

# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Joe Finlay  
Gish, Sherwood & Friends  
615-385-1100  
[jfinlay@gish.com](mailto:jfinlay@gish.com)

## **Ward Burton Signs 2007 NASCAR Nextel Cup Series Contract with State Water Heaters and Morgan-McClure Motorsports**

**Ashland City, Tenn. (December 13, 2006)** – State Industries, Inc. and Morgan-McClure Motorsports announced a deal today to sponsor the #4 Chevy Monte Carlo. The announcement was made complete with the signing of Ward Burton as the driver for the 2007 NASCAR Nextel Cup Series.

Burton will debut the State Water Heaters #4 Chevy at the Daytona 500 on February 18, 2007.

“NASCAR is a perfect match for State Water Heaters,” says Jeff Storie, brand manager for State Water Heaters. “Ward can relate to the blue collar workers and plumbers we have for our brand and we look forward to the loyalty that the car and driver help develop for our products.”

Burton, winner of the Daytona 500 in 2002, competed in three races in 2006 for Morgan-McClure but prior to that he was away from NASCAR racing for two years.

“There’s finally a light at the end of the tunnel,” says Burton. “I am committed to a season of success for State Water Heaters and Morgan-McClure Motorsports.”

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Morgan-McClure Motorsports is located in Abingdon, Va. and is a member of an elite group of NASCAR Nextel Cup teams to win consecutive races in NASCAR's season opening Daytona 500. In winning tradition, Morgan-McClure has been instrumental in guiding top names in the series to Nextel Cup victories.

"In 2007, we hope to continue that winning tradition as Ward Burton takes over the reigns of the famed #4 Chevy Monte Carlo," says Larry McClure, president and team manager.

### **About State Water Heaters**

For more than 60 years, State Water Heaters has built dependable, long-lasting water heaters for commercial and residential applications. State remains focused on manufacturing durable products that last longer. For more information, visit [www.statewaterheaters.com](http://www.statewaterheaters.com).

***Solid.State.***

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