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Andersen Racing Signs Hall For 2008 Star Mazda Season Opener at Sebring

PALMETTO, Fla., March 7 — Add a fifth car and driver under the Andersen Racing tent in the Star Mazda paddock at Sebring International Raceway next week.

The Palmetto, Fla.-based team announced today that it has signed Britain's Charles Hall to drive its No. 22 Star Mazda car in that series' season opener at Sebring, Fla. next Friday afternoon, March 14.

Hall, 28, was short-listed for a Formula 1 test seat in 2005 only to suffer serious injuries in a traffic accident caused by a drunk driver later that year. He has worked hard to rebound from that accident, and is committed to getting his career back on track.

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"I'm delighted to finally be back racing after my recovery from my road accident in 2005," Hall said. "It has been a long road to recovery, but I am now in the best shape I have ever been, and fully focused for the 2008 season."

"I believe Andersen Racing will give me the equipment and support to have a fantastic season," he added.

Masterminding the set-up on Hall's No. 22 car will be one of Andersen Racing's Indy Pro Series engineers, the very accomplished Dominic Cape. Hall tested a Star Mazda car with the team in January at Sebring, and was very impressive.

"I am very happy we could work out an arrangement to bring Charles in for this race," said Andersen Racing co-owner Dan Andersen. "We hope to be able to develop a long-term relationship with Charles, as he is the complete package."

"Having been in negotiations with Dan for many weeks, I'm delighted that Charles will be racing at Sebring," said his manager, Robert Lewis. "This will be the start of what we hope will be a fantastic year for Charles, and propel him back to a position that will allow him to compete at the highest level in 2009."

Hall was a race winner in the British Formula 3 Winter Series in 2004. He had a terrific year in 2003, winning the Fran-Am Winter Series championship and being vice-champion of the Fran-Am Pro Series. He was also a top-three qualifier at the Monaco Formula Renault V6 race that year. The prestigious British Racing Drivers' Club tabbed him as a rising star in 2002 after he impressed his countrymen in Formula Renault 2000 competition in 2001.

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In addition to Hall, Andersen Racing will field Star Mazda cars for Peter Dempsey of Ashbourne, County Meath, Ireland; Tom Gladdis of Gibraltar; Juliana Gonzalez of Mexico City, Mexico, and Yannick Hofman of Rosemere, Quebec, Canada at Sebring. All are rookies in the series, which is presented by Goodyear.

Hall is sponsored by Pardoes Solicitors, a law firm. All of the Andersen Racing drivers will have a cheering section on hand, as team sponsors Allied Building Products and Jig-A-Loo plan to be in attendance to support them and enjoy all the festivities at Sebring. The featured Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring, which begins at 10:05 a.m. Saturday, annually attracts the largest crowd of any endurance sports car race in North America.

Hall is traveling from his home in Sheffield, England to Florida today in order to be on hand for the first Star Mazda test session at Sebring at 8 a.m. Monday.

Qualifying is slated for 1:20 p.m. on Thursday, followed by an autograph session at the series transporter at 4:30 p.m. that afternoon. The 45-minute Star Mazda race is scheduled to get the green flag at 2:50 p.m. on Friday. It will be broadcast on SPEED at 3 p.m. Eastern time on Sunday, March 30.

Andersen Racing strives to provide the best training possible for future open-wheel superstars. In addition to Star Mazda, Andersen Racing fields multiple entries in the F2000 Championship presented by Hoosier Racing Tire and the Indy Pro Series, the official development series of IndyCar. It is the official development team of Rahal Letterman Racing.

For more information on Andersen Racing see andersenracingteam.com and andersenracepark.com. For more information on the Star Mazda series see starmazda.com.

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About Allied Building Products Corp.:

Allied Building Products Corp., headquartered in East Rutherford, N.J., is one of the largest roofing and siding distributors in the United States. Founded in 1950 with five employees and two trucks, today it is a \$1.8 billion building material distribution company with over 3,500 employees, more than 200 branches in 30 states, well over one million square feet of office and warehouse space, and an inventory of approximately 85,000 products, from residential roofing and siding to doors, windows, waterproofing, manufactured stone, interior products and commercial roofing systems. For more information see alliedbuilding.com.

About Andersen Racing:

Andersen Racing strives to provide the best and most comprehensive training possible for future open-wheel superstars while giving its marketing partners media exposure and hospitality opportunities at some of the most prestigious events in North America. It provides a unique, three-step program utilizing multiple entries in three different series: the F2000 Championship (webcast), Star Mazda (televised on SPEED) and the Indy Pro Series (televised on ESPN2). In 2008 it will field multiple entries in 42 races in 19 states and provinces at some of the best facilities on the continent, including the famed Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Andersen Racing's principals, brother Dan and John Andersen, have extensive experience in series administration as well as team management. They've worked with many of today's top open-wheel stars, including several Indy 500 winners.

Andersen Racing is sponsored by Allied Building Products Corp. It is the official development team of Rahal Letterman Racing, which competes in the IndyCar Series and the American Le Mans Series. In addition, its F2000 team is also the official factory team of Van Diemen. The team is headquartered at Andersen RacePark, an 18-acre facility in Palmetto, Fla. that includes a 1-mile test track. For more information see andersenracingteam.com and andersenracepark.com.