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## Yamaha U.S. Announces New Role For Josh Hayes With Yamaha Factory Racing

Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A., and Yamaha Factory Racing are proud to announce that four-time AMA Superbike Champion and Yamaha Legend Josh Hayes will continue with the team in a brand-new role for which he is uniquely qualified, as Yamaha Factory Racing Ambassador and Yamaha bLU cRU Rider Coach. The announcement was made by Keith McCarty, Motorsports Racing Division Manager for Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A.

For 2018, the "Mississippi Madman" will continue as a vital member of the Yamaha Factory Racing team, applying his knowledge and experience as a mentor, consultant, and rider coach, as well as continuing to promote the Yamaha brand and Yamaha Factory Racing in the MotoAmerica paddock and beyond. In addition, Josh will serve as a test rider for the Monster Energy/Yamalube/Yamaha Factory Racing Superbike team.

Commenting on his new role, Josh said, "This is not a retirement announcement. I feel like 'retirement' is a choice you make. I never intended to stop racing, but with Yamaha's vision and goals, it became time to move in a new direction with the young talent that's been dominating the MotoAmerica Supersport class. I'm thankful to Yamaha, Keith, and the team for giving me the opportunity to accomplish what I was able to in Superbike, and I'm proud that they want me to continue with them, beyond just racing their motorcycles. I'm looking forward to sharing my knowledge and experience with the younger riders moving up."

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