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## NUR ALI ENTERS DAYTONA WITH CUNNINGHAM MOTORSPORTS

Fort Worth, Texas (January 13, 2009) - Nur Ali, one of stock car racing's most diverse drivers, recently announced that he will compete in the February 7 running of the Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200 ARCA RE/MAX Series race at Daytona International Speedway. Ali, the first and only Asian-American to compete in the series, has partnered with Cunningham Motorsports and will drive the No. 45 A to Z Wholesale Dodge.

The 34-year-old driver has two career starts in the ARCA RE/MAX Series and made his series debut last season at Daytona. Prior to setting his sights on a career in stock cars, Ali spent much of his career in open-wheel cars. He was the driver for Team Pakistan in the A1GP World Cup of Motorsport during the 2006-2007 season and spent eight seasons competing in the Star Mazda Series. Ali, who has raced in 12 countries, is also the first and only professional race car driver of Pakistani descent.

"It's an honor and a privilege to once again drive for Cunningham Motorsports at the world famous Daytona International Speedway," said Ali, a resident of Fort Worth, TX. "Last year, we were very competitive until we were caught up in a wreck. The team and I work very well together and I consider everyone on the team a part of my extended family. They are a class act and one of the most professional teams I've ever raced for."

Cunningham Motorsports, founded in 1996 by Briggs Cunningham and Kerry Scherer, has competed in the ARCA RE/MAX Series and in NASCAR's Camping World Truck, Nationwide and Sprint Cup Series. Today, Cunningham Motorsports consists of three divisions - a USAC Midget program, an ARCA RE/MAX Series program and a NASCAR Camping World Truck Series program. It also has an official developmental partnership with Penske Racing.

In December, Ali participated in a three-day test session at the 2.5 mile speedway. His impressive results, seventh fastest in the drafting session, make him a serious contender.

"Our test in December went very well and we hope to build on the strong showing we had in 2008," said Ali. "The team and I are no strangers to winning and we are confident that we will have success in February."

At Daytona, Ali is sponsored by his long time supporters A to Z Wholesale, Tara Energy and Budweiser. Their continued support has allowed Ali to follow his dream of becoming the first Asian-American NASCAR champion.

"With the uncertainty of today's economy, I'm ecstatic that my sponsors have the confidence in me to support us in Daytona," said Ali. "As always, I will do my best to make them proud."

The Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200 at Daytona International Speedway on February 7, 2009 will be televised live on SPEED. The broadcast begins at 4:00 P.M. (ET). SPEED is DirecTV channel 607 and Dish Network channel 150. Check with your cable provider for SPEED in your area.

(more)



**(ALI ENTERS DAYTONA 2-2-2)**

About A to Z Wholesale

**A to Z Wholesale** is a locally owned and independently operated wholesale distributor of thousands of goods, including cigarettes, food items and personal care products. With a list of more than 7,000 clients, A to Z Wholesale has been proudly serving convenience store owners from its warehouse in Dallas, Texas for more than 20 years. For more information, please call (972) 484-1153.

About Tara Energy

**Tara Energy** is one of the largest independent retail electricity providers in Texas. Tara is empowering its customers by providing competitively-priced electricity and outstanding personalized service. Tara is also energizing communities by supporting causes that matter to its customers through sponsorships and innovative contribution programs. For more information about Tara, visit [www.taraenergy.com](http://www.taraenergy.com).

About Ben E. Keith Company

**Ben E. Keith Company** is a distributor of food service products and Anheuser-Busch products. They have six food service and 11 beverage distribution centers. The food service division serves 10 states and the beverage division exclusively delivers products throughout the state of Texas. Together, they employ more than 3,500 people. For more information on Ben E. Keith Company, visit [www.benekeith.com](http://www.benekeith.com).

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