

KV Racing pre-race release Kentucky



4001 Methanol Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46268 Phone: (317) 291-1500 Fax: (317) 291-1555 Website: www.kvracingtechnology.com

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Contact: Kevin Diamond Phone: (415) 332-2016 Mobile: (415) 729-6011 Email: kdpr@worldnet.att.net

KV RACING TECHNOLOGY TRIES TO SOLIDIFY TOP-10 SPOTS IN STANDINGS THIS WEEKEND IN KENTUCKY

INDIANAPOLIS, IN -- AUGUST 7, 2008 -- Round #14 2008 IndyCar Series season -- KV Racing Technology will try to solidify spots in the top-10 in the championship standings this weekend at the Meijer Indy 300, August 8-9, at Kentucky Speedway in Sparta, Kentucky.

KVRT drivers Oriol Servia, KV Racing Technology #5 Honda/Dallara/Firestone, currently eighth in the standings with 280 points, and Will Power, KV Racing Technology #8 Aussie Vineyards – Team Australia Honda/Dallara/Firestone, ranked 11th with 257, were both upbeat about their chances this weekend following last week's test on the 1.5-mile Kentucky tri-oval.

"Once again, Kentucky is a track that KV Racing Technology has not raced on before, but we were able to test there last week and that gave us an opportunity to collect a lot of valuable data for this weekend," Servia said. "Hopefully, because of the test, we will not be as far behind as we have been on some of the other ovals and we can qualify a little farther up the grid."

Servia went on to say, "This is an important weekend for us. If we produce a good result here we can strengthen our position in the standings and then, hopefully, finish the season strong."

Power said, "It was really nice to get a test day at Kentucky Speedway, It was an opportunity to try new things with the KVRT Aussie Vineyards car. I think it was a good test, so I am confident we can run in the top-10 this weekend and hopefully move into the top-10 in the standings."

Servia, who will be making his 139th career start and 36th on an oval, is in his ninth U.S. based open-wheel season, but first in the IndyCar Series. However, he is not considered an IndyCar rookie because of his extensive oval experience. In 35 career oval starts, Servia has 17 top-10 finishes with 10 top-five showings and three podiums. His best oval finishes are seconds at Milwaukee in 2003 and Las Vegas in 2005. Servia, 34, has finished in the top-10 in six of the 13 races this year with four top-five showings (fifths at Long Beach and Richmond, plus back-to-back fifths at Mid-Ohio and Edmonton). He is the highest ranked driver not a member of Andretti Green, Ganassi or Penske Racing, and has been the best of the drivers transitioning from Champ Car to the IndyCar Series this year, especially on ovals. The native of Spain has recorded the highest finish on an oval of the transition drivers placing fifth in Richmond and has the best finish on four of the eight ovals contested this year, Homestead, 12th; Indy, 11th; Milwaukee, sixth; Richmond, fifth, and the second best in Kansas, 11th. He is 44 points out of fifth place.

Power, making his 44th career start, but just 10th on an oval, came into this season with just one oval start on his resume, an 11th place finish in Milwaukee in 2006. He spent the first two oval races of the season learning the nuances of racing on tracks with only left turns, but has now clearly found a comfort level on ovals. The 27-year-old Australian has finished five of the last six oval races picking up his first career top-10 finish on an oval in the process, a ninth place showing at Iowa. Power's showing in Iowa was the

best of the transition drivers. He has the second best finish at three other oval events, 13ths at Indy and Texas, and 11th at Nashville. Power has finished in the top-10 in four of the 13 races this year (three times on road or street circuits) including two top-five showings and a win at Long Beach (Champ Car's final event where he earned IndyCar points, but did not compete against the majority of the IndyCar teams). He is 19 points out of 10th place and second in the Bombardier Learjet Rookie of the Year race, 29 points behind Hideki Mutoh.

With just four points paying races remaining in the 2008 season, two on ovals, one road course and one street race, every race is crucial to KVRT's chances of earning the valuable championship points necessary to claim a spot in the top-10 in the final standings. KVRT has been very competitive on the road/street circuits this year and extremely consistent on ovals where a lack of experience and data has made it more difficult for the transition teams. The team has had the best finish of the transition teams at five of the eight oval events contested this year (Servia, four; Power, one) and the best or second best finish in all eight.

The Meijer Indy is Round #14 of the 2008 IndyCar Series season. The race will be broadcast live on ESPN2 at 6:30 p.m. ET.

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