

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Ron Wenaas, 3M  
(651) 736-7918  
rcwenaas1@3M.com  
or  
Ivan PENCHANSKY, Ironclad  
1-888-314-3197 ext. 115  
ivanp@iclad.com

**Top Performers In Racing Circuits Gain Better Grip**  
3M, Ironclad and Schroeder Celebrate Success of Drivers and Crews  
Adopting System To Reduce Fatigue, Add Grip

ST. PAUL, Minn. – (February 19, 2003) – When Greptile gripping materials from 3M, Ironclad Performance Wear and Schroeder Steering Wheels were brought together in 2002 to bring breakthrough gripping technology to racing, the developers of the system knew they could provide a competitive advantage. The results, from racing circuits across the country, are testimonial to their success.

The list of champions, rookies-of-the-year and recognized series competitors using the Greptile gripping material system is led by Guy Cosmo, 2002 Formula Mazda Series Champion; Eddie McKean, 2002 NASCAR Featherlite Southwest Tour Champion; Rick Hendrix, 2002 USAC Western State Sprint Car Champion; Bobby East, 2002 USAC National Midget Rookie of the Year; Greg Turner Jr., 2002 SKUSA Mission Series Champion.

In other series, top competitors share in their appreciation of the control and comfort they enjoy with the new system. These include NASCAR drivers Joe Nemechek, Johnny Benson, Tony Raines, Tina Gordon and Shane Hall as well as Gene Woods in the NASCAR Winston West Series; PENCHANSKY Brothers Racing, Class 8 Desert Racing in SCORE, BITD, and MDR; Mark Hutchins, in the Class 10 SCORE Desert Racing Series.

Greptile gripping material from 3M, already turning heads for tool gripping and handling nationwide, is the key component in the new driver and crew gloves from Ironclad Performance Wear and on steering wheels made by Schroeder Steering. Greptile gripping material is strategically designed into the palm of the Ironclad Performance Wear glove. Schroeder Steering applies Greptile gripping material to the steering wheel to complete the gripping system for the driver. Racing crewmembers also apply Greptile gripping material in its easy-to-apply tape form to hydraulic jack handles and other tools for improved grip and comfort, even in wet or oily conditions.

## 3M Greptile Gripping Material – Page 2

Joe Nemechek, driver of the NASCAR Winston Cup, #25 UAW/Delphi Chevrolet, likes the Greptile gripping material system from 3M so much that he is personally working with Ironclad on glove modifications and improvements. “This is great,” said Nemechek. “I never thought a grip like this would be possible without getting “too much” grip. My hands and arms get much less tired as the race goes on than ever before. With all the shifting we do and the grind of a 3 or 4 hour race, your hands and forearms can really get a workout.”

Guy Cosmo, 2002 Champion in the Formula Mazda Series for open-wheeled racers is another enthusiastic user. “I can see this product being used at every level of racing, from go-karts to IRL as well as Winston Cup and Formula 1,” said Cosmo. “You can keep your hand more relaxed without losing your grip. That can definitely help reduce fatigue from the start to the finish of a race. This is a really neat system.”

Mike Dryman, Executive Director, Impact Sports, sports performance trainers for pit crews and drivers agrees and also sees many places in the pits and garages for Greptile gripping material and Ironclad gloves. “This material is fantastic,” says Dryman. “Even if a tool gets wet or oily, you can maintain your grip. That can save seconds off your pit times. The crew can be much more confident that they’ll be able to work at a fast pace without losing control of the jack or air wrench. They even get a better grip on the tires with these new Ironclad gloves.”

### **About 3M**

3M is a \$16 billion dollar, diversified manufacturing company with operations in more than 60 countries and with more than 70,000 people worldwide. Headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota and celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 3M is an innovative supplier, focusing on major markets including Industrial; Transportation, Graphics and Safety; Consumer and Office; Electronics and Communications; Health Care; and Specialty Materials. 3M provides more than 1,000 products to the automotive and racing industries, continually adding to their line in cooperation with top teams and other suppliers. For more information about Greptile gripping material from 3M, call 1-800-328-1689 or visit [www.3M.com/Greptile](http://www.3M.com/Greptile).

### **About Ironclad Performance Wear**

Ironclad Performance Wear consistently pioneers glove innovations for the technical and industrial markets. Ironclad engineers task-specific gloves through the integration of design and high tech materials. Offering increased protection without compromising dexterity, Ironclad gloves, the American workers choice, can tackle any job at hand. Headquartered in Los Angeles, Ironclad continues to drive innovation in glove design and usage. Ironclad gloves are available at industrial distributors, hardware stores, lumber and rental yards nationwide. For more information about Ironclad Performance Wear, call Ivan Penchansky at 1-888-314-3197, extension 115. [ivanp@iclad.com](mailto:ivanp@iclad.com) or visit [www.iclad.com/](http://www.iclad.com/).

### **About Schroeder Steering**

Schroeder Steering has been an innovator in the racing industry for over 50 years. Founder, Gordon Schroeder, built and campaigned Indy cars in the 40’s and 50’s. Schroeder designed and built the first Quick Release Steering Hub and the first aftermarket steering wheel for NASCAR. Schroeder also supplies steering wheels and quick release steering hubs for all open wheel applications from Micros to the World of Outlaws. Schroeder continues to be the leader in innovative products that enhance driving performance with its use of the Greptile gripping system.

3M and Greptile are trademarks of 3M

**Photos Available for Preview and Download at:** <http://cms.3m.com/cms/US/en/2-162/cFcRkFL/view.jhtml>