



-- DEMPSEY WINS FROM THE POLE AT AUTOBAHN --

The Irish Steamroller scores his third win of the season while flattening the field in Race 1 of a Star Mazda Championship double-header at the Harrah's Autobahn Grand Prix of Mazda



Autobahn Country Club / Joliet, IL (July 25, 2009) – Peter 'The Irish Steamroller' Dempsey has re-confirmed his nickname with a dominant win from the pole in the Harrah's Autobahn Grand Prix of Mazda. This achievement is all the more remarkable when you consider the path he has taken; after winning four races in 2008, including three in a row, only to finish third in the championship, he returned in 2009 and scored his first win of the new season at Virginia International Raceway with AIM Autosport. Forced by economic circumstance to change teams just before the first of two oval track races on the 2009 schedule, he finished 4th at the Milwaukee Mile and won from the pole at the Iowa

Speedway, not only his first oval track win but also an emotional first victory for the fledgling Juncos Racing team. To that already impressive total, he adds being quickest in every practice session at Autobahn, winning the pole and leading every lap of the race. He is currently the only driver in the series with three race wins so far this season.

"For me the race was always going to be tough because I knew Adam (Christodoulou) and Conor (Daly) were wanting to make a fight of it; they're both hot young drivers coming up the ladder and extremely talented," said Dempsey, who also won the Racing for Kids prize that includes a \$500 donation to the Provena Children's Hospital in Joliet, IL. "For me, it was just about getting off the line and getting my head down and getting to the race pace I knew that we could run at. The car never missed a beat all week and when it came time to race, Juncos Racing gave me the car to do the job and I did it. Right there at the end of the race with about four laps to go the team was saying 'yellow, yellow, yellow' into my radio and that was the last thing I wanted to hear because I was so comfortable up front. I was a bit disappointed, but I knew once I got a good re-start that I had the pace to pull away. A lot of credit goes to the Goodyear tires which got back up to temperature straight away and I was able to run my fastest lap of the race on my last lap."

As for the rest of the top-3 podium, one need only look at the qualifying sheet; Adam Christodoulou qualified and finished second in the #11 JDC Motorsports / Molecule Mazda; Conor Daly, the 2008 Skip Barber Champion and winner of the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Drive Development scholarship, qualified and finished third in the #22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck / Cytomax Mazda.

Save for a 'moment' between the two as Daly got a run on Christodoulou and attempted an ultimately unsuccessful pass during the green/white/checkered finish that resulted from a late-race full-course yellow, the principal drama was seeing how big a lead Dempsey could build over his closest challenger – the answer being 4.9-seconds.

With the results of today's Race 1, Peter Dempsey, who came to Autobahn leading the championship by nine points, extends his lead to 14 points over Adam Christodoulou (297 vs 283). Conor Daly moves into third place with 248 points.

Also making the podium were Expert Series (drivers 30 – 44) winner Chris Cumming and Master Series (drivers 45 and older) winner Mike Guasch. Cumming, the 2008 Expert Series Champion, finished 14th overall driving the #16 Worldspeed Motorsports Mazda. He has scored five class wins so far this season and is currently second in the Expert Series Championship battle. Guasch, in his first full year of Star Mazda Championship competition, leads the Master Series battle with three wins at the wheel of the #91 JDC Motorsports / Molecule Mazda.

"I had a really bad qualifying, only got one lap because of all the red flags, so I ended up way in the back," said Guasch, owner and founder of Molecule Labs, a company that produces a line of protective chemicals that is changing the way racing professionals care for racing suits and protective gear. "But I got a really great start, came up on a couple of guys on the inside, then a few guys hit each other and went out so I was able to gain four or five places at the start. I settled into my pace and rhythm and wound up finishing 13th overall and beating not only all the Masters but all the Experts as well. The JDC team gave me a great car and it was one of my better races, so I'm looking forward to qualifying again later this evening and racing again tomorrow."

