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Visiting top F1 team's test facility

Learning the trade

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Understanding tyres

How race rubber really behaves

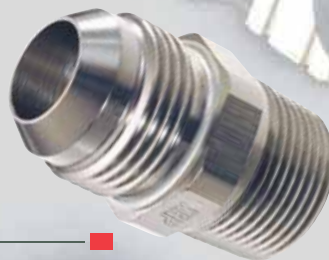


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THE XTREME IN RACING PLUMBING

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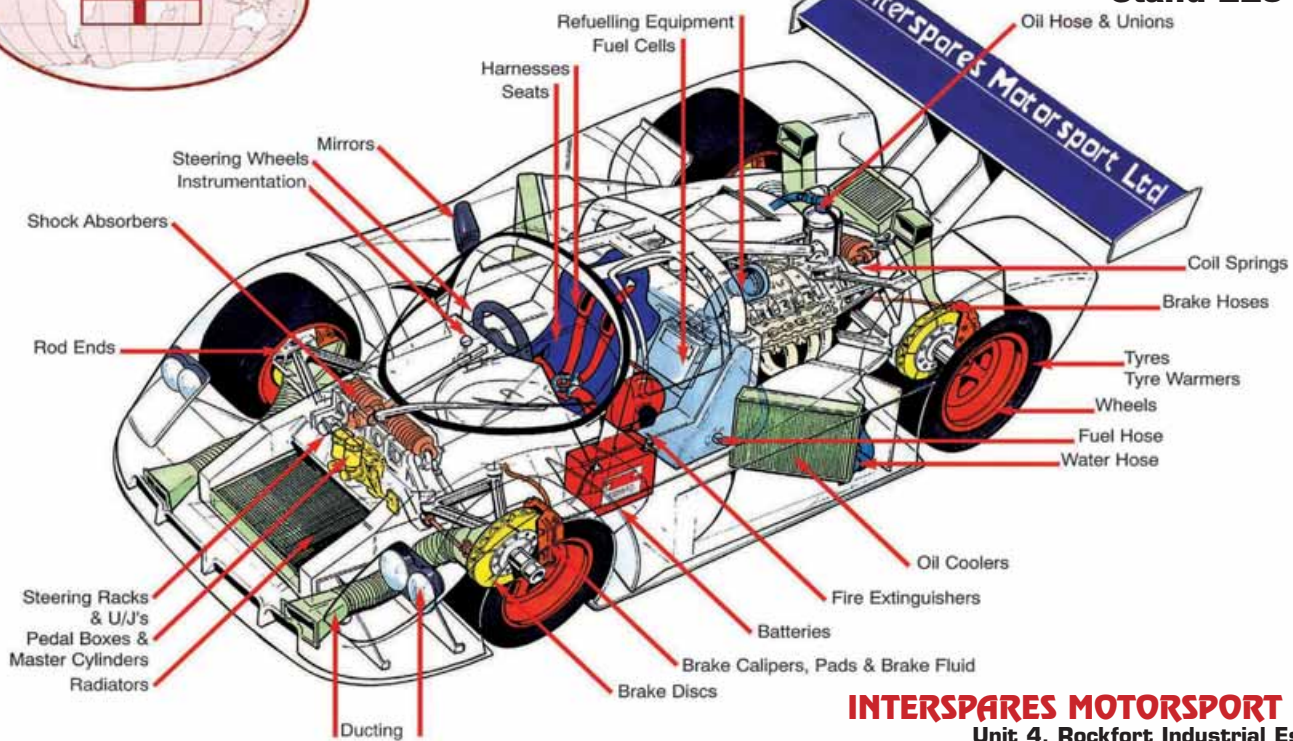
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Write Line

So Adrian Newey has finally skipped Woking for Milton Keynes, although his new team is now called Red Bull Racing instead of Jaguar. The rumour is the story leaked out on a radio station and when Newey got to work the next day his office was locked and Ron Dennis greeted him with 'please clear your personal belongings and leave.'

While I wish Adrian well in his new job after a few months gardening, or more likely 'tinkering with his cars' leave, if the story is true I can't really blame Ron either. Who wouldn't want to avert any risk of your outgoing technical director burning that vital, last CD from his work machine.

To be frank, in the skills-rich world of Formula 1, anybody can build an F1 car. The challenge is in the design. These days grand prix cars exist as data and, as the recent case between Ferrari and two Toyota employees is debating, data is harder to protect than hardware. It can slip out through subcontractors, through network crime and through movement of staff. But, while Adrian has left with little more than his desk ornaments, nobody can erase his brain. One can imagine Ron dreading being faced by a McLaren MP4-20 in Red Bull colours on the 2006 grid. In the late '70s, Tony Southgate left Shadow for the newly-formed Arrows and landed his new team with a court case thanks to their car's similarity to his last Shadow. Arrows lost in court and had to design a replacement. I can't imagine a similar case making it through the courts today though. The cars are so indistinguishable, the charge would never stick.

However, all this is not just about a car design. The experience Newey takes with him amounts to much more than how to make a clone of the latest McLaren. It has to do with how to arrive at that design, the techniques and processes for arriving at a direction, and where to assign resources to achieve the greatest progress. Even with modern strategies for knowledge download, this ability to lead a team in the right direction is a rare commodity.

It's no wonder team principles fear this scenario, not just because of what they will lose, but as much for what it will give their competitor. Worse is the prospect of the technical director taking his key engineering staff with him, effectively ripping the creative heart out of the team. This could be a mortal blow and contracts are drafted with many complex clauses to prevent this happening. These days, the only way to acquire a fully-formed design team with current F1 experience is to buy a whole grand prix team. And haven't we seen that happen a lot lately? Renault, Honda, BMW, Midland and Red Bull all bought into F1 by acquiring established outfits. Toyota, on the other hand set up its team from scratch and has had a long and painful growth to its current level of competitiveness. So is constant acquisition the model for teams in the future? Perhaps there will be a group of Formula 1 teams who change their branding regularly on the exchange of vast amounts of money but retain the same staff, the same premises and facilities.

Road cars are becoming increasingly homogenous, distinguished by little more than their badge, but is Formula 1 already way ahead of them?

Editor
Charles Armstrong-Wilson

“IT'S NO WONDER TEAM PRINCIPLES FEAR THIS SCENARIO”



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Racecar
engineering

Pit Crew

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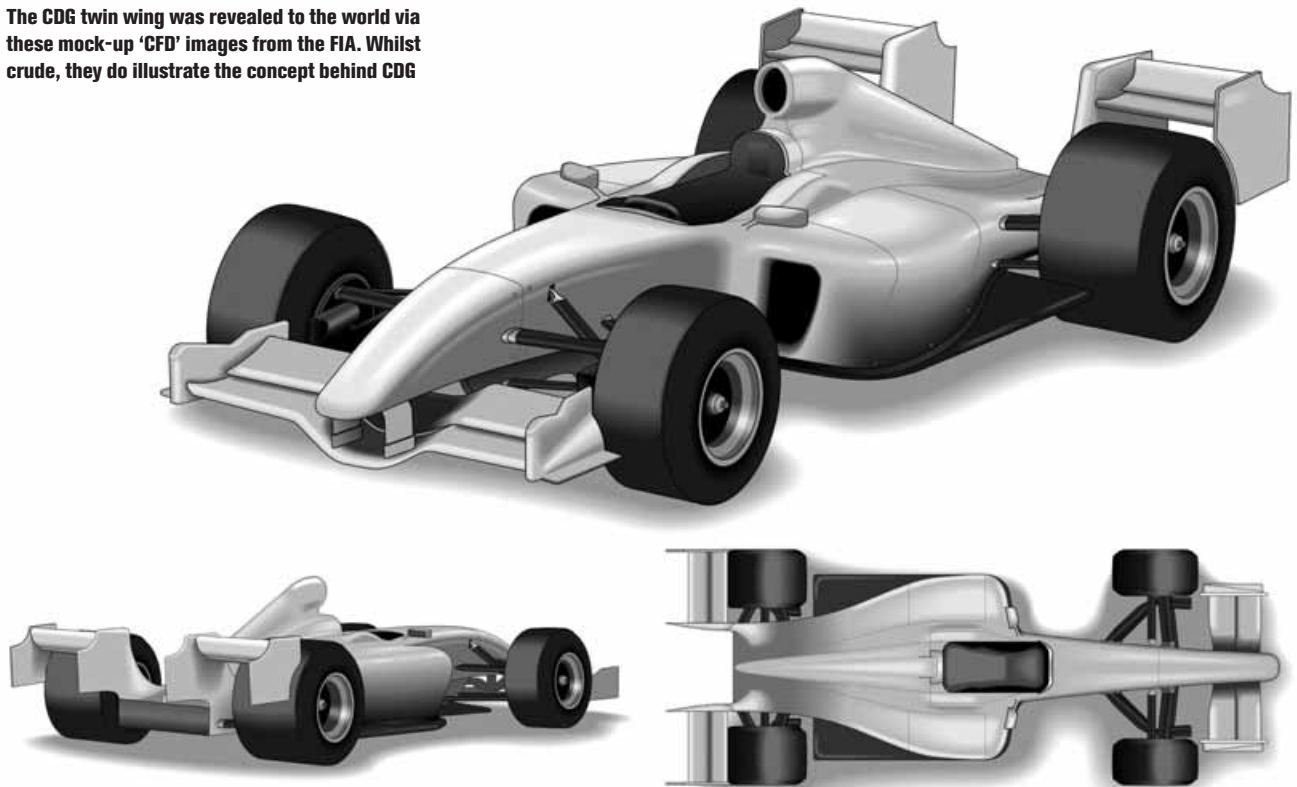
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FIA clips Formula 1's wings

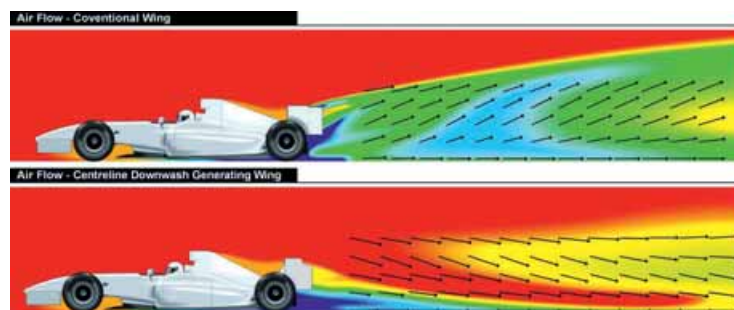
The CDG twin wing was revealed to the world via these mock-up 'CFD' images from the FIA. Whilst crude, they do illustrate the concept behind CDG



Formula 1 is set for a radical new look in 2008, with a new rear wing concept forming part of a package of changes to the series approved by the World Motorsport Council. The wing was revealed to the world shortly before a meeting of the F1 commission and could appear, along with some of the other new measures being proposed, as early as 2007 if 80 per cent of the F1 Technical Working Group agree.

Following the results of the FIA's fan survey, AMD was appointed as 'official technical partner' of the governing body (see debrief V15N7). One of the very first joint projects undertaken was the CFD study into vehicle aerodynamics, aimed at developing aerodynamic regulations that promote overtaking. The centreline downwash generating (CDG) wing is the first result the FIA has revealed from its relationship with AMD.

The new wing aims to reduce so-called 'dirty air', the turbulent flow in a car's wake. In theory it will also reduce the efficiency of the rear wings as they will now be in the turbulent air of the



rear wheels, reducing total downforce.

However, there has been some negative reaction to the wing concept, notably from Gary Anderson, who commented in the British press that it seems to him that the idea has not been fully thought through.

Sergio Rinland, who designed the Sauber C20 amongst other cars, has a different point of view: 'I like it, because it will have the effect of reducing rear downforce, as I suggested some time ago, and leaving the designers to balance the front without many restrictions. Also it will help cars draft each other (remember what the

Handford device did in CART) and that aids overtaking.'

A number of other measures have been taken by the WMC to encourage lower cost and more competitive racing, including larger wheels and a return to full slick tyres supplied by a single company. For 2006 it will also re-introduce tyre changes during races.

Qualifying too has been reworked, with all cars taking to the track in the first quarter of an hour, with the slowest five being knocked out after the first 15 minutes. Five cars will be knocked out every 15 minutes until the fastest five cars are left to compete for pole position

in a 20-minute finale.

The FIA has also announced the appointment of the Bernie Ecclestone-owned Paul Ricard High Tech Test Track as the FIA institute's first centre for motorsport excellence. The facility will be used to host safety seminars, for training officials and for testing of new safety features developed by the institute's working groups.

Other centres of excellence for safety will be opened in the future, with the plan being for every continent to have one circuit selected as a hub for improving motorsport safety standards in that region.

