

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Lally/Valentine Finish 2<sup>nd</sup> at Homestead-Miami Speedway

*Homestead, FL. (March 24, 2007)* — The #66 CRG Karts/TRG Porsche 911 GT3 of RJ Valentine and Andy Lally scored a season-best 2<sup>nd</sup> place today, finishing less than one second behind the winning Mazda RX-8 of Sylvain Tremblay and Nick Ham. In doing so, TRG extended its podium streak at Homestead to 8 races. Winners at Homestead in 2004, 2005 and 2006, TRG's repeated success at Homestead in 2007 means the team has finished on the podium in 26 of the past 27 Grand-Am races.

In a race that saw nine caution periods, TRG made excellent pit strategy calls to keep in touch with the faster Mazda, and Lally drove a typically brilliant closing stint, swapping the lead back and forth in the closing minutes of the race. 2007 has seen the regular emergence of the Mazda leading the field, adding competitive pressure to the Porsches, Pontiacs and BMWs, Mustangs and Nissan 350Zs that comprise the GT class. Unfortunately for the rest of the field, Mazda has been granted a 300lb. weight advantage, allowing the cars to out-sprint the competition on long straights.

Valentine said, "Our car ran like a German clock and was there along with the best crew in the business and Kevin and Lars made great strategic calls. Who'd have thought there would be nine yellow flags today? Andy almost closed the deal there; he's an amazing driver and a great teammate."

He continued, "Homestead's a tricky little course. Just like at Daytona, we run partly on the banked oval and partly on the infield road course. The CRG Karts Porsche has excellent handling capabilities, so we were able to beat the Mazda through the twisty stuff, but in a straight line on the banking, the lower weight gave them a speed advantage. Our next race is on a classic road course at Virginia International Speedway, which ought to play to the strengths of the Porsche."

Team owner Kevin Buckler said, "RJ and Andy did an absolutely fantastic job. We couldn't have expected anything better given the conditions; the drivers were fantastic, the pit stops and the strategy were perfect. We're clearly down on power to the Mazda, even though we have them outgunned in handling. There's just no way to win at a 300lb. weight disadvantage."

Lally said, "We had a really good car and by far the best Porsche in the field, hands down," Lally added. "We did a decent job with it. We came up just a little bit short, and that's a little bit disappointing. I wish we had a little more for those guys at the end, but I don't think we could have planned out the race any better than we did."

The Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series races next at Virginia International Raceway on April 28, 2007, in the first split race for the GT and DP classes. Television coverage will be on Speed.

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