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PenTeleData Sponsors Local Driver at Nationally Televised SCCA Championship – Car Painted Patriotic in Memory of Terrorist Victims

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PenTeleData, Pennsylvania's largest and oldest provider of Internet service, Data connectivity, Web hosting and Security services is proud to sponsor **local** driver Joel Lipperini – racing his freshly-painted PenTeleData Nissan Motorsports 200 SX SE-R at the National SCCA SSC-class championship Valvoline Runoffs race this Friday, September 21st, 2001 in Lexington, Ohio.

Dedicated to the memory of the thousands of victims of the recent terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, DC and southwestern Pennsylvania, auto body shop proprietor Carey Giadosh of Giadosh Enterprises of Forty-Fort, Pennsylvania gladly donated last-minute resources to the **PenTeleData Motorsports** Nissan by painting red, white and blue colors– in the *shape* of an American flag – over the whole body of the #81 race car.

The racing community also suffered the loss of two SCCA members. It was recently confirmed that Joe DeLuca, and Linda Gronlund were passengers on the plane that was hijacked and subsequently crashed outside of Pittsburgh.

“In our own way, I think it shows the rest of America that we care about our the victims and America. I genuinely believe that,” car driver Lipperini said. “It helps show that the terrorists can’t break our spirit.”

Lipperini explained that as a race car driver, he wanted to find a creative manner in which to express his patriotic message.

“Our racecar is our canvas. I wanted to use that symbol as a reminder, a monument, a rolling memorial,” he said. “It’s the strongest way that I and the team, can express how we feel -- in the race car on the track.”

Immediately after he was contacted about painting the patriotic red, white and blue colors of the American flag over the whole car, Carey Giadosh said he accepted the project and sidelined all other projects. They made the work top priority so the car would be ready to leave this weekend for the race in Ohio next week. Giadosh Enterprises decided to simply donate the work as his piece of remembering the victims of this American tragedy.

“I’ve stopped all work on the other cars in here just so I could get this done on time, before the race,” he said.

Once contacted by telephone, Giadosh “without hesitation” committed to the patriotic paintwork, Lipperini said.

“Tremendous thanks go out to Carey Giadosh of Giadosh Enterprises and PenTeleData for making it possible for us to be able to express ourselves,” Lipperini said.

Advancing him to the National runoffs in Mid-Ohio from the Northeast Division (NEDIV), Lipperini finished this season with a second-place standing, coming in at 52 points, merely 6 points behind the leader.

For the first time, this premier SCCA Valvoline Runoff championship can be followed via live streaming audio Internet broadcast at www.peavey.com. In addition, all 24 races at the 2001 National Championship event will be televised on the Speedvision Network. Each of the 45.6-mile Runoffs races will be recorded and aired on Speedvision. Go to www.speedvision.com for airdates and times.

Race Information:

To gain an invitation to the National Runoffs, each division in the country (8 in total) hold National race events where drivers compete for national. Each contender can participate in as many National races as they want, but can only count the points from their top six finishes.

Only the top 10 competitors per Division in each of the 24 classes are invited to the Runoffs, so competition usually comes down to the last National events of the year held over the Labor Day weekend. Many drivers spend the end of the summer "chasing points" by traveling to races out of their own Division and acquiring the extra points necessary to guarantee them an invitation to the prestigious Runoffs.

Set in the scenic hills of Morrow and Richland counties in North Central Ohio, Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course is located in Lexington, Ohio, 60 miles north of Columbus and 75 miles south of Cleveland.

Traditionally, the SCCA National Championship Valvoline Runoffs has come close to being considered in the industry as the equivalent to **the Olympic Games**. This extraordinary weeklong event hosts 700 amateur drivers competing in 24 different classes in seven categories.

Drivers from all 50 states and Canada will descend on America's most competitive road course September 17-23 for seven days of racing action to crown SCCA Club Racing national champions. The road to the Runoffs is neither short nor smooth. The competitors who've made the races have spent this racing season accumulating qualifying points, making this journey to the Runoffs the crown jewel of amateur auto racing in the world.

