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USF2000 National Championship Announces Three-Year Deal with VP Racing Fuels

PALMETTO, Fla., Jan. 13 — Officials of the USF2000 National Championship presented by Cooper Tires and powered by Mazda announced today a three-year agreement with VP Racing Fuels, the world leader in race fuel technology.

“Although VP offers nearly 70 fuel blends, it is its VP110 leaded race fuel that will be the official fuel for both of the USF2000 series’ classes through the 2012 season and hopefully beyond,” said Dan Andersen, co-owner and chief executive officer of Andersen Promotions, which administers the series.

A VP representative will attend all 12 USF2000 races in 2010 to provide support. The firm will also supply VP110 at all series tests.

In addition, the San Antonio, Texas-based company will present a \$1,500 award at the series’ year-end awards ceremony.

“Having used VP race fuel in the Star Mazda series for the past five seasons, I am well acquainted with the excellent quality and service provided by VP through

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its national network of dealers,” Andersen said. “I am pleased that they will be involved with us for at least the next three seasons, and that they have also chosen to include a year-end award in their support package.”

The USF2000 series was designed to provide an arena for up-and-coming drivers, engineers, mechanics and other racing personnel to hone their skills as they strive to reach the IZOD IndyCar Series. VP will play a key role in that effort by offering the USF2000 participants technical support via telephone or e-mail in addition to its presence at the track. It will also work closely with Mazda and Elite Engines, the official engine preparer of the Mazda MZR engine that is destined to become the spec engine of the series’ top division.

Just last month VP announced an expansion of its technical support group, which can be reached at (812) 878-2025 or tech@vpracingfuels.com. In addition, customers can visit VP’s Web site at vpracingfuels.com to review fuel information and submit tech questions online.

“The importance of technical support can’t be overemphasized,” said Steve Burns, VP’s president and chief executive officer. “When you lead an industry in technological development as we do, people look to you for guidance and support to ensure they can effectively implement that technology. We look forward to working with the USF2000 series and its racers to help ensure they achieve maximum performance.”

In addition to USF2000, VP is the official racing fuel of the NHRA, ADRL, American Le Mans Series, Star Mazda, the World of Outlaws sprint cars and late models, and more than 40 other series. More information, including a list of authorized distributors, may be found on the company’s Web site at vpracingfuels.com.

Sanctioned by the Indy Racing League (IRL), the USF2000 National Championship is one of only two series that are part of both the IRL’s Road to Indy ladder system and the MAZDASPEED Motorsports driver development program. The series’ 2010 season will open with a doubleheader March 27-28 on the street circuit in St. Petersburg, Fla. in support of an IZOD IndyCar Series headliner.

For more information on the series, see usf2000.com or call (941) 723-3900.

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About Mazda:

On any given weekend there are more Mazdas on the road courses of America than any other brand of vehicle. MX-5 Miata, RX-8, MAZDA3, MAZDA6, RX-7 and other vintage Mazda models are all popular race cars because every Mazda has the soul of a sports car. In fact, the largest road-racing class in the world is Spec Miata. With more than 2,500 first- and second-generation Miatas tearing up America's racetracks, it the most-raced production car in the world. Mazda's involvement in motorsports extends to its relationship with one of the world's premier road courses, Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca in Monterey, Calif., and the Skip Barber Schools for driving and racing.

Celebrating its 40th anniversary in the United States in 2010, Mazda North American Operations is headquartered in Irvine, Calif. It oversees the sales, marketing, parts business and customer service of Mazda vehicles in the United States, Canada and Mexico through nearly 900 dealers. Operations in Canada are managed by Mazda Canada, Inc., located in Ontario. Operations in Mexico are managed by Mazda Motor de Mexico in Mexico City.

About Cooper Tire & Rubber Company:

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company is a global company that specializes in the design, manufacture, marketing and sales of passenger car and light truck tires and subsidiaries that specialize in medium truck, motorcycle and racing tires. With headquarters in Findlay, Ohio, Cooper Tire has manufacturing, sales, distribution, technical and design facilities within its family of companies located in 10 countries around the world. For more information, visit Cooper Tire's Web site at coopertire.com.

About VP Racing Fuels:

In addition to fuels, VP's product line includes performance chemicals, specialty lubricants, traction adhesives and fuel-handling accessories.

Headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, VP owns and operates race fuel distribution centers in Texas, Indiana, Georgia and Delaware, as well as a regional sales office in Southern California. VP also has master distributors in Florida, Kansas, Washington, Calgary, Ontario, Montreal and Australia, as well as international distribution in Europe, Russia, the Pacific Rim, Africa and the Middle East.