

## For Immediate Release

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### FINAL QUALIFIED FIELD SET FOR 2006 MERCEDES CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAHAINA, Hawaii (Nov. 14, 2005) -- With the close of the PGA TOUR's official money season at the TOUR Championship, the field is now set for the 2006 season-opening, winners-only Mercedes Championships January 2-8, at The Plantation Course at Kapalua Resort. There are 32 PGA TOUR professionals qualified for the \$5.4 million tournament that awards \$1,080,000 and the keys to a new 2007 Mercedes-Benz S550 to the winner.

Two-time defending champion Stuart Appleby will try for an unprecedented third-straight Mercedes Championships title against a field that will include world's number one and two, Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh, who have been close to winning this tournament the past two years.

The competition should be even more intense this year as well, thanks to major improvements to The Plantation Course this past summer. Most importantly, The Plantation Course's greens now feature Ultradwarf TifEagle® grass that has received extremely favorable comments from the guests. Renovations were also made to the tees and fairway bunkers on The Plantation Course, and to the pro-shop and The Plantation House Restaurant that overlooks the first tee and the 18<sup>th</sup> fairway.

The following are the players and the tournaments they won to qualify for the 2006 Mercedes Championships:

	Player	Tournament(s) Won
1	Stuart Appleby	Mercedes Championships
2	Vijay Singh	Sony Open in Hawaii, Shell Houston Open, Wachovia Championship, Buick Open
3	Tiger Woods	Buick Invitational, Ford Championship at Doral, <b>The Masters, British Open</b> , WGC - NEC Invitational, WGC - American Express Championship
4	Justin Leonard	Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, FedEx St. Jude Classic
5	Phil Mickelson	FBR Open, AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, BellSouth Classic, <b>PGA Championship</b>
6	Geoff Ogilvy	Chrysler Classic of Tucson
7	David Toms	WGC - Accenture Match Play Championship
8	Padraig Harrington	The Honda Classic, Barclays Classic
9	Kenny Perry	Bay Hill Invitational presented by MasterCard, Bank of America Colonial

10	Fred Funk	THE PLAYERS Championship
11	Peter Lonard	MCI Heritage
12	Tim Petrovic	Zurich Classic of New Orleans
13	Ted Purdy	EDS Byron Nelson Championship
14	Bart Bryant	The Memorial Tournament, THE TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola
15	Sergio Garcia	Booz Allen Classic
16	Michael Cambell	<b>U.S. Open</b>
17	Jim Furyk	Cialis Western Open
18	Sean O'Hair	John Deere Classic
19	Jason Bohn	B.C. Open
20	Ben Crane	U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee
21	Retief Goosen	The INTERNATIONAL
22	Vaughn Taylor	Reno Tahoe Open
23	Brad Faxon	Buick Championship
24	Olin Browne	Deutsche Bank Championship
25	Mark Calcavecchia	Bell Canadian Open
26	Jason Gore	84 LUMBER Classic
27	Robert Gamez	Valero Texas Open
28	K.J. Choi	Chrysler Classic of Greensboro
29	Wes Short, Jr.	Michelin Championship at Las Vegas
30	Lucas Glover	FUNAI Classic at WALT DISNEY WORLD Resort
31	Carl Pettersson	Chrysler Championship
32	Heath Slocum	Southern Farm Bureau Classic

Tickets for the Mercedes Championships are available through Ticketmaster at 1-866-GOLFTIX (toll free), or visit [www.pgatour.com](http://www.pgatour.com) or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). For further questions, please call toll free 1-866-669-2440.

The Kapalua Resort is a 23,000-acre master-planned community set amidst a working pineapple plantation on Maui's northwest coast. The resort is renowned for its three world-class golf courses – The Bay, The Village and The Plantation Courses; nine residential communities; two premier hotels – The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua and the Kapalua Bay Hotel; a villa rental program, The Kapalua Villas; a luxury home rental program, Kapalua Luxury Homes; a tennis complex; three white sand beaches; and a myriad of restaurants and shops. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-KAPALUA or visit the web site at [www.kapalua.com](http://www.kapalua.com).

Mercedes-Benz USA (MBUSA), headquartered in Montvale, New Jersey, is responsible for the sales, marketing and service of all Mercedes-Benz and Maybach products in the United States. In 2004, MBUSA achieved an all-time sales record of 221,610 new vehicles, setting the highest sales volume ever in its history and achieving 11 consecutive years of sales growth. More information on MBUSA and its products can be found on the Internet at [www.mbusa.com](http://www.mbusa.com) and [www.maybachusa.com](http://www.maybachusa.com).

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