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## Motorsports Champions Join Legislators to Celebrate Achievements

**INDIANAPOLIS** (March 10, 2009) - Lawmakers and motorsports executives joined today to celebrate the date as Indiana Motorsports Day, celebrating the achievements of Indiana's motorsports champions.

Representatives of five Indiana-based racing series champions and executives from the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Indy Racing League and the National Hot Rod Association, gathered at the Statehouse for the celebration, which included the official unveiling of the 2009 Indianapolis 500 race ticket in front of the Indiana General Assembly.

"Hoosiers can be proud of Indiana race teams for their performances on the track," said Governor Mitch Daniels. "But of equal importance is the impact these teams are having as contributors to the Indiana economy."

The motorsports industry in Indiana includes more than 1,400 motorsports-specific businesses that employ thousands of Hoosiers. In 2008 alone, motorsports companies committed more than 250 jobs and \$17.6 million to expand their operations in the state.

"Indiana is the ideal geographic location for our racing team and manufacturing base. Competitive developments costs, low overhead and a skilled worker pool will allow us to succeed in the future," said Paul Langley, vice president of Vance and Hines Motorsports. "We look forward to our continued partnership with the state which will help us to continue developing and manufacturing more aftermarket high-performance motorcycle products for the worldwide market."

Among 2008 projects, Vance and Hines Motorsports, a manufacturer of aftermarket motorcycle exhaust systems, announced it would invest more than \$4 million to site a 66,000 square-foot manufacturing facility adjacent to its existing Brownsburg, Ind. race shop, creating 26 new jobs. The facility, which is the home of the NHRA Pro Stock Motorcycle Series Champion, Harley Davidson Screaming Eagle Race Team, was completed in December.

"Indiana's growing motorsports industry has solidified its position as the motorsports capital of the world," said Sen. Tom Wyss, chair of the Indiana Motorsports Caucus. "Today we congratulate these teams for their achievements and thank them for the role they play in the Indiana economy."

Honored at the event were: NHRA Top Fuel Dragster Series Champion, Schumacher Racing; NHRA Funny Car Series Champion, Cruz Pedregon Racing; NHRA Pro Stock Motorcycle Series Champion, Vance and Hines Motorsports; Indy Car Series Champion, Target Chip Ganassi Racing; and Grand Am Rolex Sports Car Series Champion, Chip Ganassi Racing.

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### About IEDC

Created by Governor Mitch Daniels in 2005 to replace the former Department of Commerce, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation is governed by a 12-member board chaired by Governor

*Daniels. Indiana Secretary of Commerce Mitch Roob serves as the chief executive officer of the IEDC. For more information about IEDC, visit [www.iedc.in.gov](http://www.iedc.in.gov).*

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