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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Successful Debut Weekend for the Lake Forest Sportscars #007 Aston Martin Racecar



**Joliet, IL (July 26, 2009)**—The roar of a screaming V12 engine and a trail of smoke engulfed the crowd as the #007 Aston Martin DBRS9 left pit lane this past Sunday during the SCCA Pro Speed World Challenge GT race. The Autobahn Grand Prix marked the first time that professional road racing had visited the Chicago area in 40 years, with 7 different series taking to the 3.6 mile circuit. Piloted by 22-year-old Lake Forest, Ill. native Nick Mancuso, the #007 Lake Forest Sportscars entry faced an uphill battle as it was forced to start from pit lane due to a mechanical problem earlier in the weekend. Mancuso would have to watch as the other 20 cars went by at the start before he was released by the officials. “We definitely faced some adversity this weekend,” Mancuso noted. “I had literally never sat in the car before this weekend, but our team really pulled together and focused. All I did was keep the car out of trouble and make a few passes when the opportunities presented themselves.” However, Mancuso did more than just keep the car out of trouble, the World Challenge rookie worked the Aston up to a 9th place finish earning the Sunoco Hard Charger award for passing the most amount of cars on track. (more)

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"We gained a lot of useful information to build on for the future," James Pauly, crew chief for the #007 said. "With this being a new car to the team, and with virtually no testing, our ninth place finish shows potential in both the car and the driver." The Speed World Challenge GT series is already six races into their schedule, making the debut of a new car that much more challenging.

"My goal was simply to drive this gorgeous DBRS9 half as good as it looks and sounds," Mancuso exclaimed. "And judging by the reactions of both the fans and corner workers on my cool-down lap, I would say: mission accomplished!"

The 50-minute Autobahn race will be televised on the SPEED channel Tuesday, August 18 at 2 p.m. (EST). The #007 will make its next appearance at the Time Warner Cable Road Race Showcase on August 15–16 at Road America in Elkhart Lake, Wis. alongside the American LeMans Series.

The Aston Martin DBRS9 is based on its ever-popular road-going cousin the DB9. With the extensive use of carbon composite materials the DBRS9 is 480 kg lighter and Aston Martin Racing engineers have tuned up the DB9's standard 12-cylinder, six-liter engine to produce approximately 550 hp.

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