

For Immediate Release

**FORMER ATLANTIC CHAMPION LEE BENTHAM  
REJOINS FORSYTHE RACING AS DRIVER  
DEVELOPMENT COACH**

**Indianapolis**, Indiana – April 20, 2006 - Forsythe Championship Racing is proud to announce that former Champ Car Atlantic Champion Lee Bentham has rejoined the team as driver development coach for its four-car entry in the 2006 Atlantic Championship. Bentham, who won his 1998 championship driving the #33 Players-Forsythe Atlantic car, has spent the last years working as a professional driver and spokesperson in the realm of corporate events and marketing as well as color commentary work for radio coverage of the Molson Grand Prix of Toronto.

**Lee Bentham:**

“I was honored to get the call from John Brunner (Forsythe Atlantic Team Manager) about coaching the Atlantic team this year. Not only do I have a successful and winning past with Forsythe having won the championship in 1998, but I’ve gained many good friends because of it. I am proud of our history together and am excited for that relationship to continue in this new capacity. After coming to Long Beach and meeting the drivers for the first time, as well as seeing what a great job they have done assembling the crew for an impressive four-car team, I am confident we have the tools we need to accomplish the goals we’ve set our sights on. I’m impressed at all of our drivers for the short time I have known them so far, and look forward to a great season. There is definitely a grid full of talent this season, but the challenges lying ahead will only make our drivers stronger in the end.”

**John Brunner, Forsythe Atlantic Team Manager:**

“I’m very happy to be working with Lee again. I was Assistant Team Manager back when he won his Championship and I believe his experience will be very beneficial to our four drivers, engineers and tire team.

I'm looking forward to winning another championship with him!"

**Leo Maia, Driver**

**#7 INDECK Mazda-Cosworth/Yokohama/Swift**

"Having a driver coach at the race track is very important. As a driver, you don't always know what you're doing right or wrong all the time. Lee Bentham is the best around and he has a history of success not only in Atlantic, but with Forsythe as well. He was only able to make it to Long Beach on Sunday but he helped me break into the top ten for the first time all weekend. Lee is a champion and will be an invaluable asset to me and my teammates."

**Andreas Wirth, Driver**

**#37 INDECK/Wirth Solar Mazda-Cosworth/  
Yokohama/Swift**

"I think Lee will be definitely a great fit in our team and will help us to get better on and off track. He is a very cool and open guy and I think we will have a lot of fun with him this year for sure! It is very nice to have a former Atlantic champion as coach and I'm looking forward to working with him."

**James Hinchcliffe, Driver**

**#3 Emexis/INDECK Mazda-Cosworth/Yokohama/  
Swift**

"I am really pleased that we were able to retain Lee for this year. He is a great driver and an overall cool guy; down to earth, really funny and knows a racecar inside-out. He has good technical knowledge and he knows how to win Atlantic championships because he has done it! With Lee on board we'll be able to get on top of things that much quicker which will really strengthen the whole team."

**Richard Philippe, Driver**

**#33 INDECK Mazda-Cosworth/Yokohama/Swift**

"I'm really excited to have Lee jump on board for this season! He will definitely help all of us with his experience in racing in general. We all met him in Long Beach and he seems like a really cool guy, I can't wait

for him to get on the radio and ask me to push more in certain corners! Once again Forsythe provides the best of the best!"

The Forsythe Championship Racing Atlantic Team next heads to Houston, Texas in early May for a week of testing and racing. On Sunday and Monday, May 7-8, the team will join other Atlantic teams for two days of testing at MSR Houston Raceway south of town (not open to the public). Following that test, the team will pack up the two Forsythe Atlantic transporters and move to the grounds of Reliant Stadium and the Astrodome for the Grand Prix of Houston, May 11-13. This new event marks Round 2 of the Series as Yokohama Presents the Champ Car Atlantic Championship Presented by Mazda, with the Atlantic "Fast Trac 100" race scheduled for 5:15pm local/CT (6:15 ET, 22:15 UTC). The race can be seen live on the Internet by visiting the official website of Atlantic at [www.champcaratlantic.com](http://www.champcaratlantic.com), and tape-delayed on Speed TV Saturday, May 20th at 1pm ET.

Joe Kirklin – Atlantic Media Relations  
Forsythe Racing, Inc.  
Cell (530) 415-9213  
[joe@forsythe-racing.com](mailto:joe@forsythe-racing.com)  
520 Olive Street, Suite C, Marysville CA 95901

Toni Calderon – Champ Car Media Relations  
Forsythe Racing, Inc.  
Cell (512) 699-6260  
[tcalderon@forsythe-racing.com](mailto:tcalderon@forsythe-racing.com)  
1111 S. Willis Avenue, Wheeling IL 60090

#### CHAMP CAR

Paul Tracy (#3 INDECK Ford-Cosworth/Bridgestone/Lola)  
Mario Dominguez (#7 INDECK Ford-Cosworth/Bridgestone/Lola)

#### ATLANTIC

James Hinchcliffe (#3 Emexis/INDECK Mazda-Cosworth/  
Yokohama/Swift 016.a)

Leonardo Maia (#7 INDECK Mazda-Cosworth/Yokohama/  
Swift 016.a),

Richard Philippe (#33 INDECK Mazda-Cosworth/Yokohama/  
Swift 016.a)

Andreas Wirth (#37 INDECK/Wirth Solar Mazda-Cosworth/  
Yokohama/Swift 016.a)