Suzuki hits F1 grid with Hondas

A new team will be present on the Formula 1 grid this season, fronted by former grand prix driver Aguri Suzuki. Super Aguri F1 will operate out of the Leaffield technology centre in England, former home of Tom Walkinshaw Racing.

Whilst it is known that the new team will use Honda's V8 engine, few details beyond that are known. Honda, who purchased the BAR team late last year, previously stated that it will also be running V8s in the two works cars. However, *Racecar* sources report that both Honda and Toyota have been testing restricted V10 engines in preparation for the season. There have been suggestions that the restricted V10 units will have an initial advantage over the V8s so it is possible the restricted 10s could find a home in the Super Aguris.

One major stumbling block the team must overcome is design and manufacture of an all-new chassis,

as F1 rules stipulate that each team designs its own chassis (though its manufacture can be outsourced). Rumours suggest the team will use BAR-Honda chassis from last year

but this appears to have been ruled out, leaving Dome the firm favourite to be the chassis manufacturer.

Mark Preston has been appointed chief technical director of the team. Preston, who previously was head of R&D at Arrows, had been trying to find a way into F1 for his Silverstone-based Preston Motorsport Group.

Suzuki's association with Honda goes back to the 1990s and Formula 1 with Footwork-Honda



LAT



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Preston Motorsport's PR material points out that one of the big advantages for potential sponsors getting involved with its Formula 1 project is that the new team is 'perfectly set to exploit the existing FOM championship, or any future breakaway series.'

This could be seen as the entire reason for the team's existence - to allow Honda to have a foot in the door of the F1 championship with Super Aguri/Preston, whilst the works team is committed to the GPMA breakaway series.

Aguri had to get its entry documents to the FIA by 15 November, including engine and chassis data. As *Racecar* closed for press, the Aguri chassis should have been impact tested and certificated, but it appears this has not yet taken place. So, unless a number of rules can be waived, it looks highly unlikely that the team will be on the grid at all this coming year.

Adrian Newey joins rampant Red Bull

Red Bull Racing has scored a huge coup by signing senior F1 technical director Adrian Newey, who is currently at McLaren, to join the team in 2006.

The energy drink market leaders are becoming increasingly prominent on the Formula 1 grid after rounding off a surprisingly competitive debut season in 2005 by buying a second team, Minardi, who will in the future be known as Squadra Toro Rosso.

Red Bull Racing revealed that Newey will join the team in February, which will be too late to really influence the design of this year's (2006) chassis. However, he may be able to develop it and the Squadra Toro Rosso / Minardi chassis.

Newey appears to be just the latest achievement in Red Bull's grand prix racing charge, though it had been thought that the English technical director had been keen to leave McLaren for some time. It was announced in 2001



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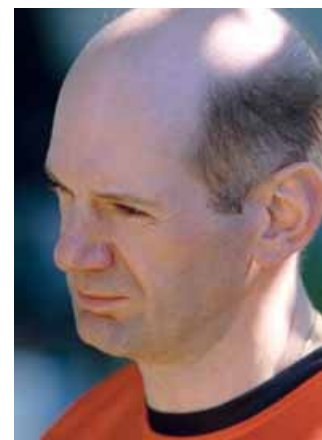
From 2007 Red Bull Racing's colours will be on a Newey-designed chassis

that Newey had joined the then Bobby Rahal-run Jaguar team, but the deal wasn't completed and Newey stayed at McLaren. It is worth noting however that Jaguar then went on to become Red Bull Racing at the end of 2004.

Red Bull Racing team boss Christian Horner commented: 'It's a massive recruitment for us, we need to make a step forward next year. That has to be

focussed on getting into the top five or six in the constructors' championship, then in 2007 the real impact of Adrian's appointment will be seen.'

Newey's illustrious career started in the early 1980s with Fittipaldi Automotive. He then moved to March for whom he went on to design a number of cars including the 1984 Indy 500 winner. In Formula 1 his Williams' chassis



LAT

defined him as one of the leading designers. The cars were consistently in the top class of the field between 1991 and 1997, during which time they notched up 58 grand prix wins and five constructors' championships. After Williams, Newey joined McLaren where more success followed.

Willis spills at MIA dinner

Geoff Willis, technical director of BAR Honda, revealed that the team used a seamless shift gearbox throughout the 2005 season. It works on the same basic principles as the Zeroshift and Weismann systems detailed in *Racecar Engineering* [V1 4N6 and V1 5N6]. However, it uses the team's own method for accomplishing the changes and is said to be very simple in its operation.

The timing of the shifts and the tolerances are key to its success, Willis confided. To reduce harmonic oscillations in the drivetrain, stiffness in the components – particularly the driveshafts – was said to be very important. Significant improvements in acceleration was an obvious benefit of the system and also the continuous torque during changes apparently unsettled the car less in corners.

The unit was developed jointly



Geoff Willis, Nick Fry and Chris Aylett were in expansive form at the MIA's recent Networking Dinner

between the team and Honda which had first-hand experience of the Weismann Quick Shift when it was tried on a McLaren Honda in 1989.

While in expansive mood, Willis also disclosed that the BAR Honda's lack of pace in the early part of the 2005 season was due to an inconsistency in the

downforce generated by the front wing causing understeer. 'It took us three months to sort out,' he admitted, 'during which we fell back in other areas of aerodynamic development as we devoted resources to fixing it.' He said the problem was eventually identified and cured and, in the process, opened

up a whole new area of aerodynamic research. Willis also noted that both the Ferrari and Toyota appeared to be suffering from the same problem. In contrast, Renault and McLaren showed no signs of the phenomenon but he was unable to say whether it was because they had identified and cured it early on or never encountered it in the first place.

Racecar caught up with Willis at the MIA Networking Dinner at the Belfrey Hotel in Oxford UK, where he was appearing as guest of honour, along with team principal Nick Fry. During an onstage interview conducted by MIA CEO Chris Aylett, Fry admitted that with hindsight the 2.4-litre, V8 F1 engines for 2006 had not been such a good idea. He said they had been expensive to develop and, with the benefit of experience, a rev limit on the previous generation of V10s would have been a simpler solution.

BAR 067 Lakester – the fastest F1 car ever

British American Racing notched up one final achievement at the end of 2005 before morphing into Honda F1 by building the fastest F1 car in history. Its specially adapted 067 Speedster had been trying to set a new record at the Bonneville salt flats in Utah, but rain caused the flats to flood rendering any running impossible. Undeterred, the team decamped to the nearby Mojave airport to go for a high-speed run where the car hit 413.205kph (258mph) on the main runway,

making it unofficially the fastest F1 car in history. The team is not content with this though, and plans to return to Bonneville in 2006.

The car has a number of alterations, including a stabilising fin at the rear and different radiator inlets, but still complies with 2005 regulations. It does not comply with current rules though due to the 3.0-litre Honda V10 not being restricted. Whether the next attempt will be made by a 2.4-litre V8 engine or a restricted 10 is unclear.



BAR's Bonneville 'Lakester' has already been clocked at an unofficial 258mph

Rockets to the moon



The Lockheed F104 Starfighter-based North American Eagle land speed record attempt car tested recently at Edwards Air Force Base in California, USA. The team achieved speeds of up to 400mph and carried out a number of systems checks, including measuring some key systems like the magnetic braking system and 'speed brakes'. The steering and handling characteristics were assessed and data gathered to allow the team to see if the car was generating too much lift for the 800mph record runs on Black Rock Desert.

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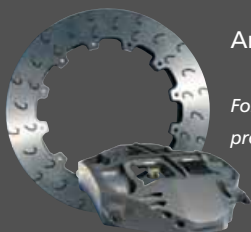
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NEWS IN BRIEF

- Alfa Romeo is withdrawing from the WTCC after just one season. It had previously been believed that the Italian firm would race a Super 2000 version of its new 159 model.
- BTC spec cars will be allowed to race in the BTCC until 2009 under an equivalency formula. Only privateer teams will be able to run the old spec cars and it is thought they will not be able to win races. The British series will run to Super 2000 rules in 2006.
- Lada's 2110 WTCC racer was revealed at the Moscow Motorshow in November.
- A1 Team USA hopes to enter this year's Indy 500, though which chassis or engine the team will use is as yet unclear.
- John Barnard's B3 Technologies group has designed and manufactured a Skeleton sled for a British athlete to use in the winter Olympics. The sled is made out of composite materials and the firm is hopeful of a medal.
- Squadra Toro Rosso is considering running a year-old Minardi PS05 chassis in this year's Formula 1 championship – unless the FIA permits the team to use '05-spec Red Bulls.
- Super Aguri F1 is planning to run a team in Formula Nippon using Honda engines in a Lola B06/51 (FN06). It's clear F1 is priority though.

Learn to win students left hungry for more

Some 400 students attend the IMechE's new Formula Student event at Silverstone in late October. 'Learn to win' was a chance for all UK Formula Student teams to get together for a weekend of seminars given by a number of significant motorsport industry figures and a full day of track testing time on the venue's Stowe Circuit.

The event was also an opportunity for universities to introduce new team members to the task of running a racecar in good time for the '06 season.

Event organiser, Brian Robinson, was impressed with the turnout, with over 400 students attending the seminars and 11 of the 12 teams still running by the Sunday afternoon. 'The main reason for this event is to help teams with their preparations for FS 2006. The attendance was more than expected and it was an interesting and exciting experience for all involved,' he said.

Saturday's seminars had some of motorsport's top engineers giving advice on design, cost and testing regimes – Jon Hilton (technical director, engine division at Renault F1), Ian Murphy (track engineer, Williams F1), David



SHR

Students were given the opportunity to test their cars at Silverstone in October

Gould (Gould Engineering) and a number of other industry figures. Of the event Hilton said, 'It was great to see so many of the British teams there. When the seminars took place last December at Kingston University, it was probably a bit late in the day, design and build ideas were most likely decided by then, but this year I think we've caught the teams just in time.'

Ian Murphy of Williams F1 also commented, 'The standard of engineering represented the 'upper class' of the UK 2005 Formula Student entries. The best cars present would be competing for the Design Event win with just a little more design integration, a bit of weight loss and more care applied to

load paths through the structure.'

University of Hertfordshire's Jon Goddard said, 'I think it's an awesome opportunity to get new team members stuck into FS this year. Also a chance to get together with the rest of the UK teams and run the cars. It should definitely be run again next year!'

That sentiment was echoed by a number of students who also called for a winter series of dynamic-only events during 2006/7. 'It would allow us to train up first and second year students and teach them the skill of developing, running and maintaining an active racecar – something that is really missing in Formula Student and Formula SAE,' explained a senior UK team source.

Continental backs engineering excellence

Continental, the international automotive supplier most famous for its tyres, is backing a new initiative to promote the importance of the engineering sciences in a global economy.

Eight universities from around the world are participating in the initiative to conduct the first worldwide scientific study on 'Global Engineering', starting in October 2005. The group of universities is headed by Germany's TU Darmstadt, and also includes Georgia Tech (USA), Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China), Tsinghua University (China), MIT (USA),



Thomas Sattelberger announces the new Global Engineering Study

Escola Politecnica da Universidade de Sao Paulo (Brazil), ETH Zurich (Switzerland) and the University of Tokyo (Japan).

This collaboration aims to study

the influence and importance of technological expertise and education on the competitiveness of nations, people and companies.

At the heart of the initiative is a comprehensive study designed to reflect a broad spectrum of topics including competitiveness and technology, career paths of graduates in scientific disciplines, how first-rate engineering and science education are designed and implemented, the development of future trends in these fields and how to promote the successful interchange of knowledge between universities and companies.

'Technology and learning are our passion,' explained Continental's Thomas Sattelberger, 'which is why Continental is supporting the Global Engineering Study. We have actively promoted engineering education and the development of young engineers for many years.'

'Continental strongly believes in partnerships with universities and is promoting this initiative as a responsible enterprise in a non-selfish way.'

By participating in this study the universities will analyse engineering profiles worldwide and present the results in autumn 2006.

New prototypes break cover



Giovanni Lavaggi proudly displays the wind tunnel model of his company's new LMP1 contender, the LS1

A new name is set to appear on the prototype racing scene – Lavaggi. The Monaco-based firm set up by former Formula 1 driver Giovanni Lavaggi is already advanced, with designs in place for its new LMP1, the LS1. Lavaggi hopes to be able to achieve the rare feat of designing, building and racing his own car at Le Mans, and to this end the team aims to enter the newly renamed Le Mans Series this year. Selected races in the ALMS and the new Japanese prototype series are also scheduled.

Power is to come from a big block 6.0-litre Ford V8, an unusual engine choice in a class dominated by smaller AER, Judd and Cosworth units. As with every other LMP on the market the chassis is a carbon monocoque, which will have to be crash tested to FIA standards. So far three suppliers have been revealed: Sachs dampers, Brembo brakes and Hella headlights.

