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**BUDDY RICE CLAIMS LINCOLN ELECTIC'S
ANNUAL HARD CHARGER AWARD AT INDIANAPOLIS 500**

Cleveland – Buddy Rice, with the Dreyer & Reinbold Racing team, claimed Lincoln Electric's Hard Charger Award at this year's Indianapolis 500. The award is given to the car that starts the furthest back in the field and that leads at least one green lap at some point during the race. The Indianapolis 500 was held on Sunday, May 25, 2008, at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Sponsorship of the Indy 500 winner, the on-site welding garage and the Hard Charger Award are examples of Lincoln Electric's commitment to the racing industry. Besides offering superior quality welding products, the company also provides race teams with ongoing technical support both on and off the track. And Lincoln's involvement in racing extends not only to the IRL but to NASCAR, NHRA and ARCA. The company serves as the major contingency sponsor for NHRA Championship Drag Racing, as well as NASCAR's Busch Grand National Series. Lincoln Electric is a series sponsor for the ARCA Truck Series and an equipment sponsor for the ARCA ReMax Series.



The Lincoln Electric Company, headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, is the world leader in the design, development and manufacture of arc welding products, robotic arc-welding systems, plasma and oxyfuel cutting equipment and has a leading global position in the brazing and soldering alloys market. For more information, visit www.lincolnelectric.com.

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