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Clark turns 2007 FSTi prize into dream WRC drive

2007 Fiesta Sporting Trophy International (FSTi) series winner Barry Clark (25) was awarded with his prize last week from the championship's creators M-Sport. The Scotsman was presented with a fully-funded drive on one round of the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) and, as a result, has managed to acquire additional funding to compete on two further rounds.

The deal, which has been put together through the support of Scottish commercial car dealer Clark Commercials, will be for three WRC rounds in the latest evolution of the Ford Focus RS WRC over the second half of 2008 with the car to be run by the M-Sport team.

The three events Clark will be taking on are Rally of Turkey in June followed by Rallye de France – Tour de Corse in October and finishing with Wales Rally GB in December, the Scotsman's 'home' event and one he has most experience of in the WRC.

The 2008 FSTi championship is already shaping-up to be an action-packed year. Registration for the highly competitive one-make series is open and registration forms can be downloaded through the official website: www.fiestasportingtrophy.com.

FSTi continues as one of the world's foremost motorsport championships to offer a high quality level-playing field for competitors as a stepping stone to break through to the top level of the sport. This year, ten countries – from Belgium to New Zealand – will host the one-make national FST championships.

In conjunction with this announcement is the confirmation of the official 2008 FSTi calendar which will include the following events: Rally d'Italia Sardegna, Rally of Turkey, Neste Oil Rally Finland, ADAC Rallye Deutschland, Rally Espana de Catalunya and Wales Rally GB.

Barry Clark (25) from Aberdeen said:

"To have such a fantastic opportunity this year is a dream come true for me. M-Sport have offered me an amazing prize for winning the Fiesta championship last year and, as a result of this, I have managed to gain further sponsorship to compete on three great events this year in what I believe to be the best car in the WRC. This is the opportunity I've been working towards obtaining in order to kick start my professional rally career and I know the next few months will need to be spent working extremely hard on all areas of my rallying."

For further information, please contact Fiesta Sporting Trophy International Co-ordinator, Kate Rhodes, on +44 (0) 7894 622 492 or krhodes@m-sport.co.uk. Copyright free images available at www.fiestasportingtrophy.com.