



FOCUS FORWARD

RYAN HUNTER-REAY TAKES PART IN TUESDAY'S GRAND OPENING OF POET BIOREFINING ETHANOL PLANT IN OHIO

FOSTORIA, Ohio (September 30, 2008) – After consuming more than his fair share of 100 percent fuel-grade Ethanol this year as the driver of the #17 Ethanol-sponsored Rahal Letterman Racing Indy Car, Ryan Hunter-Reay took the time today to celebrate the opening of a plant that will put 65 million gallons of Ethanol back into the economy every year.

Hunter-Reay journeyed to Fostoria, Ohio on Tuesday to join a host of Buckeye State dignitaries in the grand opening of POET Biorefining's new Ethanol production facility. The new facility is the second to open in Ohio and its state-of-the-art refining process will yield not only 65 million gallons of Ethanol, but also will create POET's high-quality livestock feed grain, Dakota Gold.

A large crowd of more than 2,000 people came from throughout Northwest Ohio to participate in the grand opening ceremonies, including many students from nearby schools. Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Robert Boggs was on hand along with Ohio Congressman Bob Latta, Fostoria Mayor John Davoli, Buckeye Renewable Fuels Mike Wagner and POET CEO Jeff Broin, who just last week spoke at a renewable energy forum at the United Nations.

"I am very pleased to be able to be here today to help open the plant, and to further the cause of Ethanol," Hunter-Reay told the crowd. "In the IndyCar Series, we have done a lot to dispel the negative myths about the performance of Ethanol, and I look forward to doing even more in the years to come."

The Ethanol IndyCar show car was on hand at the Fostoria plant as well, and Hunter-Reay was able to spend some time with the local farmers and students, signing autographs after the formal program was completed.

"It was great to be able to take Ethanol to Victory Lane last year in the IndyCar Series with our win at Watkins Glen," recalled Hunter-Reay, "But we aren't going to rest on that win. We have a lot of work to do to get to the level we want to be at, but with the people in the Ethanol industry behind us, we'll be able to get there!"