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## **TEAM PELFREY SIGNS HAWKSWORTH FOR 2012 STAR MAZDA TITLE CHALLENGE**

### **British racer joins Team Champion after leading Mazda Road to Indy test**

CLEARWATER, FLA. (November 21, 2011) – The quest for championship honors in the 2012 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear has commenced for Team Pelfrey, with the reigning Team Champion signing Jack Hawksworth for the upcoming campaign. The British standout will make the transition to North American junior formula car competition having not only impressed the Florida-based squad in testing, but also shined in European open-wheel action.

Team Pelfrey was one of the primary storylines in the Star Mazda Championship this past season, winning four races, earning 13 podium finishes, capturing three pole positions, and posting the fastest race lap five times en route to securing the team title in its inaugural season of series competition. With the goal of continuing this winning tradition and once again challenging for the championship title, Team Pelfrey has signed British Formula Renault 2.0 race winner Hawksworth for the 2012 campaign. The 20 year-old racer recently impressed the squad and onlookers in his initial Star Mazda run by posting the fastest time in the two-day Mazda Road to Indy Chris Griffis Memorial Test at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

"We are delighted to welcome Jack to Team Pelfrey," commented Team Manager Geoff Fickling. "He is exactly the type of driver our team looks for – quick, intelligent, dedicated, and easy to work with. It's great that he's made the decision to pursue a career of it in the states, and we look forward to great things this coming year, and feel that Jack has an extremely bright future within the Mazda Road to Indy."

"I'm delighted to have agreed terms to compete for such a successful outfit," stated Hawksworth. "I really like the way Team Pelfrey work. Their preparation is excellent, and it's good to be in such a professional environment. I can't wait to get back in the car, and I believe we can carry our testing form forward into next year."

A native of Bradford, England, Hawksworth travels across 'the pond' in 2012 having already established himself as an up-and-coming talent in the junior formula car ranks. The newly named BRDC (British Racing Drivers' Club) Rising Star first got behind the wheel in karting, winning numerous races and championship titles throughout England and Europe. In 2010, Hawksworth made the move to car competition, finishing an impressive third in the British Formula Renault 2.0 Winter Cup, scoring two podium finishes and four pole positions in the six-race series. The British racer then contested his first full campaign this past year, coming home fourth in the British Formula Renault 2.0 Championship via one win, four podiums, one pole position, and three fastest race laps.





Team Pelfrey and Hawksworth will commence their pursuit of a championship title over the coming weeks via an off-season testing program. The 2012 Star Mazda Championship commences in the spring at a yet to be confirmed event in Florida. Further announcements regarding Team Pelfrey's multi-car line-up are expected in the coming weeks. Interested parties are urged to contact the squad about testing and race opportunities.

Additional information on Team Pelfrey can be obtained via the team website at [www.Team-Pelfrey.com](http://www.Team-Pelfrey.com) For direct contact, please contact Geoff Fickling at [gf@team-pelfrey.com](mailto:gf@team-pelfrey.com) or (727) 329-8860.

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**About Team Pelfrey:**

After a multi-year hiatus from motorsports competition, Team Pelfrey rejoined the professional open-wheel ranks in 2011. With the primary goal of helping develop and train new talent, the Florida-based squad runs a multi-car effort in the highly-regarded Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, which is part of the Mazda Road to Indy ladder system. Building on Team Pelfrey's previous success in the IndyCar Series, which featured the likes of Danny Ongais, Memo Gidley, Bryan Tyler, Billy Boat, Robby Unser, Sarah Fisher and 1998 Indianapolis 500 race leader John Paul Jr. getting behind the wheel, Team Principal Dale Pelfrey has assembled a talented crew of personnel with a proven Star Mazda track record. In its rookie Star Mazda season, Team Pelfrey captured the team title with four wins.