Pos	Start Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total Tm	Diff	Gap	Hometown	Sponsor
1	1	3	Peter Dempsey	17	41:04.070			Ashbourne, Ireland	Hooters / Juncos Racing / Motorsports Ireland
2	2	11	Adam Christodoulou	17	41:08.970	4.900	4.900	Birmingham, England	Molecule/AlpineStars/Miller Milling Co
3	3	22	Conor Daly	17	41:09.463	5.393	0.493	Noblesville, In	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
4	6	33	Richard Kent	17	41:10.082	6.012	0.619	Millton Keynes, England	Traka/Allied Interior Products
5	14	30	Rick Rosin	17	41:13.490	9.420	3.408	Brusque, Brazil	FundeSporte/Governo Do ESTADO SANTA Catarina
6	8	61	Sean Burstyn	17	41:14.539	10.469	1.049	Miami Beach, Fl	The Collection
7	13	21	Denis Navarro	17	41:14.887	10.817	0.348	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied
8	4	2	Joel Miller	17	41:15.528	11.458	0.641	Hesperia, Ca	Fader High Productions/eSoles/Doug Mockett & Co
9	15	13	Michael Furfari	17	41:15.585	11.515	0.057	Toronto, Canada	Furfari Paving
10	5	27	Anders Krohn	17	41:18.256	14.186	2.671	Sandnes, Norway	Trallfa/Colosseum
11	12	19	Caio Lara	17	41:18.966	14.896	0.710	Sao Paulo, Brazil	MLD/ATW/Molecule
12	21	91	Michael Guasch	17	41:20.281	16.211	1.315	Benicia, Ca	Molecule
13	16	57	Robert Kaminsky	17	41:20.721	16.651	0.440		

14	17	16	Chris Cumming	17	41:21.302	17.232	0.581	Vancouver, Canada	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
15	18	55	Gerry Kraut	17	41:22.154	18.084	0.852	North Oaks, Mn	Doherty and Co./Doherty Funding LLC.
16	20	31	Carlos Conde	17	41:37.099	33.029	14.945	San Juan, Puerto Rico	MIO.TV
17	22	80	Toshihiro Deki	17	44:06.568	3:02.498	2:29.469	Yokohama, Japan	
18	11	66	Rusty Mitchell	16	38:59.556	1 Lap	1 Lap	Midland, Tx	Motorola
19	7	51	Alex Ardoin	16	41:19.590	1 Lap	2:20.034	Lafayette, La	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
20	19	65	Ashley Freiberg	16	41:22.639	1 Lap	3.049	Homer Glen, IL	C+D Supply, AKZO NOBEL, AGA Glass
21	9	72	Jorge Goncalvez	11	25:17.426	6 Laps	5 Laps	Los Teques, Venezuela	
22	23	77	Kevin Toledo	5	11:51.273	12 Laps	6 Laps	Rancagua, Chile	
23	10	71	David Ostella		59.497	17 Laps	5 Laps	Maple, Canada	GP Global Precast

Even with all this activity so far today, the day is far from finished; qualifying for tomorrow's Race 2 / Round 9 of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear will take place early this evening from 6:35 – 7:20 pm -- with Race #2 scheduled to start at 1:00 pm Sunday, July 26.

This is a double-header weekend for Star Mazda with 1:00 pm races on both Saturday and Sunday broadcast live on HDnet. Also part of the broadcasts will be the Atlantic Championship Powered by Mazda. Air times are 2-3 pm ET (1–3 pm local) on Saturday 7/25 and 1-4 ET (Noon – 3 pm local) Sunday 7/26. Famed racer Elliott Forbes-Robinson is the on-air analyst.

For more information on the Star Mazda Championship and its drivers, as well as the Mazda Motorsports ladder system, please visit www.starmazda.com and www.mazdausa.com. For information, interviews and photos, contact Star Mazda Communications Director Peter Frey at (818) 398-5733 or StarMazdaPR@aol.com.

On any given weekend, there are more Mazdas on the road-race tracks of America than any other brand of vehicle. At the track, you'll see MX-5 Miata, RX-8, MAZDA3, MAZDA6, RX-7 and other vintage Mazda models competing, because every Mazda has the Soul of a Sports Car.

For more information on the various Mazda spec series, visit:

www.atlantic-championship.com www.starmazda.com
www.skipbarber.com www.mx-5cup.com

Dean Case / Communications Officer / MAZDASPEED Motorsports
(310) 318-4582 / E-mail: MAZDASPEED@MazdaUSA.com

