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Advancing in the Mazda Road to Indy: Juncos Racing Stands Out in Rookie Firestone Indy Lights Season



Brownsburg, IN (October 1, 2012) – Completing their rookie season in the 2012 Firestone Indy Lights Series, Juncos Racing made a strong impression recording a fastest lap at the Freedom 100 and finishing multiple times inside the Top-10 in their move into the next level

in the Mazda Road to Indy. While running in the Firestone Indy Lights Series, Juncos Racing ran full time with four drivers in the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear.

Juncos Racing entered into the 2012 Firestone Indy Lights Series with rookie driver J.V. Horto at the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg. Horto, 21, who finished the 2011 Star Mazda Series with Juncos Racing, moved up with the team and completed three races in #86 Juncos Racing car.



Horto and Juncos Racing made a big impression in their rookie season at the Freedom 100 by recording the fastest lap of the race. Horto recorded a seventh place at the Freedom 100 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Grand Prix of Barber at Barber Motorsports Park and finished 13th in his first race at the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg.

By moving his race team to the United States, Ricardo Juncos gained more opportunities to build his team into the next level of racing and compete for this first time this season at the world's most famous race track, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

“When we were at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway to start the Freedom 100 this year, I was making my 10 year mark in the USA since I moved from Argentina,” said Juncos. “In 2002 I came to the states for a week to gain contacts and get some information for my race team. The original plan was to go back and continue racing in my home country. Fortunately for me, my destiny changed and here I am starting the Freedom 100 with two Indy Lights cars at the most famous race track in the world. That feeling is difficult for me to put into words, but I am very glad to be here in the USA and cannot thank this country enough. So many people here have been very helpful and a crucial part to the success of Juncos Racing.”



Chase Austin, 21, who drove the #86/87 Juncos Racing/Starting Grid Inc. car at the Freedom 100 and Sukup 100, will be the first Juncos Racing driver to move up the IZOD INDYCAR Series as he will attempt to qualify for the 2013 Indianapolis 500 with A.J. Foyt Racing. Austin finished in the Top-10 in both races with a 10th at the Freedom 100 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway and eighth place finish at the Sukup 100 at Iowa Speedway.

Current Juncos Racing Star Mazda Series rookie Bruno Palli, 21, made his move with Juncos Racing into the next level of his racing career competing in the Firestone Indy Lights Series season finale at the Auto Club Speedway Foundation 100. Palli finished a strong seventh in his first appearance in the Firestone Indy Lights Series and will finish the 2012 Star Mazda Series with Juncos Racing.



Juncos Racing’s main mission as a team is to build and mold drivers into the next level with their driver development program. All three drivers who competed with Juncos Racing in the Firestone Indy Lights Series have all moved up to the next level in their careers with the guidance of Juncos Racing.

By moving his race team to the United States, Ricardo Juncos was able to take his driver development program to the next level.

“Moving into the Indy Lights series is the continuation of the original driver development program that I started back in 2003 with my karting team,” said Juncos. “Working with all of

these young drivers and teaching them the best we can, then seeing them move their way up in their racing careers is something I am very proud of. A former driver of ours, Conor Daly, who now races in the GP3 Series, is a great example of what we have been able to do with our driver development program. Being able to watch his talent grow from when he ran in the Star Mazda Series with us and now testing a Formula One car is such an amazing feeling to know we helped get him to that next level. I want to thank all of my Indy Lights drivers this year, J.V. Horto, Chase Austin, and Bruno Palli for all of their trust and commitment to the team. I also want to thank all of the members of Juncos Racing who worked so hard this year and a special thank you to Dr. John Wagner for his conditional support.”

Conor Daly, 20, former Juncos Racing driver and 2010 Star Mazda Champion, competed in the 2011 Firestone Indy Lights Series and finished his second season in the 2012 GP3 Series with



one win and five podiums. Daly earned a high honor this season as he tested in Formula One for the Sahara Force India team. Daly credits Juncos Racing with being his most successful year in his racing career.

“My time with Juncos Racing was the most successful year in my racing career so far!” said Daly. “I learned so much that year and enjoyed every day with the team. Ricardo

(Juncos) is so dedicated to the success of his team and drivers. When you see Ricardo at the track and in the pits, he is always doing work and even changing tires, so you know he loves what he does!”

Juncos Racing looks to move into the 2013 Firestone Indy Lights Series with two full time drivers, who are undecided at this time. The team will finish out the 2012 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear season next month at Road Atlanta.

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About Juncos Racing: Juncos Racing is based in Brownsburg, Indiana, U.S.A. just outside the “racing capital of the world,” Indianapolis, Indiana. In 1997 Ricardo Juncos, Team Owner, established Juncos Racing, a full-service Formula Racing Team, based in Buenos Aires, Argentina. For five years Juncos Racing competed in various National Championships throughout South America and eventually made their way to the United States, opening the doors in 2003 to their first karting shop based in Miami, Florida. During the next few years Juncos Racing captured 19 Local, Regional, and National karting Titles. Juncos Racing entered

into the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear in 2009 and claimed their first championship in the 2010 Star Mazda Championship with driver Connor Daly. Juncos Racing made the biggest move in 2012 entering into the Firestone Indy Lights Series with three drivers throughout the season and continued in the Star Mazda Series with four full time drivers. For more information, please visit www.juncosracing.com.

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