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**TLC's *Overhaulin'* Host, CHIP FOOSE,
Revs Up for Father's Day**

Fascination with cars fuels bonding opportunities for dads and kids

ST. LOUIS (March 6, 2009) — Famed car designer Chip Foose learned to love the automobile from his father. Now he's helping his own son build that same passion through the interactive experience of customizing model cars from RIDEMAKERZ®.

"I can't think of a better way to celebrate Father's Day than for a father and son to do something creative together," Foose said. "Building a RIDE challenges the imagination of both of you."

Foose, host of The Learning Channel's (TLC) hit show *Overhaulin'*, is teaching the joys of model-car building to his son, Brock, eight. His wife, Lynn Foose, sometimes wonders who gets the biggest kick out of the RIDEZ experience – her son or her husband. "It really brings out the kid in dads," she said. "And it's great to see Chip and Brock having so much fun together."

Chip Foose can easily identify with the stage in life when boys begin to really turn their attention to cars. Born and raised in Santa Barbara, Calif., automobiles were in his blood. He was all of seven when he began working for his father's car company, where Chip specialized in project design. By age 12, Chip had painted his first car, a Porsche 356. From there his passion and drive propelled him to an unequalled legacy in the world of car design and customization.

As an investor and adviser to RIDEMAKERZ, Chip Foose has appeared at the grand opening of several of the company's Shops around the country. He mingles with the crowd and signs the one-of-the-kind RIDEZ made by visiting "Customizers."

“This project is close to my heart,” Foose said. “I learned about car-customizing from my dad, and now I get to help pass that experience on to the fathers, sons and families across America.”

"As much as I've always admired my dad, creating a RIDE is not like model-car making from his youth," Foose said. "It's not just that all the parts snap together, so you don't have to mess with glue. The whole process of customizing is truly revolutionary. RIDEMAKERZ brings model-car making into the 21st century."

You don't have to live near one of the dozen RIDEMAKERZ Shops to be able to bring the family together for a RIDEZ experience. Dads and sons (and daughters) can go online together to RIDEMAKERZ.com, customize and order all the parts. Then they can let their imaginations run wild as they create a car or truck in the comfort of their own den or garage.

“Sharing the experience with your family – that’s the most rewarding part,” Foose said. “Plus, when you make something together that you take pride in, years later you will remember that experience.”

Chip Foose has compiled an impressive list of accomplishments in his career. In November 1997, at age 31, he became the youngest member to be inducted into the Hot Rod Hall of Fame. In 1998, he was the first recipient of the Good Guys Trendsetter Award. Foose has won or been involved with winners of six prestigious America’s Most Beautiful Roadster Awards and has received the Good Guys Street Rod of the Year Award seven times. He has won the coveted Ridler Award – the hot rod world’s equivalent of the Oscars – an unprecedented three times.

His company, Foose Design, specializes in illustration, graphics, ideation model making, surfacing and complete construction of automobiles and automotive-related products. These products are available to private individuals, television, film and the auto manufacturers. He has designed and built street rods, customs, studio vehicles and show cars for films such as “Blade Runner,” “RoboCop” and “Gone in 60 Seconds.” His prize-winning creations often take upwards of six years to build by hand and typically cost their owners more than \$1 million.

Foose serves as vice chairman of the Progeria Research Foundation, California chapter.