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Contact: JDC-Miller MotorSports Prepared by: Movement Arts Motorsport Marketing
Additional Photos available upon request

2016 LMP2 FIA World Endurance Champion and 24 Hours of LeMans winner Gustavo Menezes joins JDC-Miller MotorSports for the 2018 Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona to complete the No. 99 Red Dragon™ line-up.



MINNEAPOLIS, MN. (December 28th, 2018) JDC-Miller MotorSports confirmed today that 23-year-old California native **Gustavo Menezes** will join the team for the 2018 Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona in the No. 99 Red Dragon JDC-Miller MotorSports GAINSCO insurance entry. Menezes is considered one of the brightest American talents in International Motorsport and won the 2016 LMP2 FIA World Endurance Championship as well as the 2016 24 Hours of the LeMans in the LMP2 category as an Alpine LMP2 manufacture driver.

Menezes was recently announced as one of the drivers for Rebellion Racing's 2018 LMP1 program. In 2017 Gustavo scored 3 wins and 8 podium finishes to follow up his 2016 World Championship winning campaign in which he earned 4 wins and 7 podium finishes.



"Gustavo was the driver we wanted to complete the # 99 driver line-up for Daytona and we super excited that he will come and race with us at Daytona," commented JDC-Miller MotorSports team Principal John Church.

"We first got to know Gustavo when he was competing in the US in the Mazda Road to Indy and have followed his career since he moved to Europe. Obviously his success and accomplishments speak for themselves, but for us it was also important that he has raced at Daytona several times and knows the car very well", Church explained.

"I am extremely excited to partner up with John and JDC for the Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona. Over the last two years I have had a blessed transition into sportscar racing, which saw a victory at the 24h Le Mans and the LMP2 World Endurance championship. With that said, I have been to Daytona several times and am still hungry to see what we can do and try to get ourselves on the top of the podium. The Rolex 24h of Daytona is one of the largest races in world for sportscars and I've always dreamed of battling for victory in the top class.

I have known the boys at JDC for several years now and Looking back at my early days in the junior open wheel ranks I have seen them triumph there and in the prototype classes alike. Partnering with GAINSCO and JDC is a fantastic way to start what will be a magical year for me, as well as a great way to close 2017 knowing I will be competing in the top class at Daytona and for the overall victory at Le Mans in 2018 with the move up to LMP1.

I have big faith in what the Gibson powered Oreca 07 LMP2 car can do when you put it alongside some of the other Dpi cars and look forward to bringing my experience to the team to give the others a run for their money", remarked Menezes.

Last week, the team announced a major partnership with GAINSCO Auto Insurance® for their 2018 line-up in the now newly rebranded # 99 GAINSCO Red Dragon car, which Menezes will share now for Daytona with JDC-Miller regulars Misha Goikhberg, Chris Miller and Stephen Simpson.

JDC-Miller will announce drivers for the remaining seats in the # 85 sister car for Daytona shortly.

More news about JDC Miller MotorSports 2018 **IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship** program is expected to be released soon.

www.gustavomenezes.com



JDC-Miller MotorSports races with major partnership support of [GAINSCO Auto Insurance](#) and [PSC Security](#) and associate sponsorship from [Hi-Tide Boat Lifts](#), [RedLineOil.com](#), Sabelt and [Justice Brothers, Inc.](#)

Additional information on JDC MotorSports can be obtained from the team's website @ www.jdcmotorsports.com
For direct contact, please contact John Church @ 612-963-3352 or jchurch@jdcmotorsports.com

About JDC MotorSports / JDC-Miller MotorSports:

Involved in formula car racing since its inception in 1994, JDC MotorSports originally founded by Minnesota natives John Church and Gerry Kraut, established itself as one of the leading junior open-wheel teams in North America before also becoming involved in IMSA SportsCar racing.

Kraut a Minnesota investment banker also competed with the team in numerous JDC open wheel and IMSA SportsCar programs and still races as a driver/owner on regular bases in the team's LMP 3 prototype program. He also was part of the team's first driver lineup during the 2014 12 Hours of Sebring, after the team made the move into the now called IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship under the entry JDC-Miller MotorSports.

