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### Fire in Practice Nearly Ends the Week for Stu Hayner and his #21 GTO.

**Sebring, FL. (Mar. 13, 2007)** – Once again, the Autosport Development team had its work cut out for them at Sebring International Raceway. Two laps into the initial practice session, Stu Hayner encountered a parts failure in the drive train causing an oil fire under the hood; almost ending the week for the 21 car.

The engine failure released oil into the engine compartment, which was ignited by the re-hot exhaust.

“The car had no problems during the first lap, but approaching turn 10 on the second lap the motor just let go and flames poured into the cockpit,” said Hayner “ I pulled the car off track, hit the fire bottle and got out as fast as possible. There wasn’t much I could do.”

Despite his efforts to put the fire out himself, the car continued to burn. However, Hayner actually had time to pull off some of the carbon bodywork from his GTO before it burnt up. This saved the Autosport crew precious time and money. Not only had the team lost a motor to the session, but everything in front of the dash had also been burned.



With days of hard work, some quick-thinking, and a few calls for parts, the GTO would make it on track to qualify an astonishing 13<sup>th</sup> with only a single lap under its belt.

Chief of the Autosport Development crew, Chris Trapp commented on the situation: “We had an incredibly busy week with the two GTO’s and trying to develop the Volvo S40 for Riley Racing. Stu’s fire only made things more hectic. We had late nights and early mornings, but hearing the car fire 5 minutes before qualifying was well worth the effort.”

Days of hard work paid off for qualifying, but only time and weather will determine what the outcome of the 1<sup>st</sup> Round of the SPEED World Challenge GT series for Autosport Development.

Autosport Development competes in the SPEED World Challenge GT Series recently named “the most competitive road racing series in the World” by Racer magazine. In 2005, driver Stu Hayner finished the season Seventh in points, a huge feat considering the team had no factory support from any major automotive manufacturers. As the first team to develop GTO road racers, Autosport Development’s expertise is in demand by other teams now fielding these cars. The race shop is also involved in prototype and racecar development, preparation, fabrication, assembly, carbon fiber work as well as automotive manufacturing. For more information, visit [www.autosportdevelopment.com](http://www.autosportdevelopment.com) and [www.derondausa.com](http://www.derondausa.com)