

# NEWS



Kia Motors America, Inc. 9801 Muirlands Blvd. / Irvine, CA 92618-2521 / Ph: (949)470-7000 / Fax: (949)470-2809

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Howard Lim  
Kia Motors America  
949-470-7175

## **AROUND THE WORLD ADVENTURER READIES TO DRIVE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES IN A KIA SORENTO**

### **Swedish Driver Attempting the First Circumnavigation in a Stock Vehicle**

IRVINE, Calif., November 10, 2005 – Christer Gerlach, the pioneering Swedish driver and adventurer, arrived at Kia Motors America's (KMA) corporate headquarters today in preparation for his drive across the United States as part of his around the world expedition in a Kia Sorento SUV.

Gerlach, who is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the first person to drive around the world, is attempting the first solo circumnavigation, using just one stock vehicle -- the Kia Sorento -- without any customization, including the use of factory tires.

“We are pleased to welcome Mr. Gerlach to the U.S. and are proud that his Kia Sorento has carried him safely and successfully throughout parts of Europe, Russia and Asia,” said Len Hunt, Kia Motors America's executive vice president and COO. “This adventure speaks volumes about the quality and reliability of Kia's vehicles, and we wish Mr. Gerlach the best of luck in his travels across the U.S. and beyond.”

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Having completed more than half of his 14,900-mile journey prior to his arrival in the U.S., Gerlach and his Sorento will travel the historic Route 66 from California to New York before finishing his record-setting trip in Europe. Earlier, Gerlach became the first person to include driving across Siberia as part of his around the world trek.

Kia Motors America is the sales, marketing and distribution arm of Kia Motors Corp. in Seoul, South Korea. For more information visit [www.kiamedia.com](http://www.kiamedia.com).

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