

OILS, LUBRICANTS  
& ADDITIVES

Q&amp;A



## RACING ROYALTY

John Mickel is an undisputed legend in racing. 2016 saw him win back-to-back UK titles in the exciting Legends Championships – yet another achievement in an incredible career. He also happens to be sponsored by K-Seal, which explains the bright orange car. *PMM* caught up with John in this exclusive interview.

**PMM: When did you start racing?**

**John Mickel (JM):** Easter 1981, in Ministox at Great Yarmouth Stadium. I was 10 and inspired by my Dad and my brother Alan who were both racers. From there I went on to become the British and European Champion.

**PMM: Which different series have you raced in?**

**JM:** After Ministox came Superstox, where I won Scottish, English, European, World Cup and World Championship titles. I was the youngest driver ever to win the World Championship title. I then raced in BRISCA Formula 2, open wheeled Stock Cars and won titles such as Euomaster, National Points and Golden Helmet.

I took to Legends in 1998 and in 2001 lifted the UK, World Series and World Final Titles. In 2004, I shipped my British ASCAR across the pond to race at Charlotte Motor Speedway in the ASA Series in the USA. This prominent platform motivated me to chase my American dream in the USA building NASCAR trucks to race on the famous tracks across America.

My best ever finish in NASCAR was 15th at Atlanta Motor speedway. The team was keen to race back in the UK so we returned to Legends in 2010, running a fleet of cars. In the same year I was invited to race in the high profile inaugural Freestate 500 NASCAR race in Phakisa, South Africa. I won this race, beating many well-known drivers, including a Daytona 500 winner.

Since my return to Legends, over the past six years we have won two UK Championships, one World Series and one World Final, in addition to three further UK and World Championship podiums.

**PMM: What is the highlight of your career so far?**

**JM:** The win in Phakisa in 2010. We did 334 laps and I was in the car for four hours.

**PMM: Any unfulfilled ambitions?**

**JM:** I would like to race a full NASCAR season in the USA. I think that would be the pinnacle for my motorsport career.

**PMM: What is your worst crash to date?**

**JM:** Rockingham Motor Speedway, in Northamptonshire, in the ASCAR Series in 2003. I hit the wall at 165mph after a tap from behind and was knocked unconscious. It took nearly an hour for the marshals and doctors to cut me out and a month to recover.

**PMM: How do you relax away from the track?**

**JM:** I enjoy time with my wife, Lisa, and our two daughters. We take our two dogs, Doodles and Buddy, for a drive in the Mustang which I built and we enjoy walking to our local.

**PMM: Describe your relationship with Kalimex and K-Seal?**

**JM:** Mickel Motorsport and Kalimex have worked together for six years. In 2015, Kalimex K-Seal came on board as our primary sponsor. I feel privileged to be involved with K-Seal, the preferred coolant leak repair brand of motor stockists and motor mechanics globally. It's a product I truly believe in.

To request further details about K-Seal, available from Kalimex, **circle 087**