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Contact: Diane Swintal  
dswintal31@yahoo.com  
949.439.7871  
[www.imsachallenge.com](http://www.imsachallenge.com)



### CIRONE AND SIXTH GEAR FASTEST IN AFTERNOON PRACTICE

MILLVILLE, NJ June 25 -- Marco Cirone and his friends love racing. And on a day in which Cirone and his #88 6<sup>th</sup> Gear Racing 2010 Porsche 911 GT3 Cup Car, competing in the Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama, finish first in Friday afternoon practice, they're especially happy.

The Toronto native is running a limited schedule this season, so the afternoon's second practice session at New Jersey Motorsports Park was particularly uplifting.

"This is my crew from Bestline Auto Body," says Cirone. "Not only do they work for me, but they are my closest friends and they're just about the only guys who believed in me. And I have some volunteers, friends and racing fanatics, including Rudy Bartling – he used to work with Porsche Motorsports, so he's been a big help."

When Cirone decided to make the jump to the Porsche 911 GT3 Cup Car, after years of racing regionally in Ontario, his friends had to be convinced.

"I knew that if I didn't do it now, I'd never do it, so we bought the car and went for it. When I said 'I want to go racing in the Patrón series with the GT3 Cup', they all looked at me really funny at first, then said, okay, we've seen you drive, we'll give it a shot. They're helping me out so much! And I think that sometimes, they're having more fun than me – especially when the car and I come back in one piece."

Like all the other drivers in the series, Cirone has an unabashed love for racing. And for Porsche.

"I love racing, I love Porsches, I love everything about the automotive industry. It's a passion I've had since I was young, I've just always wanted to race and be around cars. And Porsche has been so helpful, especially when we're at home and we need parts or anything. The relationship with Porsche Motorsport North America has been awesome. "

Right now, Mid-Ohio, Road America and Road Atlanta are the only remaining races on the 6<sup>th</sup> Gear schedule. But when the racing passion bites, it can bite hard; Cirone admits that they're talking now about the next race at Miller Motorsports Park in Utah – depending on how he does in New Jersey.

Friday was a very good start.

The Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama features semi-professional drivers racing head to head in one of the world's most successful race cars, the Porsche 911 GT3 Cup car. As a developmental series designed to prepare drivers and teams for professional careers in sports car racing, the multi-class structure of the series teaches drivers essential skills for an eventual career in the American Le Mans Series presented by Tequila Patrón.

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