

ZOOM-ZOOM



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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Mazda NZ Brings Young Kiwi Driver to Production Series**

Up-and-coming driver Gene Rollinson will be behind the wheel of Mazda New Zealand's second season in the New Zealand Production Racing Series.

The Auckland-based 23-year-old will drive a fully race prepared Mazda3 MPS in the FWD class of the competitive series beginning October 2008.

Rollinson says he has spent the last twelve months in the V8 scene and is excited about joining the Mazda team. "Mazda's Zoom Zoom profile is quite big in New Zealand and it's something I am excited to be part of. My goal is to be at the front of the Production Racing Series."

Andrew Clearwater, managing director Mazda New Zealand says they are delighted about having Gene race for Mazda. "He has an impressive list of achievements already for someone so young and we are looking forward to tracking his progress," he said.

"The company has been thrilled at the success of the Mazda3 MPS in last year's series and is looking forward to seeing the distinctive blue and yellow Mazda3 at the head of the field," said Clearwater.

Rollinson has been competing since 1992 and career highlights so far include being five times New Zealand Kart Champion, winning the Formula Challenge Summer Series in 2002, the Formula Challenge Championship in 2003 and recently racing in Australia and Germany.

The New Zealand Production Racing Series is held at circuits around New Zealand between November and April. Mazda entered its first vehicle at last year's series with driver Dale Williams winning the championship in Class B. Rollinson replaces Williams who has since moved into V8 racing

In addition to the Mazda New Zealand factory entry, Mazda is making other fully race prepared Mazda3 MPS vehicles available to other drivers to buy at a very competitive price. The drivers will need to secure their own sponsorship and back up crew.

People interested in discussing the purchase of Mazda3 MPS race car need to contact John Van der Velden at Mazda New Zealand.

Ends

For more information, please contact:

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