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Chip Foose

A renowned automotive customizer and fabricator, as well as host of The Learning Channel's hit show *Overhaulin'*, Chip Foose has created an unequalled legacy in the world of car customization that is well beyond his years. Now Chip is helping children and adults build that same passion through the interactive, hands-on experience of building and customizing RIDEMAKERZ® RIDEZ.

As an advisor to RIDEMAKERZ, Chip has appeared at the grand opening of many of the company's Shops across the country to sign autographs for fans, build one-of-a kind RIDEZ and mingle with other car "Customizers." In August 2008 he will attend the Woodward Dream Cruise on behalf of RIDEMAKERZ to sign autographs and introduce The RIDEMAKERZ Dream Collection, a first-of-its-kind collection of 14 RIDEZ specially customized and hand painted by Chip, which will be auctioned off to benefit the Progeria Research Foundation.

Born and raised in Santa Barbara, Calif., Chip has had cars running through his veins from day one. He was all of 7 when he began working for his father's car company, where he specialized in project design. By age 12, Chip had painted his first car, a Porsche 356. From there his passion and drive catapulted him to many staggering accomplishments.

In November of 1997, at age 31, Chip became the youngest member ever to be inducted into the Hot Rod Hall of Fame. In 1998, he was the first recipient of the Good Guys Trendsetter Award. Chip has won or been involved with seven different prestigious AMBR (America's Most Beautiful Roadster) Award winners 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 and automobile manufacturers as well as for use in television and film. He has designed and built street rods, customs, studio vehicles and show cars for films such as *Blade Runner*, *Robo Cop* and *Gone in 60 Seconds*. His prize-winning creations often take upwards of six years to build by hand.

Chip currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Progeria Research Foundation, California Chapter.