



Mechanical Heartbreak Hits McColligan at USTCC Finale



October 25, 2009 (Sonoma, CA) - Michael McColligan, driving the #36 Mazdatrix/Idemitsu Mazda RX8, was in a solid 3rd position when mechanical failure ended his day near the conclusion of the 2-hour NITTOTires USTCC Finale at Infineon Raceway.

McColligan ran a lap in qualifying within a few tenths of his best, good enough for P5 on the grid. Even though this was a 2 hour race, the initial pace was frantic but McColligan didn't panic as he slipped back to 7th. With a steady first stint and some attrition he worked his way up to 4th just before the scheduled pit stop. The efficient MC Racing Crew had McColligan serviced and back on track in the 3rd position as the cars cycled through their pit stops. He got right back to work consistently cranking out laps within a few tenths. At about the 1 ¾ hour mark the right front wheel studs sheared-off just as McColligan entered turn 3. "Just as I turned the steering wheel I heard a big bang and the car shot straight off the track," stated McColligan. Fortunately there was enough runoff to slow down and stop just short of the tire wall. "I sure didn't want to end the season on the tow truck but I guess someone figured we needed more to do in the off-season," smiled McColligan.

McColligan and the MC Racing Crew have aggressive development plans to be back even stronger in 2010.

About MC Racing

MC Racing competes in the NittoTires United States Touring Car Championship aboard a Mazda RX-8 with support from Mazda, Mazdatrix, Idemitsu, Racing Beat, Konig Wheels, TC Sportline, Bell Racing, and Eibach Springs.

For more information, visit www.mcspeedracer.com

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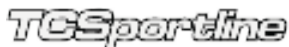
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