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Additional Photos available upon request

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## **JDC MOTORSPORTS ADDS TO STAR MAZDA POINTS TALLY IN IOWA**

### **Minnesota-based squad placed three drivers in the top-10 in Round Five on the banked oval**

MINNEAPOLIS, MN. (June 28, 2011) – The three-race oval portion of the 2011 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear ended on Saturday night (June 25) with three JDC MotorSports racers showing good speed and skill on the always demanding Iowa Speedway. Tristan Vautier led the way for the Minnesota-based squad, further extending his lead in the highly-competitive championship fight via a strong fourth place finish on the banked oval. Joao Jardim, in only his third-ever event, impressed everyone with a hard fought sixth place, while Nick Mancuso added to the team's points tally by battling to a ninth place finish, continuing his pursuit of Rookie of the Year honors.

While the IZOD IndyCar Series event at the Iowa Speedway marked the third consecutive oval on the Star Mazda Championship calendar, it provided yet another challenge to the JDC racers and the rest of the field. With its short tri-oval progressive banking configuration, race setup and the ability to handle lapped traffic would be key ingredients for success. With this in mind, the JDC trio of Vautier, Mancuso and Jardim spent Thursday's three hour promoter's test session, and Friday morning's practice session working with the talented JDC engineers and crew to maximize their cars. Unfortunately, the planned program suffered a setback on Saturday, when a rain shower forced the final 45-minute practice session to be converted into a 10-minute warm-up immediately prior to single-car qualifying. The JDC MotorSports drivers and crew however remained confident entering the two-lap timed run.

Vautier, as both the JDC clan and onlookers have come to expect, adapted to the latest challenge in fine fashion when he rolled on-course for his single-car qualifying effort. Battling less than ideal cool conditions, the championship leader posted the third best time in the No. 5 Cecibon/Circuit du Laquais/Fontanelles/Red Line Oil JDC MotorSports car, earning an inside row two starting position for the early evening race. Jardim was next on the speedcharts for the Minnesota squad, securing a row four starting position via the eighth fastest time in his No. 39 Shopping M/Red Line Oil JDC MotorSports entry. Mancuso placed the No. 27 Jimmy John's Sandwiches/Indeck/Lake Forest Sportscars/Red Line Oil JDC MotorSports car one row behind his teammate, posting the 10<sup>th</sup> quickest time in qualifying.

Less than an hour later, the JDC trio were back behind the wheels and on-course in front of a large crowd, ready to go racing. As expected, the waving of the green flag immediately resulted in multiple dices for position. Vautier, despite steady pressure from behind, held station in third, lap after lap. Not far behind, Jardim made the most of any opportunity to advance up the charts,

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working his way into the fight for a top-five position. Mancuso likewise was engaged in a spirited battle for position, dicing for eighth place. With entire field turning 22 second laps, the action was fast and furious all the way to the checkered flag. Vautier appeared headed towards yet another podium finish, when an attempted pass for second forced him to briefly lose momentum, and third place, just nine laps before the flag dropped. Unable to regain the lost position in the closing tours, the JDC racer came home with his third consecutive fourth place result, extending his championship lead to eight points. Jardim, continuing his advance up the scoring charts (having previously finished 14<sup>th</sup> and eighth), held off a late race charge from a 2011 pole winner to finish sixth. Returning his top-10 ways, Mancuso followed his teammates across the stripe, coming home in ninth place.

"I'm satisfied to leave this race having extended our points lead, but losing our first podium on an oval less than five minutes to end of the race after some action passing lapped traffic is hard to accept!" stated Vautier. "Everyone in the team gave so much energy to do well on these ovals that it would have been a great reward, and I wanted to see all the JDC guys celebrate the hard work at the podium. But in the end we have to remember that what really matters is the championship, and we need to be happy leaving the ovals in the points lead."

"Iowa was another tough weekend for us," commented Mancuso. "We never got the car right, and without a well balanced car, it's a long 100 laps here. We were lucky to come away with a top-10, and we will look to come back strong on the road courses."

The chase for a third Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear title continues for JDC MotorSports on July 22-23, when Round Six takes place at Mosport International Raceway in Canada. Entering the traditional stop at the high-speed road course, Vautier leads the driver's championship, Mancuso lies fourth in the Rookie of the Year fight, and JDC is third in the Team standings.

JDC MotorSports races with associate sponsorship from [www.RedLineOil.com](http://www.RedLineOil.com)

Additional information on JDC MotorSports can be obtained from the team's website @ [www.jdcmotorsports.com](http://www.jdcmotorsports.com) For direct contact, please contact John Church @ 952-233-3075

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#### **About JDC MotorSports:**

Involved in formula car racing since its inception in 1994, JDC MotorSports has established itself as one of the leading junior open-wheel teams in North America. Initially making its mark in the F2000 class of club racing competition, JDC MotorSports was soon a team worth watching in the pro ranks. Competing in the Formula Ford 2000 Zetec Championship, the team not only won races, but also helped develop multiple young drivers. In 2005, JDC MotorSports expanded its efforts, entering the Star Mazda Championship. Quickly becoming one of the top teams in the series, JDC captured both the driver and team titles in 2007, as well as Rookie of the Year honors, with Dane Cameron scoring a series-high three wins. In 2008, JDC MotorSports was the runner-up in the Star Mazda Championship and finished fourth in its inaugural season of F2000 Championship Series competition. The Minnesota-based team won the Star Mazda Championship title with Rookie of the Year Adam Christodoulou, and the F2000 Championship Series title with Chris Miller in 2009. This past year, JDC continued its winning ways, earning the

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Rookie of the Year award in the Star Mazda Championship with Connor De Phillippi, and scoring a non-points win in the USF2000 National Championship. The Minneapolis-based squad will compete in the Star Mazda Championship, USF2000 National Championship and Prototype Lites Championship in 2011 via multi-car operations.

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