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## **Circuit of The Americas to host Historic Grand Prix during Formula 1™ weekend**

*Support series highlights vintage race cars from Formula One's 'Golden Era'*

**Austin, Texas (June 22, 2012)** – Circuit of The Americas is proud to announce the **Historic Grand Prix** (HGP) as the first support series for the 2012 FORMULA 1 UNITED STATES GRAND PRIX, November 16-18. The Historic Grand Prix organization provides a glimpse into the sport's past for both drivers and fans. It is comprised of more than 50 owner-drivers of **authentic, vintage Formula One™ cars** from the FIA 3-litre Formula model that ran from 1966-1983. The focus of the organization is to preserve the historically correct presentation and on-track performance of the cars.

"The cars of Historic Grand Prix encompass Formula One's Golden Era of the late 1960s, 1970s and early 1980s when the dramatic on-track action and distinctive personalities captured the imagination of a fast-growing, world-wide audience," said Director of Historic Grand Prix James King. "HGP honors the brave drivers of these cars and the innovative designers and fabricators who crafted them without the aid of computers or wind tunnels by showcasing the authentic original cars in an exciting and colorful race at the Circuit of The Americas."

HGP gives spectators the opportunity to see these classic racing cars up close and immerse themselves in the history of Formula One racing. Some of the cars' original mechanics continue to prepare and maintain these unique vehicles, while the drivers take pride in honoring the original pilots of these iconic cars. HGP currently races all over North America at circuits such as Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Quebec, Canada, and Watkins Glen Raceway in upstate New York.

"Historic Grand Prix is a great compliment to the USGP as it allows our fans to see the technical and innovative progression of Formula 1 racing cars," said Circuit Executive Vice President Bruce Knox. "Many of the HGP cars are legendary and include Mario Andretti's Lotus 79 that won the 1978 World Driving Championship, Niki Lauda's 1976 Ferrari 312-T2 that finished 2nd in 1976 and was part of his 1977 World Championship and Gilles Villeneuve's 1980 Ferrari 312-T5. Historic Grand Prix is a series that was widely requested by our customers and we are pleased that it will be included as a USGP support race."

"Having the rolling museum of Historic Grand Prix together with the modern F1™ cars will thrill new and old fans alike," said Historic Grand Prix driver, Bud Moeller. "F1 back in the United States again is what we've all been hoping for, and driving a new track is a great equalizer. I'm really looking forward to it!"

More details on dates and times for the Historic Grand Prix at Circuit of The Americas will be found at [www.CircuitofTheAmericas.com](http://www.CircuitofTheAmericas.com) in the coming months. More information on the HGP organization and participating drivers can be found at [www.historicgrandprix.com](http://www.historicgrandprix.com).



FORMULA 1 UNITED STATES GRAND PRIX™ tickets are on sale now at [www.cotausgp.com](http://www.cotausgp.com) or by dialing the Ticketmaster hotline, 800.745.3000. Additional information about Grand Prix transportation and travel packages, facility hours of operation, special events and entertainment, and items permitted inside Circuit of The Americas during the FORMULA 1 UNITED STATES GRAND PRIX will be announced in the coming weeks.

#### **About Circuit of The Americas**

Circuit of The Americas will be a world-class destination for performance, education and business. It will be the first purpose-built Grand Prix facility in the United States designed for any and all classes of racing, from motor power to human power, and be the U.S. home to the 2012 FORMULA 1 UNITED STATES GRAND PRIX™ Nov. 16-18 and V8 SUPERCARS.

The Circuit of The Americas' master plan features a variety of permanent structures designed for business, education, entertainment and race use. Its signature element will be a 3.4-mile circuit track. Other support buildings will include an expansive outdoor live music space, a conference center, a banquet hall as well as a state-of-the-art medical facility. Future proposed amenities include a driving/riding experience, a motorsports driving club, kart track, grand plaza event center and tower, and a trackside recreational vehicle park. For more information and downloadable video, audio and photos, visit: [www.CircuitofTheAmericas.com](http://www.CircuitofTheAmericas.com).

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