



18<sup>th</sup> June 2008

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## **AERO GP TEAMS UP WITH THE BRITISH AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION FOR FIRST UK EVENT**

Flying Aces, the team that runs Aero GP, is partnering with the British Aerobatic Association (BAeA) for a series of sports competitions beginning with the Aero GP Blackpool on 28/29<sup>th</sup> June.

BAeA will be running and officiating the aerobatics discipline within the Grand Prix, which also includes air racing and air combat, while Flying Aces will handle promotion, PR and media rights associated with its Aero GP series.

Flying Aces and BAeA will also be partnering together on organising the FAI World Aerobatic Championships to be held at Silverstone Circuit in August 2009. This is the first time since 1986 that this most prestigious competition in the world of air sports has been held in the United Kingdom. In addition, the British National Aerobatic Championships will be held in September this year, also at Silverstone, as a preparation event for the World Championships.

Aero GP Blackpool will demonstrate the exciting disciplines of both multiple air racing and aerobatics with a line-up of the best British pilots competing. Last week's exciting Aero GP in Romania culminated in a British win at the hands of Gerald Cooper, an aerobatics specialist on the British National Team.

The BAeA organizes approximately thirty events each year throughout the UK and is responsible for scheduling and running aerobatic competitions to internationally approved rules. Several members of the British National Aerobatic Teams for 2008 will be competing at Aero GP Blackpool as important practice for competitions to come, such as the European Aerobatic Championships in Czech Republic in July – another event that will have both a Flying Aces and BAeA presence.

Alan Cassidy, BAeA Chairman, explained "The British public is starting to show a strong interest in Air Sports, including racing and aerobatics, and we're looking forward to putting forth an exciting contest in Blackpool at the Aero GP. It's great that Aero GP is embracing sport aerobatics as a part of its expanding endeavours to publicise Air Sports. It will be a splendid



opportunity for us to see just how well our build-up is going for the World and European Championship events coming up later in the summer.”

Jeff Zaltman, Managing Director of Flying Aces and Aero GP organiser, added “The BAeA is a leading organisation in the world aerobatics scene, so partnering with them makes perfect sense. They have a massive wealth of experience and knowledge in running competitions and we are proud the Aero GP will be officiated by them in the UK this year. We’re also very much looking forward to progressing our partnership through the British and World Championships at Silverstone and we have some exciting plans in place for both.”

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#### Notes to Editors:

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#### About Flying Aces

Flying Aces Ltd, based in London UK, owns, manages and exploits global media rights connected to top-level sporting aviation. Most of the property rights are fully developed in-house while others are managed on behalf of other rights holders. Flying Aces is the organiser of the internationally-televised Aero GP air racing series. In addition, through a media partnership with the air sports governing body, the FAI, Flying Aces produces a television series covering the major global air sports events and Championships called ‘Breitling Airsports World’ which is broadcast internationally and on Sky Sports in the UK.

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#### About the BAeA

The British Aerobatic Association was founded on 1st May 1974 to represent the interests of all those concerned with aerobatic flying in a powered aircraft and in [gliders](#), by promoting and organising all aspects of competition aerobatics in the UK, including progressive [training](#), proper [conduct](#), furtherance of the sport and arranging contests. The British Aerobatic Association Ltd is a Company incorporated with its liability limited by guarantee and not having a Share Capital, and is recognised by [The Royal Aero Club](#) as the governing body of Aerobatics in Great Britain.