

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW DEAL FOR CASEY MEARS AND GEICO TEAM**

Mooresville, NC (January 6, 2012) – It will not be long before Casey Mears and his GEICO Racing team arrive at Daytona International Speedway for the beginning of the 2012 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series season. While the series as a whole has enjoyed a winter break, Germain Racing has been working feverishly to build upon the success that the team experienced in 2011.

No sooner than the checkered flag waved at Homestead in November, GEICO agreed to a sponsorship extension that will see the Gecko adorning the hood of the #13 Germain Racing NASCAR Sprint Cup Series entry through at least the 2014 season. GEICO coupled the extension with an increase in involvement, ramping up the number of primary races at which they will serve as the primary sponsor.

Thinking along the lines of continuity, team owner Bob Germain subsequently extended Mears' contract, while also retaining crew chief Bootie Barker, who will continue to call the shots for Mears and the GEICO team.

Aside from the excitement of securing GEICO as a long-term partner, Germain Racing recently became part of the Ford Racing family and will have Roush-Yates FR9 engines powering their #13 GEICO Ford Fusion beginning with the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series test at Daytona on January 12th.

When the #13 GEICO Ford Fusion rolls off of the truck for Daytona 500 practice in February, NASCAR fans will be met with a new, exciting paint scheme that will serve as a re-launching of sorts of the GEICO NASCAR Sprint Cup Series program. For most of the previous eleven years, GEICO racecars have featured some variation of the color red, but beginning in 2012, Mears will pilot a car that features the lively color combination of blue and white with green accents.

A usually reserved Mears hinted at excitement when asked about the upcoming season.

“This type of news is always good, especially when we as a team know that we’ll have some stability moving forward and we can focus 100% of our efforts on improving our performance,” Mears said. “GEICO is such an incredible, loyal sponsor and I can’t thank them enough for their unconditional support of our team. I appreciate all of the hard work and effort of Bob Germain and everyone in this organization.”

I’m really looking forward to seeing what this Germain Racing team will do in 2012, especially as we move forward with Roush-Yates power.”

To learn more about the GEICO Racing program, please visit: [www.geicogarage.com](http://www.geicogarage.com)

You can also follow GEICO Racing on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/geicoracing](http://www.twitter.com/geicoracing)

Please visit the Casey Mears Facebook fan page: [www.facebook.com/casymearsracing](http://www.facebook.com/casymearsracing)

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