



PRESS INFORMATION...PRESS INFORMATION...PRESS INFORMATION...PRE

For Immediate Release

Tuesday 26th September 2006

Lotus Sport Cadena Secure GT3 Team's Championship

In its first year of competition, Lotus Sport Cadena has secured outright GT3 Team Championship honours in the highly competitive British GT Championship.

Such has been the Lotus Sport Cadena dominance this season, they secured the title with one race in hand.

Said Chris Arnold, General Manager Lotus Sport:

"I am absolutely thrilled that Lotus' re-entry into British motorsport at this highly competitive level has been so successful. We have a great team of people here at Hethel, both working at Lotus Sport and the Cadena team. This has been a team effort in the truest sense of the word. I'm very pleased with the technical progress we have made this year and the car's reliability has been fantastic. We are now starting to see the real potential of the Exige on the race track."

Paul Whight, Team Principal Lotus Sport Cadena, confirmed:

"It is with a true sense of achievement that I look back on the British GT Championship this year. Working shoulder to shoulder with Lotus Sport, Cadena has developed the GT3 Lotus Exige race car to a standard proven capable of taking on and beating the likes of the mighty Aston Martin DRRS9 and Porsche 997. These are cars which come with significantly higher horsepower and of course, significantly higher price tags! To win the Team Championship in our first year is a reflection upon all our team members, each of whom has worked tirelessly both at the workshop and at the track."

For Lotus Sport Cadena, the 2006 season was scheduled to be a development year, with the Cadena team and Lotus Sport working hand in hand to develop the Lotus Exige GT3. However, there were early indications that both team and race car were capable of challenging for overall honours, crystallised by a brace of sensational outright second places (and class victories) at Mondello Park in Ireland back in June.

more...

The new-for-2006 FIA GT3 regulations were always going to encourage intense competition across Europe - and that has certainly been the case with the British GT Championship. Former British Touring Car entrants Barwell Motorsport fielded two 550bhp Aston Martin DBRS9 GT3 cars, the Damax team, which has been at the forefront of GT racing for many years, boasted the works Ascari entries, with Trackspeed, Tech 9 Motorsport and RPM all relying on the popular 997 Porsche.

Notwithstanding the level and depth of GT3 competition this year, Lotus Sport Cadena has proven that the 1.8litre, 285bhp Lotus Exige GT3 race car is the leader in its class. Lotus would like to thank its suppliers and many supporters worldwide for their valued contribution to this year's programme.

- Ends -

For Further Information Please Contact:

***Clare Redgrave, Lotus Sport
tel: 01953 608830 and email: credgrave@lotuscars.co.uk***

Editors' Notes:

About Lotus Sport: Lotus Sport is the performance arm of Lotus Cars Ltd and is located at the Norfolk Head Office next to the famous Hethel test track. The department designs and builds modified versions of the standard Lotus road cars with special emphasis on upgraded performance, improved ride and handling packages and race specific safety equipment. Individual performance parts to customise or upgrade a vehicle are available via Lotus Sport and its workshops can service, repair, restore or upgrade a standard road or competition Lotus. In addition, Lotus Sport provides a range of driving packages using the renowned Hethel test circuit, including driver training and corporate days, as well as offering enthusiasts a guided tour of the Lotus factory.

About Cadena: Cadena was created specifically for the 2005 British GT Series although it did enter certain FIA GT and Spanish GT rounds with mixed results using the Mosler GT2 chassis. The origins of the team stem from a ten year interest in motor sport by team principal Paul Whight who has raced historic Aston Martins, CanAm cars and then the last Group C Aston Martin chassis – AMR-1 – which ran at Le Mans in 1989 at the hands of David Leslie. Previously, Paul Whight was involved in the successful campaign of a Lotus Sport Elise in the Cup Class of the 2004 British GT Series. Lotus Sport Cadena was created for the start of the 2006 British GT Championship season; the team is based on the site of the Lotus factory at Hethel.

Lotus Sport Exige GT3: The Lotus Sport Exige GT3, developed by Lotus Sport is a direct motorsport derivative of the highly successful Lotus Exige S road car. The Lotus designed and engineered race car uses the latest motorsport techniques and procedures to produce a lightweight yet strong carbon-fibre bodywork structure around the standard road-going Lotus Exige Aluminium extruded and bonded chassis. Lotus Sport designed a fully adjustable suspension system with double wishbones all round. Power is provided by race tuned version of the Exige S road car engine linked to sequential six-speed gearbox.