Whilst the car is designed primarily for the LMP1 class, Lavaggi also plans to make a LMP2 version to order.

Meanwhile, one of Lavaggi's future rivals, Courage, is advancing with its twin LMP projects. As *Racecar* closed for press the Le Mans-based firm were in the 'final phase' before the LMP2 chassis (initially named C75) goes into production, whilst the LMP1 project (initially named C70) is being developed in the wind tunnel. More from Courage next month.

Elsewhere in France the Ligier name returned to competition with an LMP3 chassis, the JS-49. The car made its competitive debut in a recent VdeV race at Magny-Cours.

While on the other side of the English Channel Radical has been making progress with its SR9 LMP2 chassis – passing the first part of the FIA crash test at Cranfield University.

Racecar safety study

The FIA Institute's Closed Car Research Group has accelerated its work into the aspects of occupant protection during side impact collisions in World Rally Cars.

Following his tragic accident in the Margam stage of the 2005 Wales Rally GB, which caused the death of his friend and co-driver Michael 'Beef' Park, Markko Märtin visited the 2005 Tour of Corsica, where he consulted with FIA Institute president, *RE* technical consultant Peter Wright and relevant members of the research group on the topic.

This particular issue is unique in world motorsport: World Rally Cars travel at the very limit of their tyres at 160km/h between walls comprising buildings, trees and telegraph poles – each offering single-point contact if a problem occurs. The cars accommodate two people, who sit next to each other, their bodies taking up much of the

space across the cockpit. The space issue is such that there is just 30-35cm between the outer door skin and the occupants' outer shoulders.

Current FIA rules mandate front side window winding mechanisms and a carbon inner door panel in World Rally Cars. Evidently, such equipment cannot offer the sort of deformation characteristics in absorbing high *g* side impact forces that are available with specifically designed deformable structures.

Much can be done to improve the survivability of drivers and co-drivers in side impact situations, and in 2003 Prodrive commissioned Cranfield University to undertake a study into the subject during 2004.

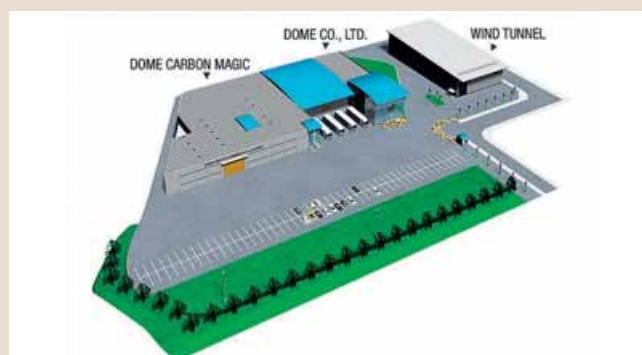
The findings are positive, and *Racecar* is compiling an in-depth report into the subject for future publication. Most observers agree that change is essential to prevent a reoccurrence. Read about it first here in *Racecar Engineering*.



Rallying presents a different set of safety issues to other forms of motorsport

Dome expansion

Japanese racecar constructor Dome is expanding into a new, larger factory, possibly to accommodate the chassis construction of the new Super Aguri F1 team. It is also advertising for new engineering staff. Dome is also known to be currently working on a new LMP1 chassis.



Greece is the word for TT



Racecar's Tony Tobias opened the Athens Tuning show in late 2005



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Charlotte still in tyre trouble

Tyres continued to be a problem for Nextel Cup cars at Charlotte in October. Accidents and blow outs were alarmingly frequent, and this on the same track which suffered from similar problems in May 2005 [see V15N8].

Before the October race, tyres were dragged around the track to add some rubber to the surface and improve grip, which it did with speeds way up over last year. Unfortunately, the race was appalling, with no fewer than five drivers hitting the wall with cut tyres whilst leading, including the points chase leader. Tyres were only lasting 20-25 laps before visible blistering could be seen or they blew out through wear. Eight other tyre incidents took cars out of the running. At the end of the race blame was being pitched between Goodyear, the grinding of the track and teams for under inflating right-side tyres.

At one point NASCAR officials enforced the teams' tyre pressures to make sure they were at Goodyear's recommended 50psi and threatened to dock points from those found to be under inflating. 'This is the biggest joke in racing I've ever seen,' remarked Kevin Harvick, who was obviously under a rock during the US Grand Prix. 'It's disgusting and embarrassing for our sport, we should throw the chequered flag and get the hell out of here.' Goodyear's representative at the track had this to say: 'They're running so fast (pole lap was 193.216mph compared with 188.877mph in 2004), so hard, so heavy

Tyre problems continue to dog NASCAR, with a succession of crashes at Charlotte. It is not yet clear whether this is a track, a tyre or an inflation pressure issue. The case continues...

and they're putting a lot of force on the tyres. There are so many variables involved it will take some time to get a clear picture of the forces on the tyres.'

Meanwhile, track president, Humpy Wheeler, has promised a re-surface to cover his magic levigating before the May races in 2006, which should give Goodyear engineers time to look at a different compound for the new asphalt, unlike this year.



the track two weeks after the race with an Evernham Dodge using a variety of compounds, including the one used during the race.

NASCAR mandated a new minimum right front tyre pressure rule in Atlanta that will remain in effect for the foreseeable future in all three of its top divisions. Coupled with new camber restrictions this should help to stop right front tyre blow outs, more often than not caused by wear. NASCAR officials will record the pressure pre-race and before each pit stop (officials have been recording pressures before each race since August in an effort to glean data). The minimum rating will vary each race with Goodyear recommendations. In Atlanta 47psi was used with no issues.

NBC Sports has withdrawn from negotiations with NASCAR to televise the second half of the season once its contract expires in 2006. Disney-owned ABC/ESPN will return to screen NASCAR races after it was booted out by the current Fox/NBC plan, while Fox is expected to continue to televise the first half of the season's events. Time Warner-owned TNT is also expected to become a third party in the mix. The current contracts have the two broadcasting giants paying \$200 million (£115 million) each per year, but that is expected to rise in 2007, hence NBC pulling the plug. Whatever the 2007 year contract's sell for it will put between \$400-500 million in NASCAR's already swelling swag bag.

Jeff Gordon believes that drivers and engineers should give input before tracks are changed in any way, shape or form. 'I don't think anybody wanted to do anything dangerous,' remarked the four time champ, 'they had every intention to do the right thing, but I think you get the right engineers, drivers and people from NASCAR and you're not going to see these things reoccur.'

Goodyear carried out its own tests at

NASCAR's car of tomorrow unveiled



NASCAR's car of tomorrow has been revealed to the press in four guises – Dodge, Ford, Chevrolet and what appears to be a Toyota. Few details are known about the COT currently but there will be more in *Racecar* next month.

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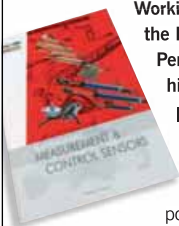
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WRC calendar revolution

The FIA World Council approved the 2006 World Rally Championship calendar in the now traditional way last October – just two days before the start of the penultimate '05 WRC round, the Catalonia Rally.

The late confirmation of this calendar provides scant time for the teams to make their preparations for the following year, given that the manufacturing lead time of many parts for WRCs is lengthy.

Subaru team principal, David Lapworth, considers that this calendar decision process is 'a joke', and other team bosses express their difficulties with the late timing of the announcement of a schedule of world rallies for the following year.

Not least among these is Mitsubishi rally boss Isao Torii, whose budgets are set annually from April to the end of March. The late timing of the FIA calendar confirmation causes him numerous budget-establishing and logistical headaches, but the edict which also came out of the World Council regarding post-2006 world rallies makes these headaches.

It was also announced that the 2007 season will be 'eight or nine rallies' from just January to May, when the 2007 world champion driver and manufacturer will be decided. Then, the period from August 2007 through to May 2008 is to be known as the 2008 World Rally Championship. The intention is for championships to run over two calendar years after 2008.

Not knowing exactly how many rallies and, in particular, how many long-haul

events are in the 2007 World Championship obviously causes a problem for someone in Torii's position when it comes to budgeting. Not to mention in securing a long-term future for the team in the sport, especially considering that Mitsubishi bean counters are currently looking closely at the costs of involvement in the world rallying.

A further complication from the rule makers comes this year in that the 'manufacturer' teams have been split into two categories. Taking into account that 2006 World Rally Cars are devoid of active front and rear differentials, engine water injection and interlinked anti-roll bars, and that there will be a selection of legally homologated 2005 specification cars available with active front and rear diffs and water injection (and Xsara WRCs with passive linked roll bars),

without making an official announcement the FIA has decided thus:

Further delineating driver categorisation, there is a 'banned' list of drivers, and these are the stars. This list is so-called because those drivers who have placed in any of the first six places in a World Rally Championship over the past five years will not be allowed to contest world events in a 2005 specification World Rally Car. To score points in the World Rally Championship, a manufacturer must take part with two cars of the same make in all the championship rallies.

Additionally, it has now been decreed that two manufacturer team categories are now to be sanctioned: 'Manufacturer 1' and 'Manufacturer 2'. By implication, the Manufacturer 1 team must field 2006 specification WRCs, while it is understood that Manufacturer 2 teams

may run any car, provided it is of the same make.

It seems that this decree comes from the desire to ensure what were known before as 'private' teams (and which now qualify to be named as Manufacturer 2) do not field, say, an '05-spec active Focus WRC on asphalt rallies and an active Impreza WRC of similar vintage on dirt events. However, by dint of their name, it is also understood that manufacturer points scoring opportunities will be available to each of these teams. Which seems to mean that an all-active '05 car can score manufacturer points if driven by a 'non-banned' driver.

It was announced during the Catalonia Rally that Citroën Sport will be retaining the services of its star driver during the teams' sabbatical from the WRC in 2006, to drive the Xsara WRC this year run by Kronos Racing. He will also help with work on the development of the C4 WRC in preparation for the manufacturer's return in 2007. The driver who is reigning World Champion will have to drive a 2006-specification, passive front and rear differential Xsara which will be achieved through applying 'Variant Options' to the 2005 car.

Currently, the only manufacturer to hit the 2006 World Championship running with a brand-new homologation of a new car to the 2006 rules will be Ford with the new Focus. The 2004-specification Focus RS WRC which contested the 2005 World Championship as a works car demonstrated that it remained well on the pace.



Citroën is one of the few teams who will benefit from rule changes for 2006

Mitsubishi targets Group N performance

Faced with the arrival of cars built to the FIA's Super 2000-Rallies formula, Mitsubishi is staying with its Group N 'showroom' roots with the display of the Concept Sportback at last year's Frankfurt Motor Show (the car first shown as the Concept-X in Tokyo).

Defining the shape of the new

Lancer series, this car is the basis of the Lancer Evo X.

Using aluminium alloy for the bonnet, boot, wings and door panels helps weight reduction, though whether they all make it to production remains to be seen. The Concept-X has active control of its four-wheel-drive system, brakes

and steering and anti-roll bars. Power is transmitted via a six-speed gearbox controlled by paddles on the steering wheel.

The Concept-X's turbocharged 2.0-litre, 16-valve, four-cylinder engine is equipped with Mitsubishi's MIVEC variable valve timing technology, which first saw

light in a Lancer Evo in the current Evo IX. In Group N trim this MIVEC kit is said to be the main reason for an engine performance increase over its rpm range, offering a better torque curve and more response. A new titanium turbo with a magnesium compressor also helps here, it is claimed.



Aguri Suzuki

● **Gerald Brusoz**, a former Michelin tyre engineer, has joined Ferrari's Formula 1 team in a new role aimed at optimising the F2006's tyre usage. It is worth noting that Ferrari uses Bridgestone tyres.

● **Pierre Dupasquier** will continue to be involved with Michelin in a consultancy role looking after special projects.

● **Aguri Suzuki**, the Japanese former grand prix driver, has set up his own Formula 1 team. Mark Preston's Preston Motorsport Group is joining him in the venture (see debrief p7 for further details).



Pierre Dupasquier

● **Max Mosley** has been unanimously re-elected as president of the FIA – his fourth consecutive term in the position.

● A number of other FIA appointments were announced, including **Michel Boeri** as president of the senate, **Marco Piccinini** as deputy president for sport and **Sebastian Salvado** to another senior FIA position. Other members of the senate were also announced, along with vice presidents of the FIA for sport and the World Motorsport Council.

● **Adrian Newey** is set to leave McLaren



Max Mosley

for Red Bull Racing (see debrief p7 for more details).

● Former grand prix driver **Giovanni Lavaggi** has set up a new LMP manufacturer – Lavaggi. He aims to design, build and race the car at Le Mans.

● **Dietmar Metrich**, chief engineer at Skoda Motorsport, has left the team to spend more time with his family.



