

## **Colin R Smith/Craig Chapman**

### **Media Information – For Immediate Release – 27/06/2010**

#### **Scottish duo vow to bounce back after Belgian disappointment**

The Scottish Junior Rally Team of Colin R Smith (Driver) and Craig Chapman (Co Driver) endured a challenging but positive weekend at the Geko Ypres Rally in Belgium.

Starting on the Thursday evening (first time on tarmac) the team completed a successful shakedown test and posted many competitive times through the town of Neuwekerke. With some suspension changes made the team looked forward to the main action starting on Friday afternoon.

The first day of the rally saw 6 stages and over 100km of competitive stage mileage. Colin and Craig started the rally conservatively ensuring that they made it to the evening service halt back in Ypres market. By the end of the first day the team found themselves 2<sup>nd</sup> in class and ahead of many higher powered machines in the overall standings.

Day two of the rally and with 13 stages ahead Colin and Craig felt they could catch the class leader before the end of the rally. First stage of the day, the team took over 20 seconds out of their class rival over the 14km Messen Sauvegard test. Another second out of their rivals on the next 9km stage and all was going according to plan.

After the next service halt the North East team continued to push hard, making up time at every opportunity. The challenge eventually ended when the team's Honda Civic Type R's gearbox inner linkage expired 7km into stage 11, Langemark.

Colin commented "Although we didn't complete the rally we can all take so many positive things away from the experience. Our pace on day 2 was phenomenal which has very much inspired us to do more tarmac rallies this year. Early signs show that it was a small component that ended our challenge and something that could not be accounted for, these things happen. Colin added "After we retired we were not disappointed as we still came to this very challenging event for the first time, against local specialists and still proved ourselves by setting the quickest class times, this is something that we are all very proud of."

Co driver Chapman said "I'm very happy with our performance and the failure is something that was very unexpected. Although it was disappointing we are all leaving Belgium very satisfied with our pace, especially on day two. Craig added "The key to our pace I feel was a combination of good car setup, great tyres and good pace notes, all of this allowed us to push hard."

The team would like to express their sincere thanks to all sponsors, G + M Mechanical Services, Mike Patterson and Andrew Wood of Hankook tyres, JAS Motorsport and Honda Motorsport for all help and support.

The teams next scheduled rally will be on Septembers Rally San Remo although the team are planning to complete some more tarmac events prior to this following on from Ypres.

To find out more about the team, Colin and Craig, please visit;

[www.scr-sport.co.uk](http://www.scr-sport.co.uk)

ENDS.

For further information call Craig Chapman on 07779633386 or Colin R Smith on 07793552467. Attached static shots courtesy of SCR Sport Ltd. Please credit whenever possible.

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