

Press release

## Starting signal for the Formula Student Germany

Racing engineer Leena Gade comes to the Hockenheim Ring



FSG will be starting again from 31st July until 5th August. (Foto: FSG/Kroeger)

(Düsseldorf, 31.07.2012) There is not much more time left for them to do the bolting and testing: 110 teams have been preparing intensively for months to enter the Formula Student Germany (FSG), which is the international constructor's competition at the Hockenheimring. They can show whether the work was worthwhile from 31<sup>st</sup> July until 5<sup>th</sup> August. A total of about 2,600 students from 25 countries will be competing to win in the Formula Student Combustion (FSC) - which is

the traditional competition for internal combustion engines - and in the Formula Student Electric (FSE) where the teams focused on fully electric engines. There will be 78 teams starting in the FSC and 32 teams will be competing against each other in the FSE.

This event cannot be missed by a prominent professional in the racing sport's scene either: the British racing engineer Leena Gade will be looking over the students' shoulders on 4<sup>th</sup> August and informing herself about the latest trends and developments. Gade knows what she is talking about. Indeed, she was among the engineers in 2011 and 2012 who were responsible for the winning car at the 24 hour Le Mans race. "My first exposure to Formula Student was in 2011 at the UK event in Silverstone. What struck me was the level of skill, both technical and organisational, on display with the projects", says Gade. "The open structure of the competition allows students to push beyond the limits of a traditional engineering degree and use practical skills to deliver a race car. Racing is a tough business at all levels and is dictated by economics, technology and personnel. All three can be found in the Formula Student project and it is up to the students to exploit their best qualities to make a car that wins. Any student wanting to follow a career into motorsport should take part in this competition – the skills you learn here will give you a good basis to work in the motorsport field."

The FSG offers a perfect springboard for the first job to all students who are just at the beginning of their engineering careers, since it makes great demands on the participants: "The goal of the interdisciplinary teams is to develop the best race car with regard to construction,



performance and design and to present it at the Hockenheimring,” said FSG Chairman Tim Hannig.”

Besides the VDI (Verein Deutscher Ingenieure or ‘Association of German Engineers’), which is supporting the constructor’s competition at the Hockenheimring as the ideal sponsor, many industrial companies like Audi, Autodesk, BASF, BMW, Bosch, Brunel, Continental, Daimler, Dekra, Etas, Harting, IAV, Mahle, MAN, Porsche, MathWorks, SKF and Tognum as well as VW and ZF are also committed.

You will find statements of all sponsors in the official programme, which will be handed out during the event.

You can find more information at [www.formulastudent.de](http://www.formulastudent.de)

### **About the VDI**

The VDI, the Association of German Engineers (registered association), represents engineers and technology. With nearly 150,000 members, the VDI is the largest technical scientific association in Europe. As an independent non-profit organization, it is a central contact partner for technical, professional and political questions. Its strong network supports exchanges among the fields of industry, science, society, politics and engineering. The VDI creates solutions for relevant questions about the future, with the goal of strengthening Germany’s position in the long term.