



MEDIA RELEASE

Opportunity knocks for Rodney Jane's return to motorsport — racing in championship winning V8 Supercar.

Rodney Jane has made a welcome return to motorsport, making his 2009 debut in the Number 20 Bob Jane T-Marts BF Falcon in the Fujitsu V8 Supercar Development Series at the Townsville Round last weekend.

In what has been a whirlwind return to racing, Rodney is quickly coming to grips with the new challenges presented by driving the 2008 championship winning Supercar.

The wind-up of the Carrera Cup series last year left Rodney without the opportunity to continue racing in 2009 and while he considered a variety of options, Rodney was keen to find the right fit for him.

Opportunity knocked when Bryce Washington revealed he was leaving the Fujitsu V8 Supercar Development Series after 2 rounds.

Washington had been competing in the ex-Jamie Whincup (Triple 8 Race Engineering) BF Falcon which won Bathurst and the V8 championship in 2008.

Rodney knew this was the opportunity he'd been waiting for.

Only some 4 weeks ago an agreement was reached that saw Rodney return to the Sonic Racing team fold with Michal Ritter, continuing their relationship into a 5th year.

Rodney finalised his agreement with Washington at 9pm and the next morning he was heading off to take part in testing with the Sonic team in his new Falcon at Winton Raceway. This was followed up with further testing a week later.

Michael Ritter of Sonic was pleased to have Rodney back in the Sonic garage.

"We know Rodney and he knows us, and although that sounds like an obvious comment to make it does make a big difference when you have history together. We know what he likes in his race cars and we get along well. All that stuff is important."

Swagman Motorhomes and Revolution Racegear have come on board as on-car sponsors together with the Bob Jane T-Marts family of brands. Snap-On Tools has continued with their long-term support.

Incorporating these sponsor's logos with Bob Jane T-Marts corporate colours has delivered a car livery that stands out from the pack.

Whilst the sponsors, support team and even his competitors may be familiar, Rodney is quickly realising how very different V8 racing is compared to the 997 Porsches.

Not surprisingly Jane noticed the significant difference in the tyres with a narrower rear tyre and overall harder compound than the Michelin tyres in Carrera Cup.

"The V8 takes a lot more getting used to. The car has much more horsepower, much softer suspension and a locked differential. The whole approach to a corner is quite different to the Cup car."

Despite the obvious differences in moving to V8 Supercars, it's anticipated Rodney's considerable racing experience will see him adapt quickly to the new competition.

With 4 rounds remaining of the Fujitsu series, Rodney's debut performance at the new circuit in Townsville placed him on a more level playing field as no other races had been held there before. In the coming rounds, he will be able to draw on his previous experiences at the tracks.

The remaining rounds will be held at Sandown and Queensland Raceway in August followed by Bathurst and the inaugural round at Sydney's Homebush in December.

Full coverage of last week's Townsville round is scheduled for 1.30pm this Saturday July 18 on Channel 7. Please check your local guides to confirm telecast times.