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## **MIZUNO AND JENNIE FINCH INK MULTI-YEAR AGREEMENT** **Fastpitch Softball's Biggest Star Re-Signs with Mizuno**

Norcross, GA (October 21, 2009) – [Mizuno USA, Inc.](http://www.mizunousa.com), announced today that the company has re-signed two-time Olympic Medalist and member of the National Professional Fastpitch's Chicago Bandits, Jennie Finch, to a multi-year contract extension. Finch and Mizuno have partnered together since 2002, when she first joined the brand's roster. Re-signing Finch will continue to help Mizuno build upon its leadership position in the fastpitch category.

"Re-signing Jennie Finch demonstrates Mizuno's continued commitment to fastpitch softball and women's athletics," said Bob Puccini, President Mizuno USA, Inc., and Chairman, Mizuno Canada, Ltd. "Jennie is one of the elite athletes in the history of women's fastpitch softball and continues to serve as an outstanding symbol for the character, dedication, and performance that both Mizuno and Jennie bring to the game. She is an excellent ambassador for female athletes all over the world."

Finch was one of the premier players on the USA Women's National Team which took home the Silver medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, and the Gold medal at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games. Before that, Finch was a three-time, first team All-American, and two-time Honda Player of the Year while playing for the University of Arizona. She is one of the most dominant pitchers in the history of fastpitch softball, and currently holds the NCAA record for most consecutive wins with 60.

"For almost a decade I have been proud to work with the Mizuno team on the Jennie Finch signature product line," said Finch. "Mizuno has enabled me to fulfill my dream of developing the best products for the fastpitch player, and I am thrilled to continue my relationship with a company that has believed in me and my dreams."

"Mizuno is proud to have Jennie Finch, the premier softball player in the world, to represent our brand and line of products," said Dick Grapenthin, Vice President and General Manager for the Diamond Sports Division, Mizuno USA. "Jennie is a world class hitter and pitcher and a truly professional person. We are excited to have Jennie staying with the Mizuno team."

Mizuno has a complete line of high performance fastpitch ball gloves, footwear, fastpitch bats, batting gloves, and performance apparel. Finch will continue to contribute her feedback in the research and development process. The current line-up of Mizuno fastpitch products includes several Finch™ series items including the [Franchise Finch™ Series](#) of fastpitch ball gloves, the [Jennie Finch™ Signature Series fastpitch bat](#), the [Finch™ Premier G2 batting gloves](#), [Jennie Finch™ Low Rise Slider w/ Padding compression shorts](#), and [9-Spike™ Finch™ Mid](#) and [Low G4 Cleats](#).

*Mizuno USA, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Mizuno Corporation, one of the largest sporting goods manufacturers in the world. Mizuno USA, Inc. manufactures and distributes baseball, golf, softball, running, track & field, and volleyball equipment, apparel, and footwear for North America. Mizuno USA, Inc. is based in Norcross, Georgia.*

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