



NEWS RELEASE

OKLAHOMA STATE FAIR, INC.
MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 74943
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73147
PHONE: (405) 948-6700
FAX: (405) 948-6828
www.okstatefair.com - www.okstatefairpark.com



November 22, 2011 - For Immediate Release:

Oklahoma City Extends Contract with the United States Team Roping Championships

The United States Team Roping Championships (USTRC) has signed a Letter of Agreement, extending the current contract for their Cinch USTRC National Finals of Team Roping. The event will remain at State Fair Park, in Oklahoma City, through the year 2016.

This is the most recent equine event to extend their relationship with Oklahoma City and State Fair Park, following in the footsteps of the Grand National and World Championship Morgan Horse Show and the American Quarter Horse Youth Association's World Show. These two shows also both signed contract extensions over the past few months.

"Oklahoma City is the perfect location for our National Finals event because of its central location and due to all of the improvements made by the State Fair Park the last few years, we now have the perfect facility to host the largest team roping event in the world, the Cinch USTRC National Finals of Team Roping," stated USTRC President Kirk Bray.

The 2011 USTRC National Finals drew 182,385 spectators and participants and had a direct spending impact on Oklahoma City of over \$42.6 million making this the largest 9-day horse show that takes place at State Fair Park. There were 7,018 teams competing for over \$4.5 million in cash and prizes. The USTRC has called Oklahoma City and State Fair Park home since 1994.

"It is very gratifying to see that the investment made by the City of Oklahoma City, in the modernization of the State Fair Park equine facilities at State Fair Park, continues to pay off in a big way," stated Oklahoma State Fair, Inc. President and CEO Tim O'Toole. "Obviously, the world-class barns and arenas, offices and conference rooms made available to exhibitors and event organizers at State Fair Park are a major factor in the return of such nationally renowned competitions as the USTRC. The improvements to State Fair Park and subsequent partnerships with the various equine associations allow us to maintain the position of *Horse Show Capital of the World*."

"When Oklahoma City hosts events such as the United States Team Roping Championships, the economic impact is substantial," said Roy Williams, president and CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber. "Not only is it an exciting event for Oklahoma City to host, but it benefits many hotels, restaurants and entertainment venues where visitors will spend time and money while in town."