Giovanni Lavaggi

● **Franz Tost** has been appointed team principal of Squadra Toro Rosso, Red Bull Racing's 'B' team. Tost had been track operation manager at BMW motorsport.

● **Charles Armstrong-Wilson** became the most prolific editor of *Racecar Engineering* in November when he closed his 65th issue. Previously, the magazine's founder, Quentin Spurring, had overseen the most at 64 issues.

Send your company and personnel news direct to the **Racecar Engineering** team: tel: +44 (0)20 8726 8363; fax: +44 (0)20 8726 8399 or email racecar@ipcmedia.com

ON THE GAS...

CRAIG DAWSON

Post grad researcher, Adam Sharpe Motorsport, amongst others

Dawson, a familiar sight in the pits and paddocks of top-line British motorsport, is a recent graduate from Oxford Brookes University



How did you first get involved in motorsport?

Engineering is in my blood – my grandfather is a former president of the IMechE, and my father has run his own team since long before I was even born. I have seen the highs and lows already and it has taught me a lot.

What's the most interesting project you've ever worked on?

I think it was probably the designing and building of the Westfield SEight GT3 car that my father was in charge of. Trying to make the car strong enough to handle 500bhp and keeping it at 750kg was a huge challenge. When our car pulled alongside the Lanzante McLaren F1 past the pit lane at Snetterton we knew we had it about right.

Formula Student has also been fascinating for many other reasons – it's more of a challenge with 'interesting' experiences.

What achievements are you most proud of?

Winning the skid pan in FSAE 2005 and breaking the world record in the process was fantastic. Driving a car that I and many others had put so much into was a very moving moment and made all the pain of getting there worthwhile. It showed that we can build fantastic FSAE cars in the UK and, with better budgets, the Americans and Australians are going to have to watch out. We were the first Europeans to win a Dynamic event over there, which made it even sweeter.

Can you name your favourite racing car of all time?

The Audi R8. Only now are people catching up with it. In the modern day I don't feel any other car has had such dominance.

Who do you most admire in racecar engineering and why?

The likes of Patrick Head, Keith Duckworth, and Ross Brawn have all been motivational figures for me. I think it's the dream of most young engineers to replicate these types of people later in life. They have had incredible success. Having worked with Geoff Goddard in the last few years at Brookes has inspired me greatly. He had confidence in some crazy ideas and has let me develop them.

What racing era/formula would you have liked to work in and why?

I think the late '90s in Champ Car. The racing was fantastic – every weekend you could have a different winner. It was so important to chase that last tenth and everyone in the team could really make a difference. It was single seaters at their best.

What tool/instrument could you not work without?

Either a Bosch Automotive Handbook or a

Zeus book. As an undergraduate they are never far away, regardless of the subject.

What engineering innovation do you most admire?

Fuel injection, because of the huge step it made in getting the best from a race engine.

Is motorsport about engineering or entertainment?

It has to be a balance. Today there wouldn't be any engineering without the money the entertainment brings in. I guess you could say that entertainment is more important in F1 though – imagine where we would be today if the FIA didn't keep slowing the cars down to try and improve the entertainment.

What new technologies in motorsport are you most excited about?

The use of composites I think. With carbon gearboxes being so successful, how long is it before we see more composites being used in engines?

Is there a future for high technology in motorsport?

Absolutely. The issue is how it is brought into our sport.

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News

Many companies are set to use the 2006 Autosport Engineering show as a perfect forum to showcase new products.

German metals specialist, Tennant Metall & Technologie GmbH, will be displaying its new high strength, cold drawn, seamless, stainless steel tube. The company's CRW1000N product is supplied in a heat-treated condition and is entirely suitable for both welding and bending. The tube has been designed for numerous applications, including motorsport, engineering, marine and chemical applications.

Danish company, Ole Buhl Racing, will be distributing a Power Control Module to replace the need for circuit breakers or fuses. It comes with 18 programmable, high-powered channels, 16 low-powered, and runs at a steady 160A power output.

UK specialist component manufacturer, Pace Products, will be displaying its new precision lightweight race fittings. The re-usable anodised alloy hose ends are machined from billet to aerospace standards to provide every application with a secure, leak-free seal.

UK motorsport component manufacturer, SPA Design, will be introducing a new range of 52mm (2.05in) analogue instruments to go alongside its existing range of tachos, while SPA Dynamometer will be showing its latest evolution shock dyno, hosting an increased degree of stability.

To find out what other new products will be available at the show make sure you secure a ticket of your own. To find out more information about the event visit www.autosport-international.com

Talk to TT

If you are thinking of exhibiting at the show and would like to speak to someone about how to go about it, then contact



Racecar's Tony Tobias.

Email: expo@tonytobias.com or call him direct on: 07768 244 880.

Arrow straight

With the ability to design and manufacture custom engine components in house Arrow Precision offers racecar engineers a valuable service

Words Katie Power

Race engine component manufacturer, Arrow Precision, will be attending next year's Autosport Engineering show to launch its new product range and showcase its design capabilities.

European leaders Arrow Precision produce high quality racecar components from the design stage, right through to manufacture, with a full custom-made service available.

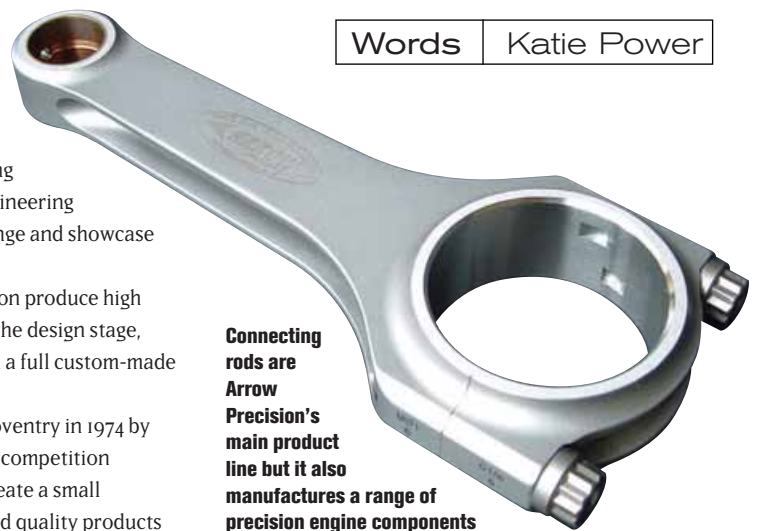
The company was founded in Coventry in 1974 by David Arnold. He saw a market for competition connecting rods and decided to create a small engineering company that provided quality products and service. The company's customer base grew and in 1989 the company moved into its own premises in Hinckley, Leicestershire. There it proceeded to invest time and money into initiating its own manufacturing process for connecting rods. Since this point the company has continued to prosper, becoming a familiar face at many large-scale events.

Arrow Precision actually made its first ever public exhibition at the very first Autosport Engineering show. Many more shows followed and in 2001 it made its first appearance at the PRI show in Indianapolis, now an annual fixture on the company's calendar.

2004 was a key year for Arrow Precision as it successfully branched out into the world of motorbikes. The company now sponsors the Hawk Kawasaki British Superbike Team, opening up new possibilities and increasing public awareness of the company's high quality titanium connecting rods.

David Arnold's son, Ian, took over the position of managing director in 1997 and has been pushing the company progressively forward since. Arrow Precision now has 41 members of staff and has recently increased its production area by 50 per cent. Over the last six years turnover has trebled, and recent investment has seen the introduction of a new CNC grinding machine, a horizontal twin pallet milling machine and a CMM Mitutoyo measuring machine.

As a company, it is mostly renowned for its superior



Connecting rods are Arrow Precision's main product line but it also manufactures a range of precision engine components

quality connecting rods and cam followers, and is continually developing new products to meet specific customer requirements. Other ranges manufactured include flywheels, valve guides, spring retainers and shims. It is also the main distributor for ARP fasteners in the UK.

Arrow Precision has never missed a show since the opening of Autosport Engineering and the positive response it receives keeps it returning year after year. It will be using the large-scale event to showcase its established product lines, its design and manufacturing capabilities and to launch a new range of products. As well as this there's also the obvious advantage of being able to interact directly with clients, new and old.

Contact

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Sharon Quaife, Quaife Engineering

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Andrea Rodney, Hone-all Precision

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Oscar Romano, Ferrea Racing Components

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The show is open from 0900-1800 hrs daily. Trade days and the essential engineering show are on Thursday 12 and Friday 13 January. The international show, which is open to the general public, continues until Sunday 15 January.

Beat the queues

Trade visitors can avoid queuing to get into the show by pre-registering online at www.autosport-engineering.com for just £22 per day, which includes the trade guide to the show. The ticket gives full access to both the international and engineering portions of the show. Only bona fide trade members and valid competition licence holders will be admitted and must have proof of their status as a competitor, trade buyer, supplier or manufacturer.

Travel

Birmingham's NEC is in the ideal location. Birmingham International railway station, which is part of the NEC complex, is served by fast and frequent trains from central London and Oxfordshire. From the NEC the centre of Birmingham is just 10 minutes away by train. Also in the same complex is Birmingham International Airport, which has scheduled flights from North America and Europe, and is used by as many as 50 international airlines. Road travel is also well catered for, with easy and well signposted access from the M1, M6, M40 and M42 motorways and there is on-site parking for 21,000 cars. For more information on getting there visit www.autosport-international.com

Accommodation

There is a large number of hotels around the NEC catering for most budgets, many within easy walking distance of the show. The on-site Hilton Metropole and Airport Holiday Inn are among the most popular. Early booking is highly recommended.

Public days

Members of the public are admitted to the Autosport International Show on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 January only, after the engineering section has closed. Ticket prices start at £25 for adults. To pre-book tickets call the ticket hotline on 0870 380 2244 or visit www.autosport-international.com

Every year the world motorsport community descends on the Birmingham NEC in the UK for Europe's biggest and best motorsport engineering trade show, Autosport Engineering, which this year takes place on 12-13 January. A close look at the venue reveals why the Birmingham Exhibition Centre is the ideal location – it is next door to an international airport and mainline railway station, serving both London and the Oxfordshire industry cluster.

With over 400 stands this show has become essential for anyone involved in motorsport engineering and everyone of any importance is there. Be prepared for a lot of walking, a lot of talking and even more business cards (both given and received). Once again *Racecar* is the official media partner and will have a strong presence at the show.



Pankl makes debut

Austrian drivetrain specialist Pankl will be making its first ever appearance at a motorsport trade show, displaying its whole product range, including gearboxes for LMP2, Formula 3 and touring cars.

At the end of 2004 the tally stood at 50 CART wins, six IRL champions, four Indy 500 wins, nine Le Mans class wins, eight world rally champions, 50 DTM wins and over 100 Formula 1 wins, as well as a plethora of success in other formulae, yet few know much about this Austrian success story.

Pankl is a company firmly rooted in motorsport, and has been since 1920 when Karl Pankl finished on the podium at the Hungarian Grand Prix in a Salmson.

More recently, Pankl has been expanding with flotation on the NASDAQ Europe, and an expansion of the aerospace side of the business. Currently the firm's



Pankl's PFB006 touring car gearbox will be on display for the first time

business is 85 per cent motorsport and 15 per cent aerospace. Of the motorsport business Pankl supplies 84 per cent for actual motorsport and 16 per cent for high performance roadcar applications. Yet the firm has remained highly secretive, only recently allowing journalists from *Racecar Engineering* inside its factory. Pankl will be on stand E318.

If you can't wait until the show there is more on Pankl in the next issue of *Racecar*.

French revolution

The Nevers Magny-Cours engineering cluster, in association with CS Consulting, are set to showcase the full spectrum of French motorsport excellence in their own pavilion in the Autosport International section of the show.

As *Racecar* closed for press 11 companies were planning to exhibit in the pavilion. Rapid prototyping specialist, Danielson Engineering, is going to be present, as is ACE Aero Concept Engineering – a firm created by two ex-Prost F1 engineers that supplies a complete aerodynamic consultancy and development service. Texys, Sodemo, Apole, Danielson Equipment, PRM promo racing, LSP and Fibre Active are all planning on exhibiting as well.

The French Pavilion is just one section in the international show of interest to *Racecar Engineering* readers. A number of leading engineering firms will also be exhibiting in the International show.

Visit Racecar Engineering

Racecar Engineering magazine will once again fill its usual spot in the Engineering show, stand number E415. It's the place to take out a subscription or book advertising space in the premier international motorsport journal. Tony Tobias and Andy King will be on hand to answer any enquiries.

Also members of our editorial team including editor, Charles Armstrong-Wilson will be on hand



Visit stand E415 and meet the Racecar team

to chat about feature ideas, new products and gather any feedback. Visiting *Racecar* is an essential part

of the show as we will be displaying engineering that has caught our eyes over the past 12 months.

