**NITROCHARGE POWER PITCH DANIELE DE ROSSI Q&A**

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**What is an Engine player as far as you’re concerned?**

The Engine player never gives up. There are a lot of ways to describe it but I think that one works the best. He’s the player that tracks back and chases the ball all the way for 90 minutes. That’s The Engine’s role. He is the thorn in the opposition’s side, he is always on, always running and, like I say, never giving up.

**Would you describe yourself as an Engine player?**

I wouldn’t be so bold as to make such a claim but what I can say is that this is the sort of player I aim to be. One day, when I retire I hope to be remembered as this kind footballer, someone who played with energy, passion and finesse. To be picked out by adidas to represent this campaign is great as it associates me with my natural characteristics, but also elements of my game I work hard on every day.

**You recently selected a young Italian Engine for adidas’ Nitrocharge Power Pitch event, tell us about the sort of player you were looking for.**

Ultimately I was looking for the player who made the difference between the two sides. I wanted to pick someone who displayed the fire and the hunger that you see in players at the very top level in football. Andrea, the player I chose, played very well when I saw him and I picked him out immediately. There were no lost causes with him and he was the catalyst to most of the good movements his team made in the game. It is often very easy to credit the goal scorer and give him all the glory but when you look further back to the point when the goal became possible, then you are seeing the player who is making the real difference.

**You competed at the Confederations Cup recently with Italy, how did you enjoy the tournament?**

It was a great tournament to compete in and has made the whole squad very hungry and excited to compete at next year’s World Cup. Brazil is an amazing country that is truly obsessed with football. I can only imagine the festival atmosphere that will await the teams next year. It could well be one of the most memorable World Cups of all time.

**Continued.**

**How do you feel about Italy’s chances at next year’s World Cup, should Italy qualify of course?**

The qualifiers are going well for us at the moment and if we continue in our overall good form then we stand a strong chance of making it to next summer’s tournament. As I said, I think the atmosphere will be amazing next summer. It was great at the Confederations Cup but everyone knows that the World Cup comes with something special. The World Cup is the ultimate tournament in world football and I think we will be in the midst of a party atmosphere. It should be amazing for both the fans and the players, who will be equally inspired by the occasion.

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