Early success

Initially making its mark in the F2000 class of club racing competition, JDC MotorSports was soon a team worth watching in the pro ranks. Expanding into the Pro Mazda Championship in 2005, the Minnesota-based team remained focused on not only challenging for top honors, but also helping develop young drivers. Over the years, JDC MotorSports has won numerous races and championships.

JDC captured both the driver and team titles in the 2007 Star Mazda Championship, with Rookie of the Year Dane Cameron scoring a series-high three wins. The Minnesota-based team followed that up with a second Star Mazda Championship title with Rookie of the Year Adam Christodoulou, and the F2000 Championship Series title with Chris Miller in 2009.

JDC continued its winning ways one year later, earning the Rookie of the Year award in the Star Mazda Championship with Connor De Phillippi, and scoring a non-points win in the USF2000 National Championship with Misha Goikhberg.

The junior formula car standout secured its third Star Mazda Championship title in 2011 with Tristan Vautier, in addition to scoring a win in the USF2000 National Championship with Luke Ellery, as well as making its Prototype Lites Championship debut, earning five podium finishes.

In 2014 JDC MotorSports captured the Cooper Tires Prototype Lites driver and team champion with drivers Misha Goikhberg (2014 overall driver champion), Matt McMurry and JDC MotorSport owner and partner Gerry Kraut.

2014 was also the first year JDC MotorSports entered under JDC-Miller MotorSports with new program partner John Miller a program in the TUDOR United SportsCar Championship Prototype Challenge class, finishing 4th at its maiden race the 12 hours of Sebring and scored its first podium finishing 3rd at Road America.



Re-writing IMSA history

JDC Motorsports added to the tally in 2015 with another team and driver championship in the Cooper Tires Prototype Lites Powered by Mazda Championship. But there was more to celebrate along the way than the championship. In the 2015 Prototype Lites season, JDC Motorsports won every race and pole position. They won 32 out of 33 IMSA prototype Lites races dating back to August 2014, which marked one of the more remarkable streaks in North American sports car racing.

In their second season competing in the TUDOR United SportsCar Championship Prototype Challenge fulltime driver Misha Goikhberg finished 4th overall in 2015 prototype challenge class driver championship including three podiums and the team's first pole position at LimeRock Park.

In the 2016 season JDC-Miller MotorSports accomplished its biggest success so far winning the legendary Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona and later the Long Beach Grand Prix. Misha Goikhberg and regular full season teammate Stephen Simpson finished 3rd in the overall IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship Prototype Challenge class driver championship. The team also finished 3rd in 2016 Tequila Patron North American endurance cup driver championship and 2nd in the Tequila Patron North American endurance cup team championship.

Additional to the success in the 2016 IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, JDC secured the overall IMSA Prototype Lites driver championship with Clark Toppe, as well as the team and Masters Class championship with Joel Janco in 2016.

Current programs

In 2017 the team moved its JDC-Miller MotorSports program into the main Prototype class of the IMSA WeatherTech Sports Car Championship running an ORECA 07 Gibson WEC spec LMP2 prototype. After two consecutive 2nd place podium finishes and seven top five finishes overall, JDC-Miller MotorSports finished 4th in the overall driver and team point's championship which made the team the most successful non-manufacture LMP2-spec program in the series.

The team also campaigned a BMW 228i with drivers Michael Johnson and Stephen Simpson in the IMSA Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge and under the entry of JDC MotorSports with partner Gerry Kraut a multi-car program in the IMSA Prototype Challenge Championship.

2018 programs

For 2018 JDC-Miller MotorSports IMSA WeatherTech Sports Car Championship program will expand to a full season two car program with a second ORECA 07 Gibson WEC spec LMP2 prototype.

In the IMSA Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge championship the team will move into the new TCR class campaigning at least one Audi RS3 LMS TCR for Michael Johnson and Stephen Simpson.

In addition the team will run several Ligier JSP3 LMP3 prototypes under the entry of JDC MotorSports with partner Gerry Kraut in the 2018 IMSA Prototype Challenge Championship.

As of today all JDC programs combined secured a total of 18 Championships, 58 wins, 56 Pole Position and 190 podiums.

Attachments: Photo: on request JPEG

Possible Caption: Gustavo Menezes joins JDC-Miller MotorSports for the 2018 Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona to complete the No. 99 Red Dragon line-up.