team Reul-Reul and the British Marsden-Bolt, both of whom however had to wait a bit longer than wanted in some zones.

Following the schedule established by the organization, the teams still have many hours of activity before the end of this first day of the Andorran X-TREM. At 8 pm, the six fast zones will be closed and the teams will have 3h to check their cars and have dinner. The night zone will start at 11 pm and the teams will have to find up to 20 way-points and get through 5 individual zones in less than 30' each. This first day of the X-TREM Challenge Andorra 2012 will finish at 3 am.

Press Service.