Car and Driver magazine has called the Valvoline Runoffs® one of its "**Top Ten Racing Events**" of motorsports. With so many competitors, so many classes and so many events, it's a feast for racing fans. Each race in each of the 24 classes is 20 laps in duration and features fiercely competitive racing.

Hosting this amateur racing showcase for the eighth consecutive seasons, the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course features The best Showroom Stock, Production, Grand Touring, Formula, Sports Racer, American Sedan and Touring cars and drivers from around the country are on display and in action throughout the week, challenging one of the toughest, most demanding racing circuits anywhere.

While the big names make thousands or even millions of dollars a year, normally club racers compete for trophies. There are a few classes supported by contingency sponsors throughout the season, but most of the time when a club driver is on the track it's to test himself against his fellow competitors.

Winning a National Championship at the Runoffs means defeating the best club racing has to offer as well as bragging rights to say "I am the best in the country." The long list of past National Champions reads like a "who's who" of motor racing. Bobby Rahal, Jimmy Vassar, Scott Sharp, Elliott Forbes Robinson, Skip Barber, Paul Newman, and Dave Weitzenhof are just a few of the familiar names. For many of these drivers, a National Championship was just a stepping stone on their way to making a name for themselves in auto racing.

A National Championship looks good on the racing resume and can help with sponsorship proposals for the following year. Securing a sponsor can help with a bigger and better season for the following year, be it in Club or Pro.

Many Club drivers do not want to be professional drivers one day and are content to test themselves each year at the Runoffs, which makes for lots of return entries each year. During the 24 years the Runoffs were held at Road Atlanta, many of the competitors gathered quite a following of local fans. The move to Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course is the perfect opportunity to expose these same drivers to a whole new group of spectators and race fans.

The number of entries have grown steadily over the past 30 years. The 1995 Runoffs had 692 entries, the highest number ever. The spectator attendance over the past 30 years has averaged 15,000 people per year, and the move to Mid-Ohio has seen that number increase dramatically with the large motorsport fan base in the area. The biggest race in Club Racing has always been supported by the workers from across the country. The 2001 race will again see workers from as far away as Hawaii and British Columbia, Canada.

Company Information:

Founded in 1994, PenTeleData is currently Pennsylvania's largest provider of Internet service and Data connectivity. PenTeleData has engineered one of the sturdiest, multi-megabit, redundant, fully-meshed, privately-owned networks in the nation. Running on high-speed lines (OC-12, OC-3, DS3, DS1) and OC-12/OC-3 SONET rings, the PenTeleData ATM network (asynchronous transfer mode) -- with more than 60 Points of Presence (PoPs) throughout

Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey -- delivers Voice, Video, Data and Internet services through the region.

PenTeleData remains a family-run organization with its heart based in northeastern Pennsylvania. PenTeleData was the first company in the United States to offer High-Speed Internet access over a standard cable television connection. These milestones define PenTeleData's commitment and dedication to providing leading Internet and Networking services to the region.

In addition to our state-of-the-art high-speed connections, here is a sample of some of PenTeleData's dynamic professional services:

- Dedicated Internet Access
- Dialup Internet Access
- High-Speed Cable Internet Access
- High-Speed DSL Internet Access
- Internet Access Filtering
- Offsite Managed Firewalls
- Shadow Services
- Wan / MAN Design & Configuration
- Private / Public Networks (ATM, Frame Relay, Cable, DSL)
- EtherPoint
- Point-to-Point High-Speed Lines (T-1, T-3, OC-3, OC-12, OC-48)
- Onsite / Offsite Consulting
- Onsite Managed Firewalls
- VPNs (Virtual Private Networks)
- Web Design & Hosting
- Secure Web Services
- E-Commerce Solutions
- Web Database Services
- Real Audio / Real Video
- Managed Web Servers
- Managed Mail Servers
- Mass Data Storage
- Remote Backup Data Storage
- Hardware Sales (Fore-Marconi, Cisco, 3Com)
- Warranty Support
- Integration Service Team