

## **OTTO DOES IT AGAIN... WINS FIFTH OSWEGO CHAMPIONSHIP FOR NICOTRA, SIXTH OVERALL**

OSWEGO, N.Y. – Otto Sitterly proved again Saturday night, Sept. 14, at Oswego Speedway that he's the top non-wing supermodified driver in the country with a convincing win in the season-closing 75-lapper and a clinch of the 2013 Oswego Novelis Supermodified track championship!

Sitterly entered the night just 11 points ahead of Joe Gosek in the battle for the track championship. It marked the second consecutive season Sitterly entered the final race night in a close battle for the title. Last year Pat Lavery was just a few points back of Sitterly, but Otto was able to hold on to claim Nicotra Racing's fourth Oswego championship.

This year Otto had a little bit of a cushion, but certainly not enough to be rest easy.

The heat race, which pays points and can be very important toward the championship, featured some drama. Otto was running third to Keith Shampine and Bob Bond when, with a couple laps to go, he looked high in turns three and four on Bond in bid to take over the runner-up spot and gain a couple more points.

Otto and Bond touched in turn three and the slight contact sent Otto spinning. He'd have to restart the heat at the tail of the field, and with only two laps left, Otto made it back to fourth before the checkers waved.

Otto entered the 75-lap main event seven points ahead of Gosek, who finished second in his heat race.

Once the green flag waved, it was clear Otto was on a mission. Starting sixth, he quickly moved into the top five and began challenging Gosek for the runner-up position. With Gosek just ahead, all Otto had to do was stay directly behind "Double O Joe" and the championship would go to the G&I Homes-backed Nicotra team.

But Sitterly didn't just sit behind Gosek, but he challenged and drove hard, like he's done for years at the Big O.

On lap 15 Otto shot past Gosek to take over the second position. Sitterly wasted no time pulling his blue No. 7 Hawk chassis to the lead, passing Michael Barnes for the top spot on lap 44.

From there it was all Otto Sitterly doing it in style – winning the feature and the track championship, in the same night.

The win marked Otto's fourth of the 2013 season to lead all supermodified drivers at Oswego. The championship was Otto's sixth as a driver and fifth with John Nicotra Racing. Sitterly won the 2006 Oswego championship while driving his own No. 79.

Said Otto after the victory, “The lapped traffic was actually a lot of fun,” said Sitterly. “The car was pretty good, that is Davey Hamilton’s car right there which is the car that was in the wall two weeks ago. We put it back together all fresh and after I put my car in the wall a few weeks back it just hasn’t been the same, it used up the right rear tire in the Classic like it has never done before, so something isn’t quite right there. We’ll take my car back together and straighten it out, but this car doesn’t need much of anything.”

Sitterly went on to comment on his heat race spin, racing with Bond.

“You know, you can take it easy out there,” said Sitterly. “But, Pat Lavery came over after that spin and said to me ‘what are you doing out there,’ and I told him, ‘Well, I was racing.’”

With a total of six track titles on his side now at Oswego Speedway, Sitterly is on the cusp of entering historic territory with the likes of Jim Champine, Bentley Warren and Nolan Swift.

“I’ve got a lot of appreciation for everyone that has ever done anything for me,” said Sitterly. “None of these championships is any better than the other; they are all very special to me. This was a tough year; this racing game is not easy for anybody here. There were a lot of emotional highs and lows and that can be tough.”

The 2013 season has now concluded for the Nicotra Racing team. Otto will begin making preparations for the 2014 in his Canajoharie, N.Y., shop. Stay tuned for more news throughout the winter months from Nicotra Racing!

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Nicotra Racing is a supermodified team owned by John Nicotra and maintained by driver and chief mechanic Otto Sitterly. Nicotra Racing is based in Homestead, Fla., and Canajoharie, N.Y., and has won three International Classic 200s and four Oswego supermodified track championships in its seven years of existence.

Nicotra Racing is proud to be sponsored by G&I Homes, Inc., 5 Brothers Produce, Burnac Produce Limited, Provincial Fruit Co., S&L Beans, Florida Vegetable, Flavor First, V.L. Walker Co., Georgia Crate & Basket, Rite-Pak Produce, Quality First Produce, Sam Accursio Farms, Excel Homes, Ritz-Craft Homes and Beaver River Distributing.