

NICK MANCUSO **R**ACING

NICK MANCUSO SECURES 2nd PLACE PIRELLI WORLD CHALLENGE FINISH AT THE ST. PETERSBURG GRAND PRIX ON DEBUT DRIVE FOR FERRARI



St. Petersburg Grand Prix / St. Petersburg, FL (March 31, 2014) – After having spent the past several years in racecars that have widely varied from open wheel IndyCar-type cars to front wheel drive turbos, it appears that racecar driver Nick Mancuso has finally found his home with the marque that he has grown up with: *Ferrari*. Driving the #16 Ferrari Lake Forest entry prepared by R. Ferri Motorsports, Mancuso fought his way up the grid from 6th place to finish on the podium in 2nd position in the GTA class of Pirelli World Challenge.

Running in conjunction with IndyCar at the Cadillac Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, the Pirelli World Challenge (PWC) series began its 25th year of competition with 50+ racecars taking to the streets of St. Pete. With PWC opening up the rules for 2014 to allow the addition of full-blown GT3 cars from Europe, the exotic car manufacturers showed up in full force. With entries from Ferrari, Lamborghini, McLaren, Audi, Mercedes, Porsche, and many others, the stage was set for an all-out street fight.

Mancuso, a newcomer to the exceedingly quick GT3 machinery, acquitted himself rather well from the start qualifying 6th and posting a 1:14.686 laptime; the exact same (down to the

thousandth of a second) as defending series champion Johnny O'Connell in 5th. "I was actually a bit disappointed in qualifying, but that's just the racer in me," stated Mancuso. "I had to take a step back, look at the names of the guys around me and say 'ok...not a bad start!'" Speaking of starts, the PWC series features a unique, Formula 1-style standing start that had the whole Ferrari camp a bit apprehensive. "Some of the cars around me have pretty fancy launch control systems. As trick as the 458 GT3 is we had to do our start the old-fashioned way; my launch control was my left and right feet!"

Nick managed to get the start quite right and was in 3rd place by Turn 1. He proceeded to have lengthy, door-to-door battles with the Lamborghinis and Audis around him. While matching the lap times of his more experienced teammate Anthony Lazzaro, Nick worked his way up to a 2nd place result when the checkered flag flew. "I have to say a huge thank you to the R. Ferri Motorsports guys. They truly worked tirelessly; even staying at the track until 2am one night and showing up at 6 the next morning. These guys are as hungry to win as I am so I know there will be good things to come this year. This Ferrari 458 worked flawlessly the whole weekend and we're only getting faster."

Next for the #16 Ferrari Lake Forest entry is the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach April 10-13th.

The St. Pete race will air Sunday, April 6th at 5:30pm EST on NBC Sports Network. You can also view the race at www.World-ChallengeTV.com. You can find more information by following Nick on Twitter @NickMancusoRace and checking NickMancusoRacing.com.



About Nick Mancuso

Nick Mancuso is one of the more interesting and accomplished drivers in Pirelli World Challenge. In addition to his racing activities, he was inducted into the Cum Laude society, made a member of the National Honor Society and chosen as a National Merit Scholar before graduating from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2009. He is a black belt in Shotokan Karate and an 'extreme adventurer' with hobbies that include spearfishing, Krav Maga, skydiving and capturing/photographing reptiles in the wild.

About R.Ferri Motorsports

Led by Remo Ferri, R.Ferri Motorsport Racing with Ferrari is in its first full season of competition in the Pirelli World Challenge. Founded in 1991, R.Ferri Motorsport is a professional Canadian racing team headquartered in Toronto, Ontario and races in partnership with the Remo Ferri Group of Automobiles including Ferrari of Ontario, Toronto and Alberta. R.Ferri Motorsport also provides technical, racing, and logistical support for the North American Ferrari Challenge along with other exclusive customer track events. Learn more at www.rferrimotorsport.com.

About Ferrari Lake Forest

Ferrari Lake Forest is a world-class, 70,000 square foot luxury automotive dealership located in the Chicagoland area. The facility offers virtual customizing capabilities, internationally trained technicians and unmatched hospitality. They are dedicated to providing a unique spectrum of partnerships specifically designed to build brand awareness for a limited number of like-minded partners. The success of Ferrari Lake Forest lies not only in the DNA of its cars, but also the people who stand behind it- the Mancuso family. An automotive family since 1923, it is now the fourth generation of Mancusos carrying on the family tradition of selling quality automotive products while quickly becoming one of the most well respected names in motorsport.

Take a ride with Nick around St. Petersburg by visiting the Nick Mancuso Racing YouTube channel. For additional information, please visit <http://www.nickmancusoracing.com>. For photos, interviews, etc., contact Nick directly at Nick@NickMancusoRacing.com

