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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOLAR RACING NEWS

Cars that run off the sun to race Route 66 in 2001

Golden, Colo., Nov. 14, 2000 — They look more like miniature spaceships than the Corvette George Maharis drove in the TV series "Route 66." But these cars have the same mission: conquer the road between Chicago and the Los Angeles area.

In what could be called a blast along a road from the past, the American Solar Challenge (ASC), a solar-powered car race to be held from July 15-25, 2001, will follow historic Route 66, where many traveling Americans developed their passion for the open road. But, these cars will make the trip without using a single drop of fuel.

The ASC will be the longest solar car race in the world at 2,300 miles. Unlike past U.S. solar car races, the ASC will feature as many as 60 solar-powered cars built by a variety of organizations – university teams, companies, clubs and individuals worldwide.

ASC's mission is to advance renewable energy and electric vehicle technologies, promote educational and engineering excellence, encourage environmental consciousness and teach teamwork.

ASC also provides hands-on experience for engineering students, enabling them to build their technical skills for the new century's marketplace.

Sponsors for the race include the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), its National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colo., and Terion in Melbourne, Fla.

DOE will provide \$400,000 to race organizer New Resources Group to support the planning, management and conduct of the race.

(more)

AMERICAN SOLAR CHALLENGE

Companies or other organizations interested in co-sponsoring or supporting the race should contact Dan Eberle, race director, Formula Sun, P.O. Box 30, Freeman, Mo. 64746, 1-800-840-5511 or deberle@formulasun.org. Those interested in supporting a particular team should contact that team directly.

A list of participating teams is available online at <http://www.formulasun.org> or from Eberle. Race regulations and route information also can be obtained from the Web site.

In addition to the start and finish points, the solar cars will stop at 13 checkpoints along the route including Springfield, Ill.; Rolla, Mo.; Neosho, Mo.; Tulsa, Okla.; Edmond, Okla.; Sayre, Okla.; Amarillo, Texas; Tucumcari, N.M.; Albuquerque, N.M.; Gallup, N.M.; Flagstaff, Ariz.; Kingman, Ariz.; and Barstow, Calif.

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American Solar Challenge Press Center Ñ 1617 Cole Boulevard Ñ Golden, Colo. 80401 Ñ FAX: 303-275-4788 Ñ media@formulasun.org Ñ ASC is a Formula Sun Event Ñ PO Box 30 Ñ Freeman, Mo. 64746 Ñ ASC trial run photos are available online at <http://www.formulasun.org/asc/media.html>