2006 RACING PROGRAMME

Following on from a triumphant season in 2005, in which they dominated the British GT Championship, the Scuderia Ecosse team today announced ambitious plans for the 2006 racing season.

GOING INTERNATIONAL IN THE FIA GT CHAMPIONSHIP

The team's main endeavour in 2006 will be the FIA GT Championship where they will run two cars in what will be the most competitive GT2 class for many years. Although the team will be in new surroundings and competing on many new circuits, the driver line-up will look very familiar. 2005 British GT Champions, Nathan Kinch and Andrew Kirkaldy, have teamed up again and are hoping to continue their winning streak. Joining Nathan and Andrew are Chris Niarchos and Tim Mullen, also stepping up to the international level and hoping for success.

A SCORE TO SETTLE AT HOME

As well as running the winners of the 2005 British GT Championship, Scuderia Ecosse also ran the runners-up: Chris Niarchos and Tim Mullen. In addition to their FIA GT duties, Chris and Tim have taken the decision to also enter the British Championship and they are in it to win it! The pair will face stiff opposition from Mosler, Panoz and Porsche, to name a few, but they are determined to take the spoils this year, starting at Oulton Park on 15 April.

THE RETURN TO LE MANS

Scuderia Ecosse is again thrilled to have received a confirmed entry into the Le Mans 24 Hours. The driver line-up for the sportscar classic will be announced in the coming weeks.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE 430s

After great success with the Ferrari 360s - indeed taking that model's last international win at Istanbul Park in November – Scuderia Ecosse is honoured to be running a pair of all-new Ferrari 430s in 2006. The team will complete two shakedown tests at Fiorano in Italy this month, before the cars begin an intensive pre-season test programme.

STRONG STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Scuderia Ecosse is delighted to be working with some fantastic technical partners in 2006: BERU F1 Systems, GIORGIO, Paoli, Lista, The Awning Company, Sachs, BBS, Performance Friction Brakes, Tubi Style Exhausts, Eibach Springs, Michelotto and Knockhill are all supporting the 2006 racing programme. The team will run with Avon Tyres in the British GT Championship and will soon announce its tyre supplier for the FIA GT Championship.

"This is a huge year for Scuderia Ecosse," commented Team Principal Stewart Roden. "We had a lot of success with the Ferrari 360s – 19 wins in two years – so we are sad to see them go, but we have exciting times ahead with Maranello's latest gem! Over the winter we have welcomed some new partners and are delighted to have renewed deals with our long-term supporters. One of our biggest strengths is people power: I have a great team here and our strength lies in continuity. By keeping the same team and the same drivers we cut out all the acclimatisation time and can get straight down to business!"

DIARY NOTE: The first opportunity to see Scuderia Ecosse running a Ferrari 430 and hear the driver's views on the new car will be on 24 March at Knockhill in Scotland. Full details to follow soon.

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