

## NASA officially goes back to the RA-1

Posted by Sterling Doc - 11 Aug 2009 01:34

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### Toyo Tires® Renews Longtime Sponsorship with NASA

August 11, 2009 7:48 AM â The National Auto Sport Association announces it is renewing its longtime partnership with Toyo Tires; extending its contract for an additional three years beginning January 1, 2010. As a part of this extension, all NASA spec tire classes will be going back to the Toyo Proxes RA1 as the required tire. This will become effective January 1, 2010 with a three-weekend grace period to allow the use of the previously allowed R888 tires. â This move was made in response to customer input, and we hope the racers will be pleased by this announcement. The RA1 has become a favorite amongst many NASA racers and has proven itself for speed, consistency, and longevity,â said NASAâs National Chairman Ryan Flaherty.

NASA Competition Racing has a wide variety of road racing classes designed to welcome both entry level and seasoned racers who wish to compete wheel to wheel. Toyo Tiresâ Proxes® RA1â is an R-compound, street legal competition radial and is the spec tire for several classes in this exciting program.

â NASA and Toyo Tires have enjoyed a successful relationship for 14 years and we look forward to adding another three years to that run,â said Jerry Kunzman NASA's Executive Director. â In our opinion Toyo has always had the best interest of their customers in mind so it's great to see the relationship continue in this manner.â

â Toyo Tires is proud to continue our sponsorship of NASA road racing,â said Stan Chen, manager of events and motorsports, Toyo Tire U.S.A. Corp. â Our Proxes RA1 has long been popular with amateur and professional racers and is a great fit with this exciting series.â

Great for vehicles ranging from sport compacts to European and American muscle machines, the Proxes RA1 is cost-effective by delivering excellent wear and winning consistency on the track. NASA classes using the Proxes RA1 include: American Iron, Camaro-Mustang Challenge, Factory Five Challenge, Honda Challenge, Spec 3/Spec e30 (BMW), Spec Focus, Spec Miata, and 944-spec.

To learn more about the many driving opportunities provided by NASA, whether racing or high-performance training, log on to [nasapracing.com](http://nasapracing.com). To learn more about the full line of Proxes tires from Toyo Tires, log on to [toyotires.com](http://toyotires.com). Toyo Tires manufactures and distributes a complete line of replacement tires for high performance cars, luxury vehicles, light trucks and SUVs as well as tires for commercial trucks, buses and off-road and construction applications.

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**Re:NASA officially goes back to the RA-1**

Posted by rlofgren - 12 Aug 2009 14:50

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i don't know how it was intended to read, but the way i read it is Jan1, 2010 and a 3 week(end) grace period. that takes us to jan22, 2010? Did they mean 3 RACE weekend grace period into 2010? that would be more like april or may until we could no longer use the r-888. even this will hurt people who aren't out there every possible race weekend.

p.s. at my home track, thunderhill, my all time unbeatable single lap(i thought) of 2:11.2(in qualifying, with worn ra-1s) was eclipsed earlier this year(by me in qualifying, worn r-888s, 2:09.2) two seconds faster. same car, same driver, cooler track conditions. r-888s can definitely do a faster lap, but i agree that they go away faster both in the session and over the tire's life. I also never found that they were very grippy at the beginning of the tire's(r-888) life. Ra-1s, simple back to a driver's series sounds good to me.

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**Re:NASA officially goes back to the RA-1**

Posted by mcmmotorsports - 12 Aug 2009 17:42

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It is the first 3 race weekends for your region.

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