

Press release

World premiere:

Students build electric racing cars

- 18 teams will start at Formula Student Electric in Hockenheim
- New record: more than 2.000 students display their engineering skills



Photo: Formula Student during technical inspection.

(Düsseldorf, 08.02.2010) 96 teams from all over the world will come to Formula Student Germany (FSG). The international contest will be held from 4th until 8th August 2010 at the Hockenheimring. This year the students will not only compete with conventional combustion engine cars. For the first time they will also participate in a new competition with electric racing cars. At the

worldwide first Formula Student Electric (FSE) the young engineers take up the challenge of planning and constructing a formula-style racing car with a pure electric drive. “The students’ dedication and interest in FSE is overwhelming us”, says Tim Hannig, Chairman of the Formula Student Germany (FSG) and president of the FSG e.V. As a result, the FSG Executive Committee has increased the number of electric slots from 12 to 18. “The FSE competition represents a trendsetting project, especially against the background of rising gas prices”, continues Hannig. “Today’s young engineers are our innovators of the future, creating a more sustainable mobility.”

Eleven German teams will participate in FSE. They come from the universities of Aachen, Berlin, Zwickau, Munich, Stuttgart, Karlsruhe, Mosbach, Cologne, Deggendorf, Diepholz and Wilhelmshafen. Seven international teams from the universities of Hatfield (UK), Delft and Eindhoven (NL), Bratislava (SK), Graz (AT) and Zurich (CH) will compete as well.

Besides FSE, the competition for race cars with combustion engines will take place again this year. 78 teams from 21 countries will take part. 40 German teams have registered, as well as teams from Italy, Spain, Great Britain, the United States, Canada, Iran, Egypt, India, Russia, the Netherlands, Finland, France, Sweden, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Poland and Australia. "With both competitions we offer young engineers the possibility to obtain valuable professional experience already during their studies", underlines Dr. Ludwig Vollrath of the Association of German Engineers (VDI). All teams of the FSG are listed under www.formulastudent.de.

The competition aims to actively support young engineers in order to counteract the shortage of engineers in the long run. Securing the future by supporting young talent is the motto. The demands on the students are very high: They have to plan and construct a formula race car all on their own. This way they gain practical experience and improve the skills they need to successfully enter the job market after their studies.

"Students not only acquire specialist knowledge in construction and economics, they also gain so called soft skills. This mixture of professional and social competencies characterises the competition and turns participating students into attractive employees for the industry", says Vollrath. The concept is convincing, not only for the students but also for the automotive industry. Today, companies such as Audi, BMW, Bosch, Brunel, Continental, Daimler, Dekra, Henkel, IAV GmbH, Mahle, Solid Works, Tognum as well as VW and ZF support Formula Student Germany.

More information: www.formulastudent.de and www.formulastudentelectric.de