The Stewards, having received a report from the Race Director, summoned (document 30) and heard the driver and team representative, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

No / Driver 44 - Lewis Hamilton

Competitor Mercedes AMG Petronas Motorsport

Time 16:22

Session Race

Fact Car 44 crossed the white line separating the pit entry and the track.

Offence Breach of Appendix L Chapter IV Article 4 (d) of the FIA International Sporting Code.

Decision A reprimand.

(1st reprimand of the current season)

Reason The Stewards reviewed video and audio evidence, heard from the driver of car 44 (Lewis Hamilton) and the team representative. It was clear that there was an infringement of the above mentioned rule - the driver clearly crossed the line separating the pit entry from the track.

In deciding on the penalty for the infringement, we took into account the following mitigating factors:

(i) the driver and the team candidly admitted the mistake and the fact that there was confusion within the team as to whether to stay out or to enter the pits and that led to the infringement.

(ii) The fact that the infringement took place during a Safety Car period.

(iii) At no time was there any danger to any other competitor and the change in direction was executed in a safe way.

Taking all of the above into account, including considering previous infringements of the above rule, we are of the opinion that a reprimand would be the appropriate penalty for the said infringement on this occasion.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal the decisions of the Stewards (with the exception of those referred to in Article 12.2.4 of the FIA International Sporting Code), in accordance with Article 15 of the FIA International Sporting Code and Article 9.1.1 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules, within the applicable time limits.
Nish Shetty          Steve Stringwell
Mika Salo           Felix Holter

The Stewards