MIRA to celebrate UK racing success

MIRA, the engineering development facility, is planning to celebrate a successful season of racing in the UK on its stand at Autosport International.

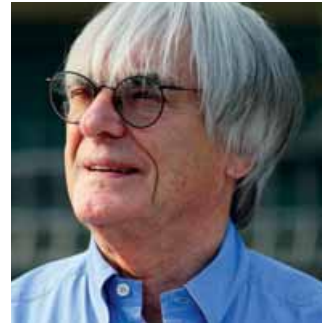
MIRA was involved in the design and development of Team Halfords Dynamics' BTCC-winning Honda Integras and assisted the Team West-Tec SCSA stock car team which also took that series' honours. The firm hopes to be able to display some of the spoils of its success on stand 9650.

A MIRA spokesperson said, 'Our stand will be staffed by sales people and also technical experts so people can access our world class engineers.'



MIRA technical experts and engineers will be on hand at stand 9650

Bernie Ecclestone to attend show



The annual Sid Watkins lecture will be given this year by none other than Bernie Ecclestone.

The Formula 1 suprema is a surprise attendee to the show and the lecture is already fully booked.



Left: thermal imagers will be demonstrated on the Racecar Engineering stand

New products and latest technology

Ole Buhl Racing is planning to launch a number of new products at Autosport Engineering this year, including its Power Control Module which is basically an integrated replacement for circuit breakers and fuses.

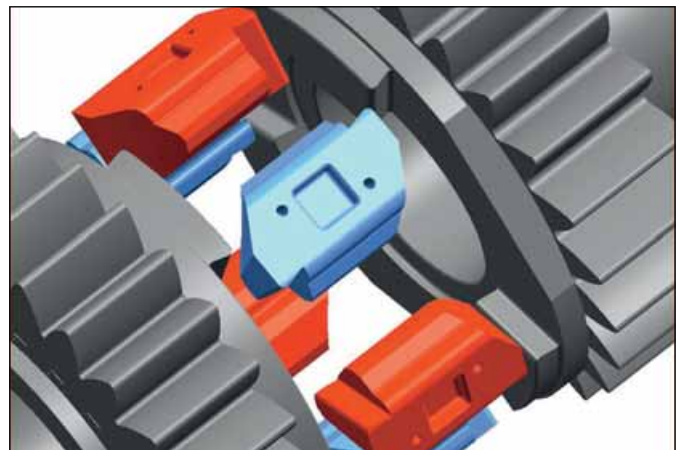
The PCM is capable of a continuous 160amp power output and has 18 programmable high-power channels and 16 fixed low-power channels.

The Bournemouth, UK-based firm will also be revealing the all new Euro 4 ECU from EFI Technology. It is a lower cost, high-end unit and

will have a range of specifications – more of which will be revealed on the OBR stand (no. E272).

ZF Sachs (E331), ATL (E350), GKN Driveline (E325), Goodridge (E166), Jacquemin Tuning (E168) and ITG (E205) are all also likely to launch new products at the show.

Seamless shifting will be found on stand E415, where the revolutionary Zeroshift gearbox featured in V15N6 and V14N2 will be on display, with its method of operation explained. On the same stand the ISIRYS thermal imagers will be demonstrated.



Right: also on the Racecar stand Zeroshift will display its revolutionary seamless shift gearbox

Industry shares technical insight

IMechE, the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, has organised the International Motorsports Engineering Conference which takes place on the 11 and 12 January 2006 at Birmingham's NEC.

This new event is targeted at individuals involved in all aspects of racecar design, development, engineering and technical management. Attendance at this not to be

missed event costs £250+VAT for IMechE, SAE or AMRA members and £340+VAT for all non-members. Discounted hotel rooms have been arranged by the organisers but are likely to fill well in advance so

urgent booking through IMechE is definitely advisable. Interested parties should contact Stephanie Love at IMechE on +44 (0) 207 973 1312, or by email at s_love@imeche.org.uk

Conference programme*

Updated speaker programme*

Day one – Wednesday 11 January 2006

- 0930 Registration and coffee**
- 0950** Opening address: **Nick Vaughan**, chairman of IMechE's automobile division welcomes delegates to the conference
- 1000** **Richard Pearson** from Lotus talks about gas dynamic phenomena in the exhaust system of internal combustion engines
- 1020** Ricardo's **Roland Ermers** on the promotion of alternative fuels and fuel efficiency in motorsport through fuel flow equivalence
- 1040 Discussion**
- 1100 Coffee break**
- 1120** Enhancing the design of the valve train of NASCAR Nextel cup engines is **Alex Livadeus** of Menard Competition Technology's topic of choice
- 1140** Newly crowned BTCC champion **Team Dynamics'** chief engineer discusses the aerodynamic sensitivity of touring cars
- 1200** Drag racer **David Alexander** on the science behind launching a car from 0-100mph in under one second
- 1220 Discussion**
- 1240 Lunch**
- 1340** The Renault F1 engine division's technical director and conference organiser **John Hilton** on driving development with internal competition
- 1400** University of Durham lecturer **David Sims-Williams** explores wind tunnel model support strut interference and prospects of its elimination through magnetic levitation
- 1420** Lola man **Julian Cooper** looks at the evolution of the firm's Le Mans class-winning prototype, *Racecar V15N5* should give you a good background on the B05/40 chassis to be discussed
- 1440 Discussion**
- 1500 Tea break**
- 1520** **Rob Dominy** of the University of Durham will speak on tyre surface pressure measurement in the wind tunnel
- 1540** Xtrac design analyst **Damien Brayshaw** looks at the effects of optimal differential control on the performance of open wheel racecars
- 1600** **Richard Thomson** of Zeroshift discusses the Zeroshift instant gear shift system. See *Racecar V15N6* for more information
- 1640 Close of day one**

Day two – Thursday 12 January 2006

- 0930** **Pat Symonds** of Renault F1 gives the keynote speech
- 0950** Ricardo Motorsport design engineer **Jonathan Hodgson** on value added transmission testing for motorsport applications
- 1010** **Trevor Dobbins** director of Human Sciences and Engineering Ltd talks about the human limitations of performance
- 1030 Discussion**
- 1050 Coffee break**
- 1110** Williams F1 composites chief **Brian O'Rourke** examines impact testing of composite structures.
- 1130** On board diagnostics using hardware neural networks is **Dr Paul Neil's** topic
- 1150** **Advantage CFD** looks at design optimisation using CFD and mesh deformation
- 1210 Discussion**
- 1220** **Conference ends – head to the Autosport Engineering Show in Halls 18 and 19**

* Correct at the time of going to press



IMECHE



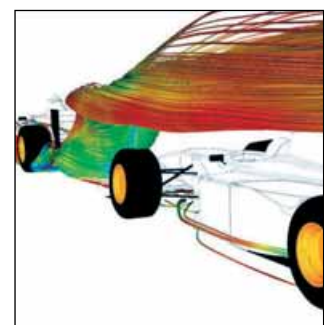
Williams F1's composites chief will talk about impact testing



Julian Cooper will reveal the evolution of the Lola B05/50



Could magnetic levitation be an alternative to wind tunnel struts?



Advantage CFD will look at design optimisation using CFD



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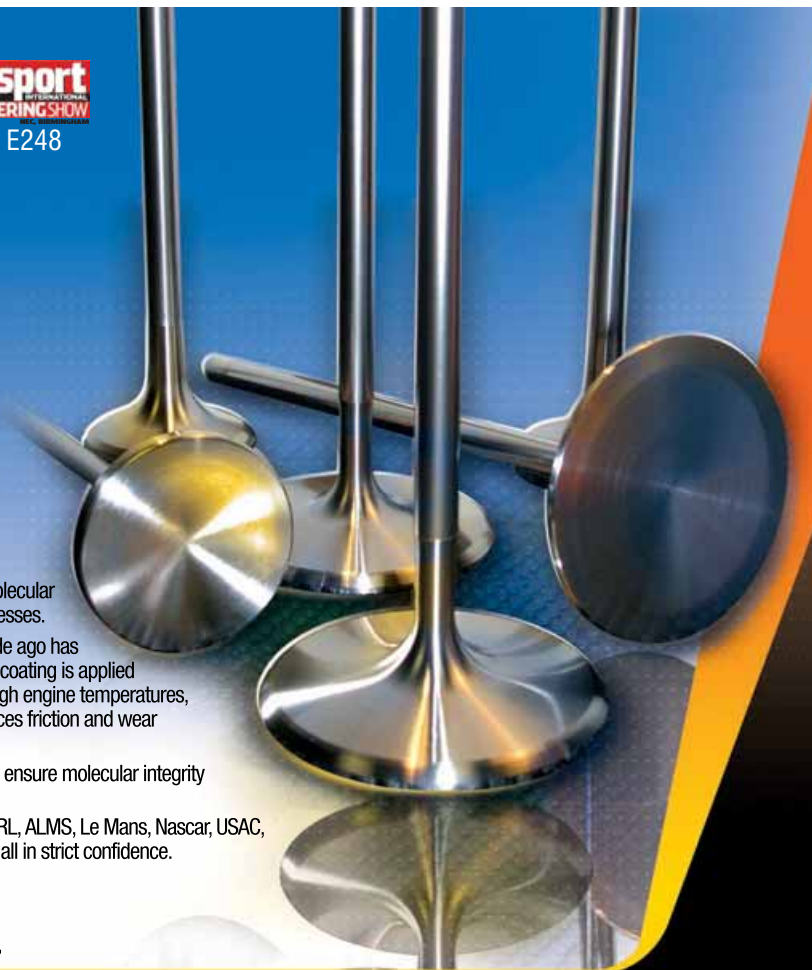
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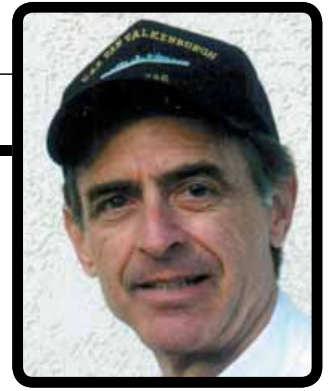
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Gravity power

Far more than just some kids having fun, gravity racing has become a serious sport, and presents engineers with just as many interesting challenges

What could be simpler than gravity power? Does it sound too trivial to be interesting to a racecar engineer? Maybe not. Last week I went back to my roots, near my hometown in Topeka, Kansas, partly to see my nephew, Roman, race on Sam Ingo's Soapbox Derby team. Coincidentally, the 1000ft downhill track is just a few miles from the quarter-mile track where I ran my first drag race, 48 years ago. In fact, this coasting event is a lot like a quarter-mile drag race. They're 'pulled' off the line at one g – but pulled downward – and the acceleration rate is proportional to the grade.

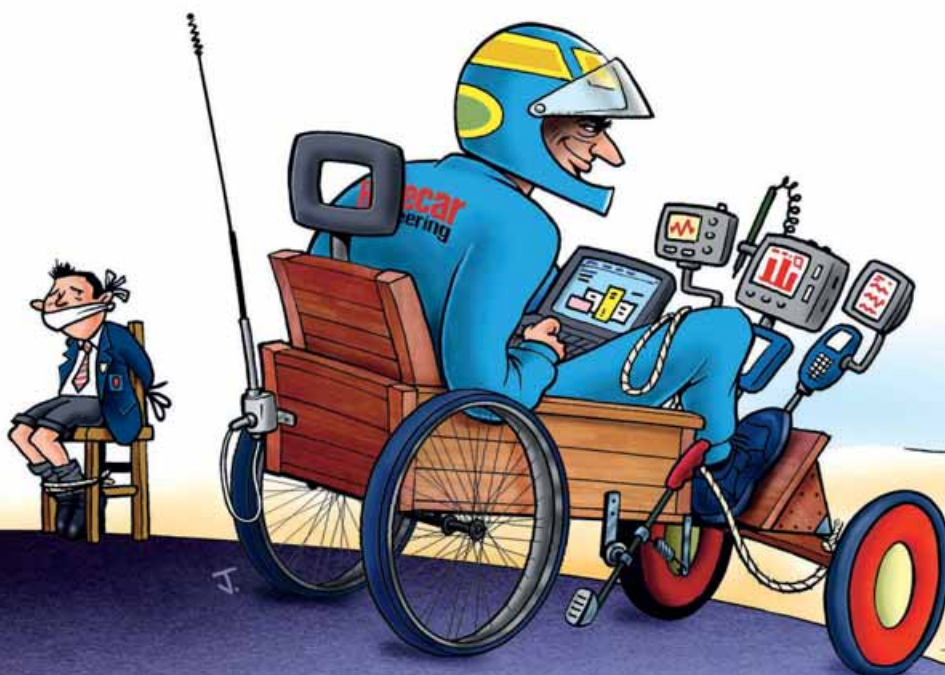
By further coincidence, Topeka is also the home of current Soapbox Derby champion car builder, Jerry Pearson, who I interviewed about the technology involved. He's a former soapbox driver, who became an engineer also, so he had more than just experiential knowledge. He assured me that the same engineering principles apply, just on a much smaller scale.

