

NEWS RELEASE



State Water Heaters Celebrates Partnership with Ward and Jeb Burton

QSC Members Invited to Tour Hillman Racing Shop

ASHLAND CITY, Tenn. (May 16, 2012) – Through its partnership with Ward Burton and Hillman Racing, leading water heater manufacturer State Water Heaters (www.StateWaterHeaters.com) recently rewarded a group from Quality Service Contractors (QSC) with a unique opportunity to tour the Hillman Racing shop in Mooresville, N.C., guided by Burton, the 2002 Daytona 500 Champion.

QSC members from across the country had an all-access view of the shop, complete with the State sponsored No. 27 Chevrolet Ward Burton drove in his 2012 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series debut at the Daytona 500 earlier this year, as well as a live pit stop practice by Burton's son, 2012 NASCAR rookie Jeb Burton.

State has partnered with the Burton family since 2007 as a sponsor for both NASCAR as well as the Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation. This year, however, marks Jeb's NASCAR debut. Jeb made the transition to NASCAR after winning his past five ARCA Series races. State Water Heaters recognized Jeb's potential and signed on as his first major sponsor.

Ward kicked off the 2012 State Racing season with a top 10 finish at the Daytona 500 before passing the torch to Jeb, who recently earned a top 15 spot in his NASCAR Camping World Truck Series debut at Martinsville Speedway. Success in the series continues to follow Jeb with an 11th place finish at Rockingham Speedway on April 15.

State recognizes the special relationship between Ward and Jeb, a father mentoring his son in the sport they both love, and easily relates this to the family relationships often found in the plumbing industry, according to Jeff Storie, senior marketing manager for State Water Heaters.

"We realized early on that Ward has a natural connection with our wholesalers and contractors," said Storie. "Because of that connection, Ward and Jeb are great ambassadors for the State brand. We look forward to seeing what Ward, Jeb and the whole Hillman Racing team can do together, and we're glad to be a part of it."

To learn more about the State Racing program, visit www.StateRacing.com, Like Jeb Burton on Facebook at www.facebook.com/JebBurtonRacing or follow him on Twitter @JebBurtonRacing.

About State Water Heaters

State Water Heaters is a leading manufacturer of commercial and residential water heaters. For more than 60 years, State Water Heaters has built dependable, long-lasting water heaters for commercial and residential applications. State remains fixed on manufacturing durable products that last longer. For more information, visit www.StateWaterHeaters.com.

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