

## **PAGENAUD POWERS TEAM AUSTRALIA TO CANDADIAN TRIPLE CROWN WIN**

Power & Pagenaud barely edge Bourdais & Rahal of Newman/Haas/Lanigan Racing, whose 1-3 finish today nearly clipped Team Australia's wings

EDMONTON, Alberta, Canada (July 22, 2007) - It might not have been the individual outcome expected for Will Power, who failed to finish his first race of the season, but thanks to a third consecutive fourth place finish from his teammate Simon Pagenaud, the Team Australia duo was crowned Champ Car Canadian Triple Crown Champions following today's Rexall Grand Prix of Edmonton.

The three-event race couldn't have been any closer as Power, who started on pole, encountered steering problems about two-thirds into the race. The mishap put all the pressure on his Aussie Vineyards' teammate to maintain a place in the top-five with their closest competitors Sebastien Bourdais and Graham Rahal of Newman/Haas/Lanigan Racing sitting respectively in first and third position.

Pagenaud did even better, holding on to his fourth place to guarantee his team the Triple Crown win. The average finishing position of 5.2 just nipped Bourdais and Rahal, who averaged 5.5 over the three Canadian races. RSPORTS teammates of Justin Wilson (second) and Alex Tagliani (14th) finished third in the standings with an average of 6.7.

"We have been, so far, the strongest combination since the beginning of the year, and it's great," said Pagenaud, who along with Power announced the Triple Crown competition at the end of June in Montreal. "We are working together and I just want to say thanks to Craig Gore and Derrick Walker. The Aussie Vineyards team has been so, so strong since a couple of races and I'm glad to be able to win this championship with Will."

Power, who scored his second victory throughout the Triple Crown competition added to Pagenaud's comments: "Up until this point, Canada has been very friendly to us. It's a great country, all the tracks are awesome and the fans are very enthusiastic. It's a very good thing what Champ Car's done, to have this championship, it makes it a lot more interesting for everyone."

The Champ Car Canadian Triple Crown team competition got underway in Mont-Tremblant on July 2 and then moved on to Toronto before the final leg took place this weekend in Edmonton. The Team Australia drivers

were awarded with trophies, created by renowned Inuit artist Ohito Ashoona, representing Inuksuks which are a symbol of co-operation and team building as well as leadership, achievement and strength.