

YAS MARINA CIRCUIT ANNOUNCES LANDMARK PARTNERSHIP WITH DON SCHUMACHER RACING

DSR to assemble two complete Top Fuel teams to compete at first NHRA member track outside of the USA



BROWNSBURG, Ind. Jan. 17, 2010 – Yas Marina Circuit, the spectacular motor racing circuit in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, has partnered with Don Schumacher Racing (DSR), winner of eight NHRA championships and 136 races, to provide two complete Top Fuel dragster teams to be based in Abu Dhabi. The cars will first compete during the inaugural International Drag Racing Festival on March 18th – 20th at Yas Marina Circuit’s impressive new drag racing facility. In a separate agreement, Yas Marina Circuit becomes the first NHRA member facility outside of North America.

“Yas Marina Circuit is extremely proud to be associated with Don Schumacher Racing, the current and eight-times NHRA World Champions,” said Richard Cregan, CEO, Yas Marina Circuit. “Drag racing will be a significant and exciting cornerstone of establishing Yas Marina Circuit as a world class motor racing venue. Our partnership with Don Schumacher Racing, the world’s best drag racing team, will help us establish the Yas Drag Racing Centre and our Yas Drag Racing Team as serious contenders on the world drag racing stage.”

“What a fantastic opportunity that has been presented to DSR, to build two Top Fuel teams to run in Abu Dhabi at the spectacular Yas Marina Circuit,” said Don Schumacher, owner of Don Schumacher Racing, who visited the Yas Marina Circuit in October 2009. “This program began the Monday after Pomona (Calif.) and for these team members to accomplish what everyone will see in March is just incredible. The support from everyone in Abu Dhabi has been terrific and we plan on

building on this relationship in the years to come.”

At the inaugural International Drag Racing Festival the Yas Drag Racing Centre Top Fuel dragsters will be driven by nine-time NHRA winner Tommy Johnson, Jr., and 2007 Top Fuel Vice Champion Rod Fuller. The Yas Marina Circuit/DSR Top Fuel project is fronted by team manager Lee Beard, who has won more than 50 races as a crew chief and tuned 10 different drivers to NHRA victories in the Top Fuel and Funny Car ranks. The team leaders for the two Top Fuel cars are veteran crew members Rip Reynolds and Mike Domagala.

The Yas Drag Racing Centre is managed by George Case, a familiar name in the NHRA drag racing circles having managed the ultra-fast drag strip at Maple Grove Raceway in Reading, Pa. for more than 20 years. Case will have the support of Rashed Al Qubaisi, who holds a license from Frank Hawley's Drag Racing School. Case and Al Qubaisi will work with a world class team to design, build, tune and race drag racing vehicles at the Yas Drag Racing Centre.

[About Don Schumacher Racing](#)

Don Schumacher Racing, headquartered in Brownsburg, Ind., consists of six professional NHRA teams: The U.S. Army Top Fuel dragster driven by seven-time world champion Tony Schumacher; the FRAM dragster of Cory McClenathan, and the Matco Tools dragster of Antron Brown. The Funny Car teams are the NAPA AUTO PARTS Dodge driven by Ron Capps, the Valvoline/Mail Terminal Services Dodge piloted by Jack Beckman, and the shelor.com Dodge driven by NHRA rookie Matt Hagan. Since 1998, Don Schumacher Racing teams have won 136 national events in 260 final rounds, and eight world championships.

[In the picture – left to right](#)

Tommy Johnson Jnr (Yas Top Fuel Driver)

Mike Lewis (Senior Vice President, DSR)

Lee Beard (Top Fuel Team Manager, DSR)

Richard Cregan (CEO, Yas Marina Circuit)

Don Schumacher (CEO, DSR)

Rod Fuller (Yas Top Fuel driver)

Rashed Al Qubaisi (Deputy Drag Racing Manager, Yas Drag Racing Centre)

George Case (Senior Drag Racing Manager, Yas Drag Racing Centre)