The All-American Soap Box Derby began in 1934,

which may make it the second oldest race series behind the Indy 500. But in 1972, there was a little cheating scandal, when a magnet was found in the nose of one car, which would pull it forward as the steel restraining paddle dropped, and AASBD lost credibility and sponsors. Subsequently, the racing became more tightly restricted, and cars slower. Until recently, bodies were hand built from wood strips. But bodies are now spec – either vacuum formed, blow moulded (to allow rolled-under sides), or glass fibre, depending on the class – but still with tiller steering and skid brakes.

Over time there have been various other less restricted attempts at gravity-powered racing. In the late '70s, downhill skateboarders built enclosed streamlined shells over reclining boards, until they had a few 60mph accidents. Recently, ESPN has promoted its X-Games Street Luge – which doesn't allow aerodynamic shells, but does have cornering challenges. The Goodwood coasting event, which →

“DITHERING THE INITIAL STICTION OUT OF THE WHEEL BEARINGS BY VIBRATIONS”



“THE RACE IS
WON OR LOST
AT THE TOP OF
THE HILL”

you must have read about here already [RE V10 N8], started in 2000, but was cancelled this year following uncontrollable costs and alarming crashes. And there is also a German sanctioning organisation. The 'Extreme Gravity' series is a recent attempt to get the big auto manufacturers' engineers and designers involved. But my observation of their vehicles at one event was that some were built by very non-technical stylists, some builders were aerodynamically clueless, and only a couple really had their engineering down.

NASCAR joined forces with AASBD a few years ago, with the encouragement of president Mike Helton, who started out as a soapbox racer himself. Now it has added an 'Ultimate Gravity' category, with more open rules, to try and raise the speed record every year. This class pays \$3000 (£1700) to win, and, significantly, also \$1000 (£565) for the best innovation.

The latest coasting technology can be picked up from numerous website references, such as <http://207.242.75.40/derbtech/derbtech.htm> or a book by aircraft mechanic David Fulton, called *Winning ingredients* (www.geocities.com/winningingredients/).

I talked to Fulton, and I think his most valuable tip was: 'The race is won or lost at the top of the hill.' Or, as I've said about drag racing, the first few feet — when everyone is travelling relatively slowly — are by far the most important. In a website photo of the Akron Championships, Pearson's car can be seen to have a one-foot lead less than 20ft out of the starting blocks. And yet some finishes are so close that dead heats are not that rare.

Fulton's book has seven chapters: 1 — aerodynamics, which has some interesting stuff on axle fairings and fillets, and wind tunnel tests, but is mostly theory since bodies are fairly standard; 2 — potential, kinetic, and wasted energy, demonstrating the importance of weight placement and rotational wheel inertia; 3 — suspension and its energy absorption, including solid/rubber mounting, tight/loose suspensions and body stiffness; 4 — design and construction of wooden bodies, floorboards, and brakes; 5 — alignment, via spindle bending, steering precision, and toe out from steering cable tension; 6 — driver education and practice, and track analysis; 7 — race day considerations. There are also many suggested experiments, which is a good way of introducing kids to science and technology. There's also a company that specialises in precision spindle alignment tools — although many innovators design their own.

There are many racing

classes, with different restrictions and with increasing levels of sophistication. But keep in mind that in amateur events they often 'level the playing field' by swapping lanes and the spec wheels, so that may not be a productive area for development. Here are my thoughts about what I would focus on:

Data acquisition — to start with, I'd love to use a precise speed recorder on a test vehicle. In fact, I've long advocated carefully controlled coasting as a substitute for the wind tunnel. And you'd probably be amazed at the importance of the first small fraction of a second.

Aero — like NASCAR, there's a lot you can do with a common body, especially if it's flexible. This would be a good place to use wind tunnels and CFD, especially since the tunnel power requirements are so much less, and I'd focus particularly on the drag of exposed spinning wheels.

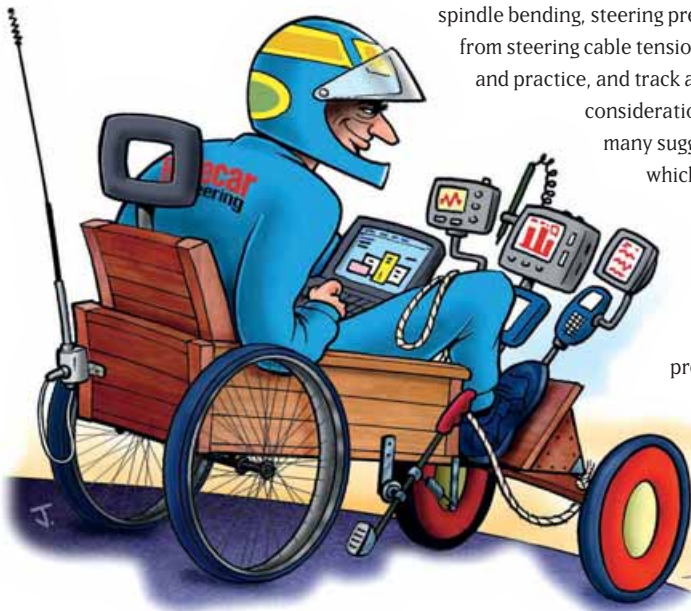
Rolling — in spite of the spec wheels with their one-inch solid rubber tyres, racers concentrate on alignment, steering, and sideways bearing walk [For 'Ultimate' racing, where wheels are open, Pearson obtained some high-pressure custom pneumatic tyres and wheels from the German coastdown competition, which seem to be a significant advantage, despite an obviously greater frontal area handicap. My guess is that they have much lower hysteresis rubber, to recover speed lost over surface imperfections.]

Weight distribution — calculate what the vertical drop in feet (potential energy), would convert into in mph of kinetic energy — in the total absence of air and rolling drag — and use that as a theoretical goal.

Possible 'unfair advantages' — I would also consider nose shape where it contacts the starting paddle, imperceptible shifting of body weight, laser alignment sighting down the course in the starting blocks, exploiting the slightest breeze at the start by blocking or exposing to the wind, and dithering the initial stiction out of the wheel bearings by vibrations from humming.

Factor analysis, or what I call the 'sensitivity of parameter variations,' is a way to determine which factors are most cost-effective to focus on, and which are a waste of time. Either you can do real-world tests, in which you make large negative changes, like adding lots of ballast or a drag plate to see how much effect it has on times. Or you can eliminate the uncontrollable variables like weather and pavement roughness, by creating an accurate computer simulation and varying the coefficients. As with any scientific research, you start with theory, run simulations, test to validate, and keep detailed records.

But wait — is this for kids, or their parents? Pearson said that depending on the class, from 10 to 70 per cent of the kids are heavily involved in the mechanics of it and you can see it in their performance, and in what they go on to become. I guess it depends how fanatical you can get about winning a simple trophy, or about beating another dad and his kid. On the other hand, it can be a golden opportunity to teach your kid your more positive values about competition.



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From the inside

Many engineering graduates entertain the idea of working for a race team. But it's not a given, you have to put in the legwork if you want to succeed

Just over two years ago, *Racecar Engineering* asked me to write an article from my then perspective. At the time I was, as many of us are/have been/want to be, a recent graduate aching to break into racing (see V13N11). I had chosen to try and get into front line race engineering as I had always preferred the cut and thrust on the track and in the pit lane to more design-based opportunities. This time round, *Racecar* has asked me to follow up with my experiences in the intervening period, and my views now with my feet on the inside of the sanctum that is our industry.

Soon after I wrote my article in 2003, I got busy networking as much as possible. Through people I knew, and by cold-calling those I didn't, most of the single-seater race teams in the UK and beyond had been contacted by me. I also scraped enough money together to broaden my knowledge by attending the Claude Rouelle Vehicle Dynamics seminars – which was justified as it allowed me access to other course delegates that again expanded the network. This was while also applying for those advertised positions in the back of the popular weekly comic, which were much more formalised with the usual covering letter and CV. I deliberately made this approach very systematic, making sure I knew the names of HR staff in big companies, team managers or directors in smaller ones and always following up calls or applications after a week. None of this was revolutionary, but I made getting the right job my full-time occupation in the winter of '03/'04.

The timing of the Racing Car Show at the NEC in Birmingham was good for this, and I was able to meet people that had been responsive by telephone so that they could put a face to the name. This approach worked for me, and I was installed as a junior race engineer for T-Sport in British F3 for 2004. I would say that my persistence and dedication to the task were the bedrock of this success but, looking back, it was 50 per cent luck to call the team at the right time, 20 per



Vinit (right), now works as a race engineer for T-Sport, here discussing details with driver Barton Mawer

James Shearpe

cent down to coming across well at the interview and 30 per cent allocated to a reference from my boss at my previous team where I had been assisting during my last year at university.

For the past two seasons I have been attempting to establish myself as a race engineer. This was no easy task, and I was on a steep learning curve from my first test day with my first driver. I had no previous real experience of this situation except as an observer and contributor in my previous team, but this time the responsibility and the decisions to be made were mine. To say it was daunting was an understatement. The team was extremely supportive, and as much as I made my own decisions, they were always analysed and discussed with the senior engineer and team manager and it was quickly apparent we all worked on the same wavelength. Our first season was successful, winning the Scholarship Class of British F3. Our second season was unfortunately budget limited, but →

“I MADE GETTING THE RIGHT JOB MY FULL-TIME OCCUPATION IN THE WINTER OF '03/'04”

Aim as high as you dare, go for teams with good reputations and above all, get yourself out there. Experience is everything



bearing in mind we did 10 test days less than our rivals, we secured second in the championship, only missing out in the last race of the year.

It's been an interesting time to see how my academic background, which is different to that of the rest of the team, could work in F3. Like most teams our size, budget is minimal and every spare penny goes on making the cars better prepared and even more reliable – the driver brings the money so there is zero acceptance of mechanical failures. Nonetheless, any spare moment at the workshop was spent investigating things we could do – ranging from improving the mechanism to use the gear cut to basic suspension and damper component modifications/ improvements to full suspension analyses to fully quantify changes between wishbone positions. I relished this challenge, as did the team. It was all-encompassing to do the most we could with what little we had using the best knowledge available to us.

“WITH LIMITED RESOURCES AND CUSTOMERS TO DEPEND ON RISKS HAD TO BE QUANTIFIED”

Using a few spreadsheets and calculations here and there I was able to apply a certain level of academic knowledge to real world situations, and when we had the chance we'd try these concepts at test days. I think we got a lot out of better understanding our car and its reaction through this applied knowledge – which is grossly rewarding. There was frustration along the way, with limited resources and two customers to depend on, risks had to be quantified, and the old adage about not fixing things that are not broke always applies. So some of the more sweeping ideas, such as the wings I wanted to run at low downforce circuits, had to be reined in without being given enough of a trial. It would also have been nice to try and get a little investment into basic FEA or CFD packages that I am trained on and capable of using, but unfortunately this is a low priority over wholesale commodities such as lighter-weight bits or kits.

The past two seasons have also been interesting to

see people try and break through in a similar manner to myself a little over 24 months ago. Our team is small, with seven staff, from team manager to no.2 mechanic through two engineers, two no.1 mechanics and the truckie. Between us we run two cars to a good level of professionalism for our pit lane. This is only achieved through all of the team members being adaptable to all roles, from making the tea to being the spare pair of hands when you have to bolt on three corners in an hour before qualifying. With this in mind, it surprises me to see the volume of CVs and covering letters I have read over two years that begin 'Dear Sir/Madam' or are addressed to the 'HR Dept.'

The fact is this – positions are rare at the best of times for engineers, especially those without experience. For anyone serious about entering motorsport at this level, you need to do your research more thoroughly. To even be considered, or filed in our 'note for the future' file, a certain level of aptitude, desire and dedication has to be demonstrated. And that also applies to people seeking experience over summers etc. Most don't follow up speculative communications at all – something I don't understand if you're serious about applying in the first place.

Those who introduce themselves face to face at a race track with a CV in hand will stand a better chance than those communicating by Royal Mail or disturbing a few electrons. This approach shows a certain level of the above mentioned characteristics, and you have a five-minute soapbox from which to tell us how great you are. Plus you get to see racecars on circuit!

It's easy to say but everyone has a good degree in engineering and everyone's final year project is wondrous and revolutionary. You need to distinguish yourself as different – for positive reasons. If you've still got a year or so to study, get some experience – even if it's washing wheels. Aim for teams in formulae as high as you dare and with good reputations as these are the ones from which you can learn the most. Name dropping will stand you in good stead if you can back it up with a reference.

