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## **INTERNATIONAL COMPETITORS TO COMPETE IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP TRACTOR PULL**

Louisville, Ky. (January 31, 2008) ... Held in conjunction with the National Farm Machinery Show, the 40<sup>th</sup> **Championship Tractor Pull** (CTP), sponsored by Syngenta, roars into Freedom Hall this February 13-16 and will be met with another sell-out crowd. Approximately 75,000 truck and tractor pulling fans are anticipated to attend this super-charged competition, known as America's oldest indoor tractor pull. The action-packed, four-day run includes five pulls where the world's best drivers, representing nineteen states and two foreign countries, compete for a share of more than \$200,000 in prize money and the nationally recognized title of Grand Champion. Friday and Saturday night's pulls have both sold out; however, tickets are still available for the remaining pulls.

The pull's loyal fans are coming to Louisville not only to witness their favorite pullers from across the nation, but from other countries as well. Two pullers in this year's competition hail from outside of the United States. This is the first year a European competitor has entered into the invitation-only competition. Luke Keulers, of Beek, Netherlands, is traveling over 4,000 miles to test the pulling power of his 10,200 lb. Pro Stock Tractor, Turn Me Loose. This is Keulers' inaugural pull in Louisville; however, he was very successful in the 2007 summer pulling circuit in the United States. Turn Me Loose has been modified and updated since these summer competitions and is ready to make history at the CTP.

Joining Keulers as an international contender is Adrian Hunter, of Alberta, Canada, who is returning for the tenth time. He will compete in Thursday night's 6,200 pound 2WD modified truck class with his powerful truck, The Hunter. Hunter placed fourth in the CTP finals in 2007, and has placed as high as third in past CTP finals.

The indoor roar of these engine-revving tractors and trucks begins at 7:30 p.m. February

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13-16, and an additional showdown takes place at 1 p.m. Saturday afternoon. Competitive lineups for 2008 feature Pro Stock, Super Stock, Super Farm, Modified and Alcohol Tractors and Two-and Four-Wheel-Drive Truck.

Tickets are on sale now at the Freedom Hall Ticket Office and all Ticketmaster outlets. Tickets for the pulls on Wednesday night through Saturday afternoon are \$31. The Friday and Saturday night shows are sold out. For more information, visit [www.farmmachineryshow.org](http://www.farmmachineryshow.org).

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The National Farm Machinery Show, the nation's largest indoor farm show, features the agricultural industry's most comprehensive display of equipment, services and technology. Held annually at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, Kentucky, the show attracts 300,000 attendees from the United States and around the world. The Championship Tractor Pull, the country's oldest indoor tractor pull, accompanies the show to provide an added element of entertainment and competition. The National Farm Machinery Show occupies over 1.2 million square feet of contiguous exhibit space, contributes \$21.5 million in economic impact to the Commonwealth each year, and is owned and produced by the Kentucky State Fair Board.

