

# NEWS RELEASE



Feb. 3, 2009

**Contact:**

Tonita Perry  
Eaddy Perry & Associates, Inc.  
704-965-6956  
tperry@eaddyperry.com  
for Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TEAM HAMMONDS HIRES NEW CREW CHIEF FOR 2009 NHRA SEASON**

*(HOLT, Fla., Feb. 3,, 2009)* - - Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC hires legendary European Pro Stocker Tomi Laine as crew chief for the 2009 NHRA Full Throttle Series season.

"I have known Tomi Laine for some time now and have always wanted him to be a part of our team. Unfortunately, the time was not right because he was with another team, and he became available after the 2008 season. We are fortunate to have him onboard," said an elated Tom Hammonds, president of Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC and driver of the No.20 Race for Achievement Chevy Cobalt.

Laine, originally from Finland, started his career racing speed boats the age of 16 and moved to racing street cars on drag strips. In 1988, he moved he began Competition Eliminator, before graduating to Pro Stock in 1991, where he won two Pro Stock European Championships and one runner-up title.

Making the choice to move out of the driver's seat due to lack of sponsorship, Laine came to the United States in 1999, where he started his career as a crew chief with Steve Schmidt Competition Engines. Since then he has worked with Indicom Electric Company, Greg Howard, Kenny Koretsky, and 2008 NHRA Pro Stock eighth place finisher Greg Stanfield.

Coming to Team Hammonds is an exciting time for Laine and Hammonds. He likes the prospects of Team Hammonds thus far and is confident the team can be competitive.

**-MORE-**

599 Armistead Boulevard ▪ Holt, Florida 32564 ▪ 850-537-2021 ▪ FAX 850-537-2023  
[www.tomhammondsracing.com](http://www.tomhammondsracing.com)

***Team Hammonds New Crew Chief – Page 2***

“Our goal is to work hard, be patient to get to the performance level we need to be so we can race on Sunday on a regular basis,” said Laine.

Hammonds is equally confident stating that the team worked really hard getting the program together throughout the winter and made some gains. By adding Laine to the program is definitely a move that will make the team stronger and in turn show on the track.

Laine and his wife Katie reside in Indianapolis with their two sons.

# # #

**About Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC (THE)**

Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC (THE) is located in Holt, Fla. and was formed in 2005. THE takes pride in promoting high performance and safety in the sport of drag racing. Housing such programs as Tom Hammonds Engines, a program specifically for performance drivers to rent custom built engines, and Tom Hammonds Race for Achievement, a school program dedicated to revving the engines of education through student achievement, the company's mission is to make an impact on the sport of drag racing. THE is the only African American owned and driven team in professional motor sports.