



HAZLITT'S CIDER TREE TO JOIN THE MUSTANG SAMPLING ACTION EXPRESS RACING CORVETTE FOR THE SIX HOURS OF THE GLEN

HECTOR, N.Y. (June 3, 2015) - Hazlitt's Cider Tree will join the No. 5 Mustang Sampling Chevrolet Corvette DP, driven by João Barbosa and Christian Fittipaldi for the Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen on June 28 at Watkins Glen International.

Cider Tree is a premium hard cider produced by Hazlitt Orchard and Cider Crafters, a division of Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards, in Naples, N.Y. The partnership marks the first major entry into the motorsports arena for the Finger Lakes based company, and they will be partnered with the current Tequila Patrón North American Endurance Cup leaders.

"It's an exciting opportunity for our company to join with the defending IMSA TUDOR United SportsCar and Tequila Patrón North American Endurance Cup champions," said Dan DeBell, Executive Vice President at Hazlitt. "Our staff, distributors and retailers are thrilled to see our participation at this level of motorsports and we're confident the exposure for our brand will be extremely valuable."

Cider Tree joins full season sponsor Mustang Sampling on the No. 5 Corvette DP for a race that has been historically good for the North Carolina based team. Action Express Racing driver João Barbosa is a two-time champion of the Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen, winning in 2012 with co-driver Darren Law and then again in 2013 with current co-driver Christian Fittipaldi.

"We have a great history at Watkins Glen," said team owner Bob Johnson. "We've been fortunate enough to win the event twice, and finished third last year with Christian and João."

"It's a tremendous honor to have a well established local company in Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards joining our efforts for the race with their Cider Tree brand. We are looking forward to a great time and a strong run with them in the Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen."

For driver João Barbosa, few tracks get him as excited as Watkins Glen, and with two wins, it's easy to understand why the Portuguese driver loves the extremely fast Finger Lakes venue.

"Watkins Glen has always been one of my favorite stops on the schedule," said Barbosa. "When you've had success at a track you always feel confident returning and it is a great feeling to have a long-standing local company on our Mustang Sampling Corvette. Everyone at Cider Tree has been phenomenal to work with and we're looking forward to delivering a great result on race day for them."

Likewise, defending series champion Christian Fittipaldi is excited about the return to Watkins Glen International but even more excited to do it with a local flavor on board.

"I couldn't be more excited to get back to Watkins Glen for the six hours and that's being Honest to the Core," said Fittipaldi. "It's exciting to have a brand like Cider Tree take notice of what we are doing in IMSA and across the United States and decide they want to be part of it.

"I've had many sponsors in my career, but none that have been as refreshing as Cider Tree. We're going to do everything we can to make sure that we're spraying Cider Tree all over Victory Lane at the end of six hours."

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About: Hazlitt's Cider Tree

Hazlitt's Orchard & Cider Crafters produces locally grown hard ciders in the heart of Naples, New York using select apple varieties grown in our own backyard. Our carefully crafted premium hard ciders are pure, crisp, and naturally gluten free. The glass, the packaging, and the cider, everything we use is proudly made in the great state of New York. American Authentic. Honest to the Core. www.hazlittcidertree.com

About: Action Express Racing

Action Express Racing was formed in 2010 and won the first race the team entered, the Rolex 24 at Daytona. In six seasons, Action Express Racing has accumulated 11 wins and 30 podium finishes. The team experienced their best season on record in 2014 winning the IMSA TUDOR United SportsCar Championship and Tequila Patrón North American Endurance Cup. In 2015 the team ended a 50-year drought for Chevrolet by winning the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring, and recently won the Chevrolet Sports Car Showcase at the Detroit Grand Prix. www.axracing.com

