



Media Information

VOLKSWAGEN OF AMERICA, INC.

3800Hamlin Road
AuburnHills,MI48326
Tel. 248/754-5000
Fax 248/754-5540
www.media.vw.com
(Registration Required)

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CONTACT: Tom Wegehaupt
248-754-5965
Thomas.Wegehaupt@vw.com

Volkswagen Selects Local Driver for New Jetta TDI Cup Race Series

Thirty up and coming drivers to launch new environmentally responsible race series

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. – Volkswagen of America has announced that Mark Pombo, 25, Duluth, Ga., is one of the drivers competing in the new Jetta TDI Cup series. Pombo was chosen at a driver selection event April 3-6 at the Firebird Raceway in Phoenix, Ariz.

The Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup series is an innovative approach to motorsports – 30 factory-prepared and managed 2009 clean-diesel Jetta TDIs will be piloted by talented, up-and-coming drivers, aged 16 to 26. Volkswagen's goal is to find the driver with the most talent and help them break into the world of professional motorsports. The Jetta TDI Cup series is sanctioned by the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) Pro Racing Inc.

“We’re offering a unique opportunity for some of the best and brightest drivers to get their start in a factory-backed racing series,” said Clark Campbell, motorsport manager, Volkswagen of America, Inc. “Through an exhausting driver evaluation process where we looked at a variety of factors including driving ability and potential, media and marketing skills and overall fit and chose the 30 best drivers to help promote Volkswagen, our new clean diesel and ultimately themselves.”

The concept is as revolutionary as the car, which is powered by a 2.0-liter, four-cylinder TDI, clean diesel engine. The Jetta TDI is lightly modified from spec, featuring race-ready suspension and

brakes, and a 6-speed double-clutch automatic DSG transmission. Additionally, to highlight its environmental dedication, Volkswagen has partnered with Carbonfund.org to certify the entire race series as carbon free.

In the end, the winner of the race series will be awarded \$100,000 from Volkswagen to aide them in their next steps as a professional racer. An additional \$150,000 will be given to the winner if he or she signs a contract with another professional level team within six months of winning the Jetta TDI Cup series.

2008 Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup Schedule

Date	Track	With
April 25-27	VIRginia International Raceway	Grand-Am / SPEED Touring Car
May 17-18	Mosport International Raceway	Canadian Touring Car / MX-5 Cup
Aug 14-17	Lime Rock Park	NASCAR Camping World Series
Sept. 19-20	Iowa Speedway	USAR Hooters Pro Cup
Sept. 27-28	New Jersey Motorsports Park*	SPEED World Challenge/ARCA
Oct. 1-3	Road Atlanta	ALMS / SPEED World Challenge

Founded in 1955, Volkswagen of America, Inc. is headquartered in Auburn Hills, Michigan. It is a subsidiary of Volkswagen AG, headquartered in Wolfsburg, Germany. Volkswagen is one of the world's largest producers of passenger cars and Europe's largest automaker. Volkswagen sells the Rabbit, New Beetle, New Beetle convertible, GTI, Jetta, GLI, Passat, Passat wagon, Eos, and Touareg through approximately 600 independent U.S. dealers. Visit Volkswagen of America online at www.vw.com.