



Messer Wins Baja Cup Challenge/Chamberland Wins Title in TROPHYLITE Finale

Heber, California (December 15, 2008) – Heading into the Baja Cup Challenge; the final round of the 2008 KMC Wheels TROPHYLITE Series Presented by KC HiLiTES, five competitors had a mathematical shot at the Championship. Employing a cautious and consistent strategy, Louis Chamberland was able to capitalize as others faltered to finish third in a race that saw Gary Messer take his maiden TROPHYLITE win. With his finish, Chamberland was able to secure the 2008 KMC Wheels TROPHYLITE Series Presented by KC HiLiTES Championship and the \$14,625 TROPHYLITE Champion Payout.

Following a brief a morning shower that provided ideal track conditions, the TROPHYLITE contingent lined up for a land rush start that would lead to the two most challenging hours of the entire season. Making a surprise entry was Trophy Truck star Pete Sohren in a TROPHYLITE he had purchased the previous day. As the green flag fell, controlled chaos ensued as the TROPHYLITE competitors roared off to do battle with each other as well the treacherous 4.5 mile track that contained both short course and desert characteristics. The opening laps saw the tightest racing of the season as TROPHYLITE drivers went side by side and nose to tail to the delight of the spectators. TROPHYLITE owner Matt Scaroni, Matt Armstrong, and Logan Knecht all diced for the lead until Knecht was able to pull a slight margin. Knecht would hold the lead throughout the two mandatory pit stops in the race, but would unfortunately end up hitting a rock that would damage his driveshaft and ultimately end his day. After Knecht's misfortune, Gary Messer, recovering from an early race spin, would grab the lead and set a blistering pace. As the checkers fell, Messer and teammate Robert Naughton would emerge victorious in what proved to be the most intense race of the season. Those who were able to witness the TROPHYLITEs in action were surprised at their speed around the technical Glen Helen track.

Following a hotly contested season long points battle, Louis Chamberland #6061 would end up with the Championship followed by Gary Messer #6017 and Mike Jenkins #6099. Several teams made a heroic late season effort to take it away, but Chamberland proved he had what it took to maintain his lead after double wins in the middle of the season. TROPHYLITE founder Matt Scaroni stated, "On behalf of TROPHYLITE, I would like to congratulate Louis and Agave Motorsports on winning the first TROPHYLITE Championship as well as the rest of our TROPHYLITE teams who made this first season an astounding success. We would also like to take time to thank our amazing 2008 KMC Wheels TROPHYLITE Series Presented by KC HiLiTES sponsors who not only provided one of the largest paybacks in off-road racing, but also worked with us to develop these trucks into the remarkable off-road vehicles that they have become. We look forward to building on the momentum of this season and provide an even better program in the following years."

In 2009, TROPHYLITE teams are looking to build on an enormously successful 2008 season and the competition promises to be as fierce as ever as many teams new to the off-road sport in general are beginning to hit their stride. The Series kicks off January 17 at the DRIVE Racing TROPHYLITE 200 in Plaster City, CA followed by the SNORE Mint 400 Off-Road Race.

Pictures and Video of the Glen Helen Baja Cup Challenge may be viewed on the TROPHYLITE website.

TROPHYLITE is an affordable spec racing concept focused on providing the average off-road enthusiast the chance to step from the sidelines into the driver's seat of state of the art purpose built off road race trucks. TROPHYLITE offers not only a very affordable high performance spec race truck, but also the chance to compete in the 2008 KMC Wheels TROPHYLITE Championship Series where TROPHYLITE drivers will be able to race against other TROPHYLITE drivers for prize money and points towards a year end championship. Through TROPHYLITE and its generous supporters, there is no question that the next big thing in off-road has arrived. Get off the sidelines and turn your dreams into dust!

TROPHYLITE supporters include: *KMC Wheels, KC HiLiTES, General Tire, Currie Enterprises, Bully Dog Technologies, Fox Racing Shox, Mastercraft Race Seats, and Turn Key Engine Supply*

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