



For Immediate Release

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## MantisSport Makes History With New Porsche Cayman S

The long journey began only four months ago. January 14<sup>th</sup> 2006 preparation began in the Mantis Automotive shop to turn a new Porsche Cayman S into a Porsche Club of America stock class racecar. On May 13<sup>th</sup> 2006 it earned its first PCA Club Racing "D" class victory at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington Ohio. This is the first race-win for a Porsche Cayman S.

"We had two goals when we started", claims driver/owner Ernie Jakubowski, "to be the first to race the new Porsche and to be the first to win in the new Porsche". Jakubowski, owner of Mantis Automotive in Oakville Ontario, met his first goal on February 10<sup>th</sup> 2006 at Sebring in Florida. The second was not so easy for the six-time National Off-Road Champion and two-time Targa Newfoundland Modern Class winner.

Race stops at Road Atlanta, Georgia in March and Lime Rock, Connecticut in April, proved gains in the development of the new car. After an encouraging 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at Lime Rock, the MantisSport team further refined the car on the road course at Mosport International Raceway the weekend prior to the Mid-Ohio event, in hope of clenching those elusive last seconds of lap time.

"We had to get the car in balance, so Ernie felt comfortable driving it to the limits. Then Ernie had to get comfortable driving it at the limit." Stated crew chief and co-builder Stan Carmichael. "This takes time, lots of time, and we had no real idea where to start. We have come a long way since January." Being a new model, based on the Boxster, but with many refinements, the MantisSport team had to start with a clean sheet of paper. No one had raced this car before; there was no data or parts available to them. They had to rely on experience and gut instincts to prepare this car for road racing.

"I wanted a new challenge," says Jakubowski, "I wanted to try something that was new and original. Making the new Cayman S into a racecar seemed to fit that definition of challenge." With help from sponsor's Pfaff Porsche and Mobil 1, as well as friends and fellow Porsche Club members, that initial challenge has now been met. So what is next for the MantisSport team?

This summer they will compete in two more Porsche club races, Watkins Glen, New York in June and their home race at Mosport in July. Then they have to focus on defending at Targa Newfoundland in September. "We would like to take the Cayman S to Newfoundland, I think we can be competitive in this car and MantisSport has always done well at Targa," says Jakubowski. Their season will end in October at Daytona International Speedway for the inaugural PCA club race at the site of the famed 24 hr. race.

-MantisSport-

For further information please contact

Stan Carmichael

[stan@mantissport.ca](mailto:stan@mantissport.ca)

or

Ernie Jakubowski

[ernie@mantissport.ca](mailto:ernie@mantissport.ca)