





Rusty Mitchell Puts Motorola Mazda on Trois Rivieres Pole

Texan sets new track record

<u>Contact:</u>
Matt Cleary, Sunday Group Management <u>media@sundaymanagement.com</u>
317.908.2975 (mobile)

(Trois Rivieres, Que) 15 Aug, 2009—With strong runs on ovals and road courses alike, Rusty Mitchell continues to show strength in the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, and the young Texan added a new accomplishment to his resume on Saturday as he put the No. 66 Motorola Mazda on pole for Sunday's Grand Prix du Trois Rivieres with a record-setting lap time of 1:01.341-seconds. The time bettered the previous track record by nearly a half-second on the 1.52-mile temporary street circuit in Quebec.

The pole position is the first career pole for Mitchell in Star Mazda competition, and improved on his previous best starting position of 3rd earlier this year at Milwaukee.

"I didn't have a radio because the earpiece fell out right at the beginning of the session, so I didn't know what the times were, but I knew we were setting some good laps out there," said a very satisfied Mitchell after the session. "We didn't really do too much to the car between yesterday and today because it was just hooked up."

Mitchell's weekend didn't get off to the start he had hoped for, as a motor issue robbed him of track time on Friday. But quick work by the Mitchell Motorsports squad and good use of his previous experience on the track saw him set the 8th fastest time of the day, locking him into the faster group of qualifiers on Saturday.

That effort paid off as Mitchell set a run of quick times, moving up to score pole just past the middle point of the session. After coming in to take on fresh rubber and target even more speed, Mitchell got three more laps in as he looked to unlock the maximum performance in the Goodyear tires. But before he had a chance to break his own track record, the session was checkered after another car went off track and caused a red flag.

"That worked out well for us in terms of how we've managed our tires this weekend," said Mitchell as he was congratulated from team members and competitors alike after the session. "I'm really happy right now and this is great for the team. We had to do that motor change yesterday and they got it done really fast so we were able to get back out on track. Hopefully we can be this strong tomorrow. I'm just going to concentrate on getting a good start and staying out front."

The standing-start race is slated to take the green flag at 11:00 AM on Sunday morning.

Additional information:

www.starmazda.com
www.sundaymanagement.com
####