

May 21, 2010 Mezzo Technologies wins Schwitzer Award

By Dave Lewandowski



Mezzo Technologies engineers Charles Becnel, Patrick Luke and Christophe Marques and Tino Belli of Andretti Autosport received the 44th BorgWarner Louis Schwitzer Award on May 21 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway for their development of the Mezzo MicroChannel Radiator.

Designed to fit in the same space and use the same connectors as existing radiators, the Mezzo MicroChannel Radiator significantly reduces coolant temperature with reliable, robust performance. Earlier this year, the IZOD IndyCar Series approved the technology for use by all teams.

Mezzo Technologies, based in Baton Rouge, La., also has developed cooling systems for military and other automotive use. "We're a small company, and we're much like family," Luke said. "We're just tickled to win this award. For the Indy racing (project), Tino found us."

Increased cooling capacity results in better engine performance and greater horsepower. Unlike conventional radiators that rely on fin designs to transfer heat, the Mezzo MicroChannel Radiator uses nearly 5 miles of stainless steel micro tubes measuring less than 0.5 mm (1/50th of an inch) in diameter to reduce engine temperatures up to 8 degrees C (14 degrees F). A corrugated arrangement also increases heat transfer while keeping pressure losses low. Developed by Mezzo Technologies in close cooperation with Andretti Autosport, the technology is now being evaluated by other race series, as well as the aviation industry.

Presented to engineers by engineers, the Louis Schwitzer Award rewards individuals with the courage and passion to explore and develop new concepts in racing technology. BorgWarner sponsors this prestigious \$10,000 award, which is presented by the Indiana Section of SAE International. The winners' names are added to the Schwitzer trophy on permanent display at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame Museum.

The award was initiated in 1967 to recognize automotive pioneer Louis Schwitzer. After working in the automotive industry for many years, Schwitzer founded the Schwitzer Corporation, which produced innovative cooling fans, water pumps and turbochargers. The Schwitzer Corporation joined BorgWarner in 1999. Throughout his career, Schwitzer enjoyed numerous technological accomplishments, supported higher education, led the IMS technical committee for many years and maintained a strong association with SAE.

For details about Mezzo Technologies and their solutions in the design, manufacturing and support of thermal products using microtechnology solutions initially developed at LSU and CAMD, visit

<http://www.mezzotech.com/> .