As my boss often says, 'Trust Me'. All of the above worked for me, so why aren't more of you doing it?

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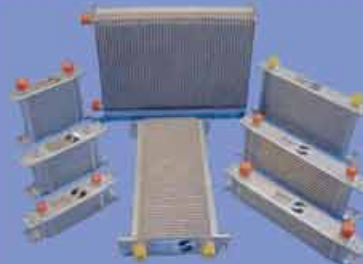
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Fuelled student

I am a second year Motorsport Engineering student at Brunel University in England and I am planning to design a racing engine to run on biofuel diesel or bioethanol fuel for my major project. I would like to ask *Racecar Engineering* readers what their experiences are (if any) with alternative fuel engines.

My intention for this engine is to use a turbine in a case with an injector and jet nozzle similar to that found at the end of a jet engine. Fuel supply will be at high pressure onto the turbine blade which then compresses the fuel against the case and the spark, roughly at 15 degrees, ignites the fuel. Once the turbine spins at full speed, the exhaust goes through an exhaust manifold with 45 per cent of the gas getting re-supplied to the injector for the new fuel/air mix. I hope to pre-heat the new fuel/air mix and burn off the unburnt fuel.

The idea is for the turbine to be connected to a generator which supplies electrical current to motors at the car's wheels. This project is currently just at the design and research stage.

Samuel Bennett,
Taken for the forum section of
[racecar-engineering.com](http://www.racecar-engineering.com)

Vive La France!

So Britain's motorsport valley is the heart of world motorsport is it? Well I would most heartily like to disagree with that sentiment, whilst referencing the Le Mans report in V15N8, and suggest that

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233 High Street, Croydon, CR9 1HZ, England Fax: +44 (0)20 8726 8399
Visit www.racecar-engineering.com and submit your project for a feature online



Pescarolo – fast and very much French

perhaps France is more the heart of the industry these days. After all it was a French car that won the F1 World Championship, a French car that won the WRC and a French car that was fastest at the last Le Mans 24 hours. French cars made up most of the LMP grid, and even the name grand prix is French! The FIA are a Paris-based, French-named organisation, who will celebrate 100 years of grand prix racing this year in France.

Motorsport is a French sport in origin and France produces a huge number of racecars for the world market. So with Mygale, Courage, Ligier, PSA competition departments, Norma, Tatuus and more, why is it that we in France are so often overlooked?

I also see there is to be a French Pavillion at the Autosport International Show in Birmingham

this year. I urge you all to attend and find out about the real home of the world motorsport industry.

Georges Boullion
Nancy, France

Legal aero?

Something has just occurred to me – by designing a set LMP floor configuration, where the objective was to prevent cars from taking off in forward and sideways motion, could the FIA have stumbled into a legal grey area? What would happen if any of the cars were to have an aerodynamically-induced accident whilst using the current regulated aero configurations?

Accidents such as these have claimed the lives of several drivers, so could teams sue the regulatory body for negligence?

As the FIA demand that all LMPs racing in its events must use the set floor configuration for safety reasons, should the rules be a legally binding document that guarantees the aerodynamic safety of the cars?

I hope someone in Paris realises the implications of imposed aero regulations. Wouldn't it be simpler, and legally safer and non restrictive, to demand a maximum level of aero sensitivity for forward and sideways motion as the only aero rule requirement?

This should be the point where the cars shouldn't create enough lift to lose traction at the speeds commonly reached, then let the aerodynamicists do the job they are paid for.

Ado Sigal, by email



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One down



Words	Charles Armstrong-Wilson
Photos	LAT

GP2 has had a mixed reception, so following its first season we talked to someone with first hand experience of the series, Sergio Rinland

Last year saw the introduction of a brand new series to international single-seater racing, GP2. Brought in with a great fanfare to replace the ailing Formula 3000 series it has had a mixed first season. Fans have raved about the improved action on the track, with close battles being fought throughout the field and considerably more overtaking than the premier series it supports. Behind the scenes though, there have been problems. The cars have suffered reliability, durability and overheating problems that many feel are unacceptable in a controlled formula. It is said that without the need to compete on design, the cars should not be pushing their limits in any areas so shouldn't be found wanting.

To understand what these issues were and how they came about, *Racecar Engineering* spoke to ex-Formula 1 designer Sergio Rinland who experienced the new series first hand when he worked with the Coloni team as a consultant when GP2 first started.

GP2 is organised by GP2 Series and led by Bruno Michel who invited suppliers to tender for the various areas of the car. Dallara was awarded the contract for the chassis and Rinland is very complimentary of the result: 'Technically they have a very competent chassis. There was only one reliability problem with the chassis itself – that was when a rear wing end plate came off in testing. It was a one off and Dallara solved that within 24 hours and it didn't occur again. These things happen. In terms of aerodynamics I was surprised how well balanced the car was.'

Rinland also feels this contributed to the action on the track. 'You saw a lot of overtaking manoeuvres on the outside in GP2 as the car can go in a couple of different lines because of the aero characteristics.' He is unsure whether this was a conscious objective on the part of Dallara but he points out where it comes from. 'The way the aerodynamics was done was similar to the World Series by Nissan cars with tunnels.' Both the GP2 and the World

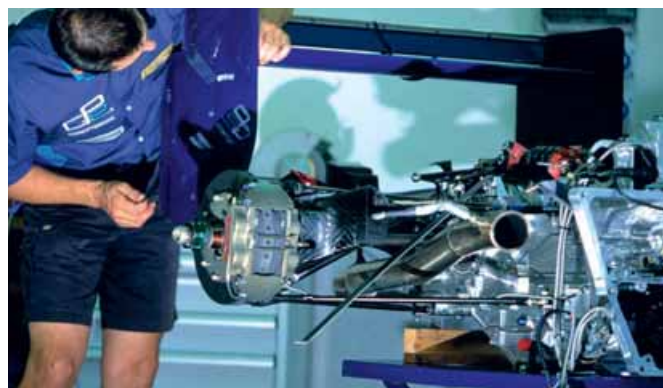
Series car have bigger venturis than are currently allowed in Formula 1. 'They are a good way of getting downforce. Just put tunnels in a car with a couple of skirts and you have downforce. Easy, cheap.'

Rinland is clearer on why Dallara decided to rely so heavily on tunnels. 'The motivation to put tunnels was not so much to balance the car or help overtaking but to achieve more overall downforce. With more downforce you can go faster. How do you get more downforce more easily? Put tunnels and skirts on the cars.' However he has a strong view on the latter. 'The skirts in my view shouldn't be there.' His main objection is durability and consistency when they touch the ground. 'You get wear on them. You have to keep changing them and setting them up. It wastes a lot of time and is a huge performance factor. You shouldn't have anything on the car that wears on the ground apart from the floor. So I'm against the skirts.'

On the whole he has praise for the car's aero: 'The information that Dallara give the teams on aerodynamics is quite repeatable at the racetrack, I found.' But there was one area that did not work so well. 'The problem the car had was cooling this year and depending on which side you talk to they blame each other. When you have a car that is not cooling it is because there

“TECHNICALLY THEY HAVE A VERY COMPETENT CHASSIS”

is not enough air going through the radiators and/or the radiators are too small. The only way people like Dallara would design a car with these characteristics, with all the knowledge and experience they have, is because they didn't have the right information, which is what I believe happened.' The organisers tackled the problem two ways. Firstly during pre-season testing the engine revs were reduced by 500rpm and later by another 500rpm from 10,000rpm to 9000rpm. Then a new radiator and bodywork package was introduced. Some of this cost was passed on to the teams, plus some had already suffered engine failures which could be attributed to overheating. Obviously performance suffered but, being a controlled formula, it was not a big issue. To Rinland however this was unnecessary and unacceptable. 'Teams have to pay for their own testing obviously; they have to pay their own hotels, restaurants, salaries of the mechanics and hire of the racetracks. So if you go on the racetrack for two days and you lose one day because they cannot get a new kit for radiators or bodywork, that's one day you could have spent at your workshop for no extra cost. So that does not speak very well about the organisation initially.'



One rear wing end plate came loose in early tests but this was quickly fixed



With less reliance on aero, chassis set-up is critical and can pay real dividends



Original brakes were unsatisfactory, so were changed to Brembo for race two





Nosecone and gearbox undergoing crash testing at CSI. After initial reliability problems, Mecachrome gearbox is now sorted, though is still considered too heavy

The engine is an area Rinland has mixed feelings about. Descended from a Mecachrome sportscar engine the GP2 unit is built by Heini Mader. 'The engine is conceptually a nice idea – four litres, lots of torque, fun to drive. But it has gone completely the opposite direction to Formula 1 so whatever a driver learns, he has to forget when he goes and drives an F1 car. The braking points are different, the turning points are different, the way you put the power down is different. It's a different animal altogether. When you drive a car with torque you drive with your throttle. In an F1 car you can't drive with the throttle, there is nothing there.'

The aim with GP2 was to produce a car that could compete on lap times with cars on the back of the F1 grid, making it the natural step toward Formula 1. 'There is no right or wrong, it is just a different technique,' says Rinland. 'But it's a nice concept. It's a way of getting power without the expense of high-revving engines. So in a way it's good because it is giving them an engine that is durable, delivers the power, has got the speed and has high torque. What I don't agree with is that it is too heavy for a single seater.'

'So if I have a criticism of the engine it is only the weight. They had the opportunity to put a more purposely designed racing engine from three or

four English manufacturers who tendered, but unfortunately for the British industry they didn't get the contract and the company who won the contract have less experience of designing and building an engine from scratch. They have a lot of experience tuning engines as they were engine tuners, not engine manufacturers. Now they are engine manufacturers. The teams were unhappy as they don't want to pay for engine development.

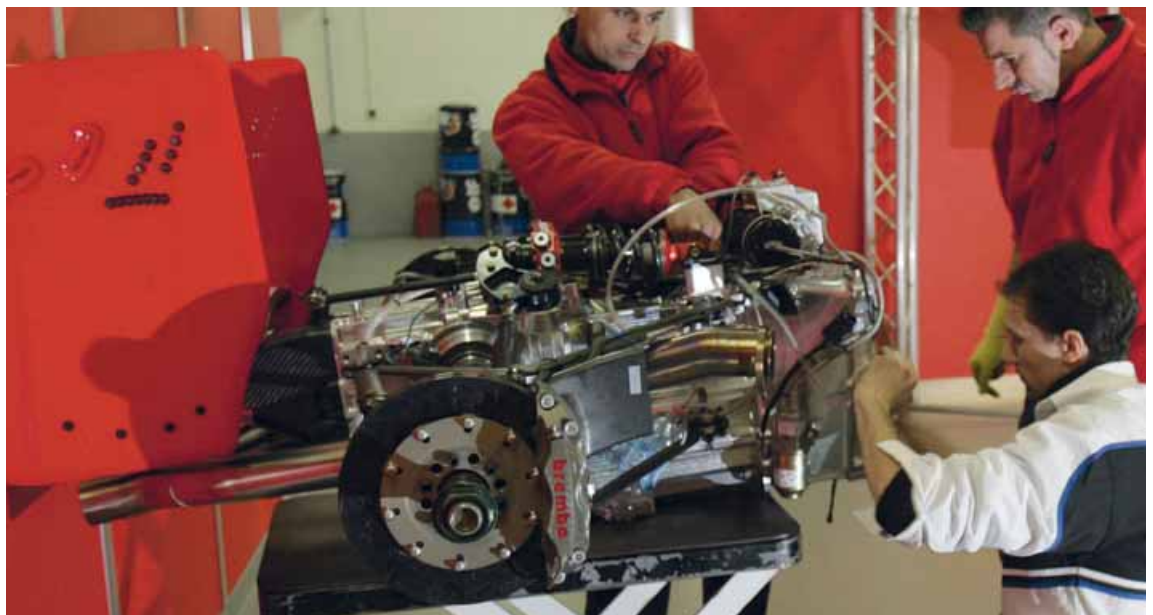
'As far as weight is concerned, in a sportscar you could afford a heavier engine – you want 24hr reliability – because you are talking about a 800-900kg car, but when you are taking about a 600kg car you can't put in a road car-derived engine that weighs that much.

'You could drive it to go to the supermarket or to go racing, it is a fantastic engine. My only criticism was that it was a little bit unreliable at the beginning and it is too heavy for a single seater.'

