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American Ethanol Raises the Green Flag in Kansas *Ethanol Producers, Corn Farmers Rally at Kansas 400*

KANSAS CITY – When the green flag waves at the Kansas Speedway for this weekend’s NASCAR events, more than 1,100 American Ethanol supporters, including a host of farmers, will be in the stands to cheer on Clint Bowyer, driving a special-edition American Ethanol paint scheme on his No. 33 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race.

“There’s no sport more American than NASCAR, and no fuel more American than domestic ethanol,” said Tom Buis, CEO of Growth Energy, the leading organization behind American Ethanol. “People in Kansas know the benefits of using ethanol as a fuel – from cleaning the air to creating jobs to fostering national energy independence. We’re pleased to raise the green American Ethanol flag in the heartland of America.”

“We knew the introduction of Sunoco Green E15 to NASCAR racing vehicles would get a lot of attention because it’s a good fit for NASCAR’s green initiative, and because of the increased horsepower on the track,” said NCGA Chairman Darrin Ihnen. “Drivers have been impressed with the power the fuel provides them under race conditions. Through our partnership with NASCAR, we are able to show the American public that if E-15 can stand the stress these drivers put it through, it’s good for the family car, too.”

Corn ethanol reduces greenhouse gas emissions by up to 59 percent and is responsible for supporting nearly 400,000 American jobs. Last year, the U.S. ethanol industry accounted for \$53.6 billion of the nation’s economy, putting \$36 billion in the hands of American consumers. Ethanol is the only commercially-viable alternative fuel in the United States and strengthens the nation’s energy independence.

Earlier this year, American Ethanol announced a new marketing partnership with NASCAR and Richard Childress Racing, one of the top teams in the sport. Unique among other companies that partner with NASCAR for marketing, American Ethanol represents an entire industry, from corn farmers to ethanol producers to the companies that supply the enzymes for ethanol distillation.

More than 1,100 American Ethanol supporters will rally at the Kansas Speedway for the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series and Sprint Cup Series races this weekend.

For the first time, American Ethanol’s logo and paint scheme will be seen on a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race car: Clint Bowyer’s No. 33 Chevrolet, which he will drive in Sunday’s 400-mile race.

“It’s truly an honor to have American Ethanol on the No. 33 Chevrolet this weekend,” said Bowyer. “Born and raised in Kansas, I support American farmers as they strive to develop energy independence for our country and I look forward to representing American Ethanol both on and off the track this weekend at Kansas Speedway.”

Also new, Kansas Speedway has displayed the American Ethanol logo along the backstretch wall of the 1.5-mile facility. Millions of Americans watching the race, as well as the expected 100,000 race fans in attendance will see the logo on the backstretch wall.

Through its partnership with NASCAR, which is using Sunoco Green E-15 racing fuel this season, American Ethanol is promoting the nation’s homegrown, clean-burning alternative fuel to the millions of brand-loyal NASCAR racing fans. NASCAR has made a seamless transition to the new fuel by developing and implementing flawless distribution at the track, where many racing teams report an increase in horsepower.

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About Growth Energy

Growth Energy represents the producers and supporters of ethanol who feed the world and fuel America in ways that achieve energy independence, improve economic well-being and create a healthier environment for all Americans now. Learn more at growthenergy.org.

About National Corn Growers Association

Founded in 1957, the National Corn Growers Association represents 35,000 dues-paying corn farmers nationwide and the interests of more than 300,000 growers who contribute through corn checkoff programs in their states. NCGA and its 48 affiliated state associations and checkoff organizations work together to create and increase opportunities for their members and their industry. For more information, visit www.ncga.com.

About Richard Childress Racing

Richard Childress Racing (www.rcrracing.com) has earned more than 190 victories and 12 NASCAR championships, including six in the Sprint Cup Series with the legendary Dale Earnhardt. RCR was the first organization to win championships in the Sprint Cup Series, Nationwide Series and Camping World Truck Series. Its 2011 Sprint Cup Series lineup includes Paul Menard (No. 27 Menard’s Chevrolet), Kevin Harvick (No. 29 Budweiser Chevrolet), Jeff Burton (No. 31 Caterpillar Chevrolet) and Clint Bowyer (No. 33 Cheerios/Hamburger Helper Chevrolet). Its Camping World Truck Series program includes 2010 Rookie of the Year Austin Dillon (No. 3 Bass Pro Shops Chevrolet) and Joey Coulter, Jr. (No. 22 RCR Development Chevrolet). Tim George Jr. (No 31 RCR Development Chevrolet) and Ty Dillon (No. 41 Chevrolet) will compete in the **2011 ARCA Racing Series** presented by Menards.

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