

CHANDHOK RE-SIGNS WITH T-SPORT

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India's fastest teenager **Karun Chandhok** has re-signed with his 2002 squad T-Sport for the new season in the British Formula 3 championship. The Madras boy finished 6th in the championship last year with 6 podium finishes to his name.

Looking ahead Karun said, "I'm really glad that we did the deal with T-Sport for this year. After an 'educational' season last year I'm looking forward to the year ahead. We worked really well together, especially in the second half. After being a regular in the top 3 in both qualifying and races throughout the second half, I'm really confident that we can be championship contenders this year".

Till a couple weeks ago, Chandhok was still unsure on what class he would be driving. He had performed very well in the 3 days of testing he did in the class 'A' car with Carlin Motorsport at the end of 2002. But after careful consideration of the budgets involved he chose to stay with T-Sport.

He explains: *"There were many factors that influenced our decision to stay in the scholarship class. First and foremost, I want to win the championship and maintain my record of winning every championship I've competed in. I'd like to be a championship contender again and for sure winning any Formula 3 championship in the world raises a drivers profile significantly. The people at T-Sport and Carlin Motorsport felt strongly that since I'm still only 19, I have time on my side and so another year would be very beneficial to me. Undoubtedly, the financial aspect also played a role in our decision. The graduation to 'A' class would have meant an increase in budget of 80 lakhs which is not a small sum of money !! "*

Karun is once again backed by **JK Tyres, Kingfisher, ICSA Logistics, UCAL Mikuni, Amaron and Parx**. In addition to these **Karun** has a new backer in Rolon chains. He said *"I'm really glad that my major sponsors are continuing their support and my thanks to them as well as to Rolon for joining the consortium."*

Pre-season testing starts on the 21st of February carrying on till the first race of the season on April the 6th.