Like the engine, the gearbox also came from Mecachrome and Rinland believes the company's lack of experience in racing transmissions was evident here, too. 'It is too heavy for that particular single seater, although everyone is running the same so everyone has the same problem. It was unreliable in the beginning and again the organisers chose a gearbox

“IF I HAVE A CRITICISM OF THE ENGINE IT IS ONLY THE WEIGHT”

Some teams have objected to the apparent on-going development of the car's drivetrain which they feel has been done at their expense





The Dallara chassis proved itself very competent in the first year of competition. Rinland suspects initial overheating problems were due to Dallara being supplied the wrong information regarding radiators

manufacturer with no experience of manufacturing gearboxes. This company has a lot of expertise in manufacturing individual components but the gearbox is more than just the components bolted together. It's a system. There were a lot of teething problems which the teams had to endure in the winter testing and the first few races. Now it's all sorted, I think, so we have a reliable gearbox, but it is still too heavy for a single seater.'

However, this is a situation Rinland regards as not ideal rather than a fatal flaw. 'If Dallara can tune the aerodynamics and the tyres are tuned to the weight distribution it is not a big problem.'

The tyres are one area in which Rinland is unreservedly complimentary. 'Even though they are grooved tyres and I don't like grooved tyres, they were very, very good. They needed tender loving care, from an engineer and a driver who know how to read tyres. That was one of the few things that an engineer could do is to read and manage the tyres. About the only thing you could manage on the cars.' He felt they had a good, even performance, and worked well from brand new to when they were quite old without a big drop in performance, which is important for a cost-conscious formula.

Where the tyres suffered most was on the front due to an inherent

understeer tendency in the chassis. 'They use F1 derived tyres designed for a car that has a weight distribution 47-48 per cent in the front,' explains Rinland. 'Because this car has such a heavy engine and gearbox it doesn't have as much weight in front. That is the initial culprit of the understeer. You are not working the tyres as hard as you should to get the grip. You can't substitute that with aerodynamics because then it becomes an unstable car. Your centre of pressure has to be behind the centre of gravity, not in front, so it's a limitation.'

He also feels the type of power delivery the tyres were designed for has a bearing on the relationship between the fronts and the rears. Being designed for a 3.0-litre engine with lower torque

than the GP2 engine, they were not worked as hard. 'A 4.0-litre engine warms the tyres much faster because of the higher torque so you have much more grip on the rear than the front and so you end up with understeer. If you understeer once with a new set of tyres, they carry on understeering. If you ruin a tyre when it's new it is very difficult with the same set of tyres to get rid of the understeer and to clean the tyre in a way that it will pick up grip later on. The graining, the heat cycle, how fast and slow you heat them all have an influence on the future behaviour of the tyre. Comparing the front and the rear, they can be of different hardness because the rears heat up faster than the front. The compound changes differently from the rear because of the heat cycle. Bridgestone have done a lot of work because they have changed the tyres during the year and solved this problem. I'm sure they have changed the compound to be able to compensate for the different heat cycles in the front and rear tyres because they really worked well.'

Another area that caused problems in early tests was the brakes. 'They were a very experienced aircraft brake manufacturer which I never heard of before,' recalls Rinland. 'Brakes are a very driver preference thing. Some drivers prefer a brake that is like a switch, some prefer to modulate the brakes and different materials have different characteristics. When you do a single-make formula with carbon brakes you are on very dangerous ground and these people didn't have the experience on these high powered, high downforce, fast cars and the teams eventually sort of stamped their feet in Imola and said we are not racing unless we have Brembo. Funnily enough, being in Italy Brembo had a truck loaded with discs and pads and the second race was done with Brembo brakes. That evening every team had to change its brakes. Again, this could have been done at a lower cost with less controversy if they had listened to the teams' opinions in the first and second tests in the winter.'



“ [FRONT] TYRES SUFFERED MOST DUE TO INHERENT UNDERSTEER ”



Bridgestone-supplied grooved tyres were deemed an unqualified success

A combination of tunnels and skirts ensure high levels of downforce, though the skirts have been prone to damage incurring extra costs in replacement



The electronics too experienced difficulties. 'It was to do with the link between the gearbox and the electronic management,' notes Rinland. 'I don't think they were using the best quality plugs in the steering wheel.'

However, he is keen to stress that GP2 has had some notable successes. 'I am talking about the negatives. There were a lot of positives about GP2, don't get me wrong.

'The marketing is flawless. They have done a fantastic job because they have a lot of experience of it. That is what they have done all their life. They are driver promoters and series promoters. They have a hell of a lot of experience and have done a fantastic job. If you are a sponsor in GP2, you are treated as well as in F1.

'Apart from F1, it is the most widely seen Formula. Why? Because it is promoted properly. So hats off to these people for doing a fine job.

'The website is very professional: if you are interested in the lap times you can get there in no time; if you are interested in the gossip you get there in no time; if you want to see pictures of your favourite driver, they are there. The marketing is really good and the commercial side is really good. They have the best teams, the best drivers and a pool of good global sponsors making good economic sense.

'I believe the teams have spent more money than they should have but I think it has more to do with the initial development of the car than anything else. But they ended up spending more money than they thought. GP2 is more expensive than F3000, I am not sure by how much, but it is more expensive. All the teams will tell you this.' In spite of this Rinland feels it will be easier to raise funding: 'It will because it is much better promoted than F3000 has ever been, because that was not the job of the FIA.'

'The show is very good because the characteristics of the car allow closer racing and overtaking. Also they have more torque so you can overtake.

'With the aerodynamics not relying that much on the front wing, and with the weight distribution they have less need of the front wing so you can come a lot closer to another car without damaging

“THE MARKETING IS FLAWLESS AND THE COMMERCIAL SIDE IS REALLY GOOD”

your aerodynamics. That helps overtaking and makes the show better. By design or sheer chance I don't know but they've got it. They probably thought about this and that's what makes it a good formula. Talk to the drivers and they love it – it's fun to drive and they can overtake. If their engineer has a better set-up and they can come out a corner slightly faster than the car in front they can catch him and overtake. As you don't rely as much on aerodynamics you can brake here or there, all these are pluses. **RE**



Aerodynamics do not rely on the front wing as much as in F1 so closer racing and overtaking are much more prevalent

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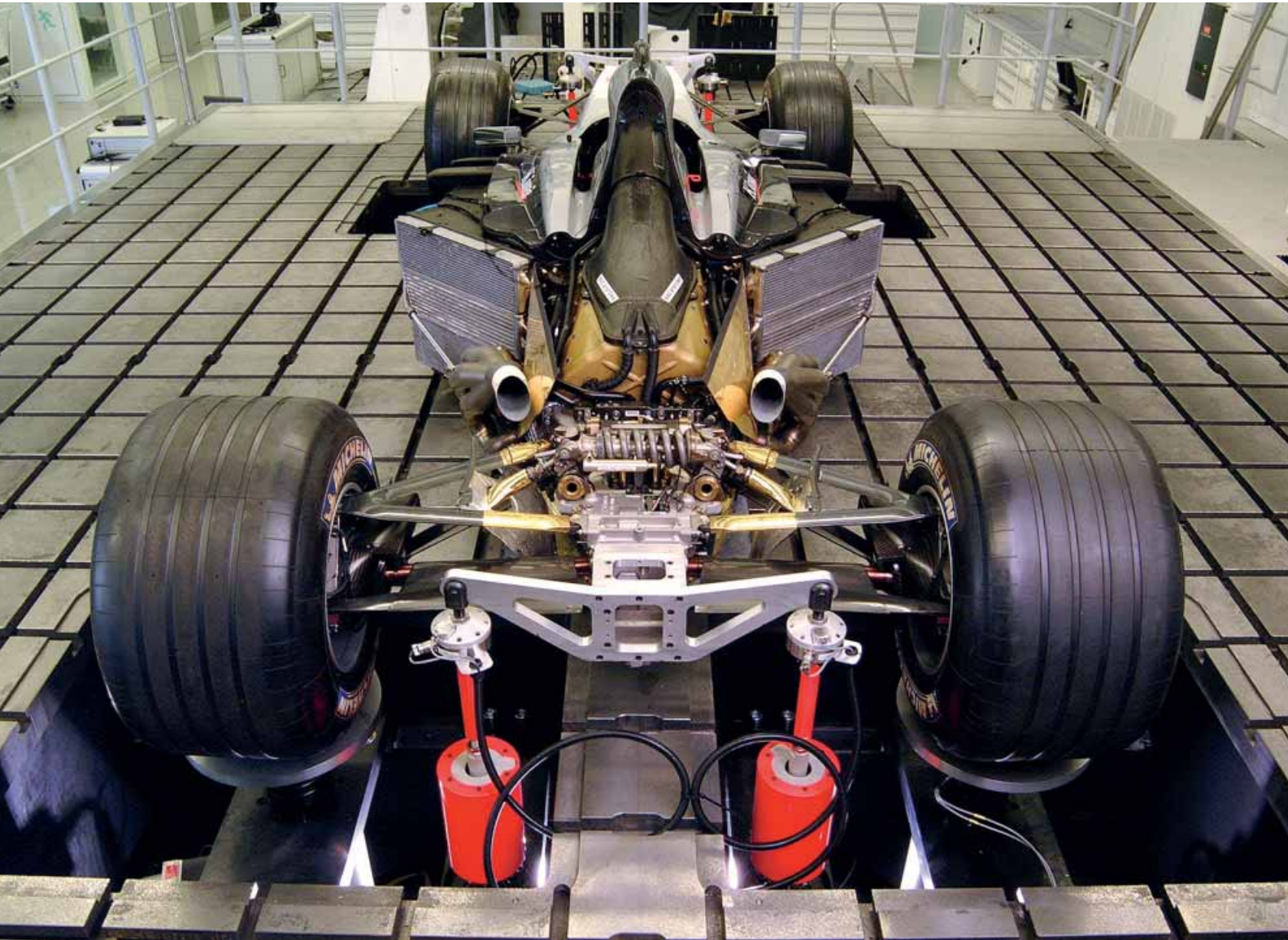
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Testing partnership

Instron's state-of-the-art test equipment provides McLaren Racing with the accuracy its engineers require. But can it match reality?

In Formula 1, speed and precision are vital to success. These values also underpin the relationship between the Instron Corporation and the McLaren Technology Centre, the headquarters of the McLaren Group. Instron and McLaren first conducted an engineering exchange in the 1980s. The resulting collaboration has blossomed into a mutual drive to push back the boundaries of structural and material testing.

Established in 1946 to investigate the properties of parachute materials, Instron has grown into a global leader in the materials and structural testing field and has pioneered testing machines in more than 50 countries. Instron and IST, its structural testing division, is an official supplier of test equipment to the McLaren Technology Centre, the production facility for the Team McLaren Mercedes Formula 1 team and McLaren Automotive, which is currently manufacturing the Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren sports car.

The McLaren Technology Centre, an award-winning building in its own right, was opened in 2004 and accommodates two state-of-the-art

Words	Dave Hancock
Photos	McLaren; LAT

“CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO QUICK TURNAROUND TIMES”



IST eight-post racetrack rig at McLaren Racing sits at eye level, supported by an 80 tonne seismic base on isolation mounts

the racecar can be rolled onto it. The McLaren Racing rig sits on an 80 tonne seismic base with the racecar at eye level – the visual impact reflecting the importance of the rig. It is disconnected from the building by vibration isolation mounts so that loads are not transferred to the structure. Equally, the building must not influence the rig, as this would affect its accuracy.

The eight Instron Hydropuls actuators at the heart of the rig sit beneath a 10x8m T-slotted bed plate. The Team McLaren Mercedes racecar is craned on to the rig and its tyres sit on wheelpans on top of these actuators. Potential variations in track or wheelbase dimensions arising from rule changes can be accommodated easily. Four further actuators – used to replicate the motion of the chassis – are connected to the racecar via rig-specific (ie not racecar specific) brackets.

When designing the rig, considerable emphasis was given to quick turnaround times. This is reflected in the design of the attachments to the downforce actuators and the use of quick release electrical connectors for the on-car transducers. The rig control software also recognises the various sensors quickly. As a result, turnaround time is less than one hour.

This is important, as during the course of a year up to three racecars can alternate on the rig. Last season's car is generally used for validation of current and on-going developments. The current season's car is used to collect and validate data compared to on-track testing and may be used to investigate race set-up options and problems. Next season's car is tested to assess and measure performance enhancements.

Put simply, this (and similar test rigs) attempt to accurately mimic the motion of the racecar on the racetrack – many different racetracks in fact. Vertical forces are applied to each wheel through the wheelpans to replicate the track surface. More vertical forces are applied to the chassis (at four points in this case) to reproduce the effects of aerodynamic downforce and the motions resulting from lateral and longitudinal acceleration (positive and negative). To illustrate the aerodynamic forces involved, typical Formula 1 racecar ground clearances of 40mm (front) and 80mm (rear) can be reduced to virtually zero at maximum speed (about 220mph).

It would be possible to use fewer than four actuators for the chassis and, on the McLaren Racing rig, actuators can be linked and paired. →

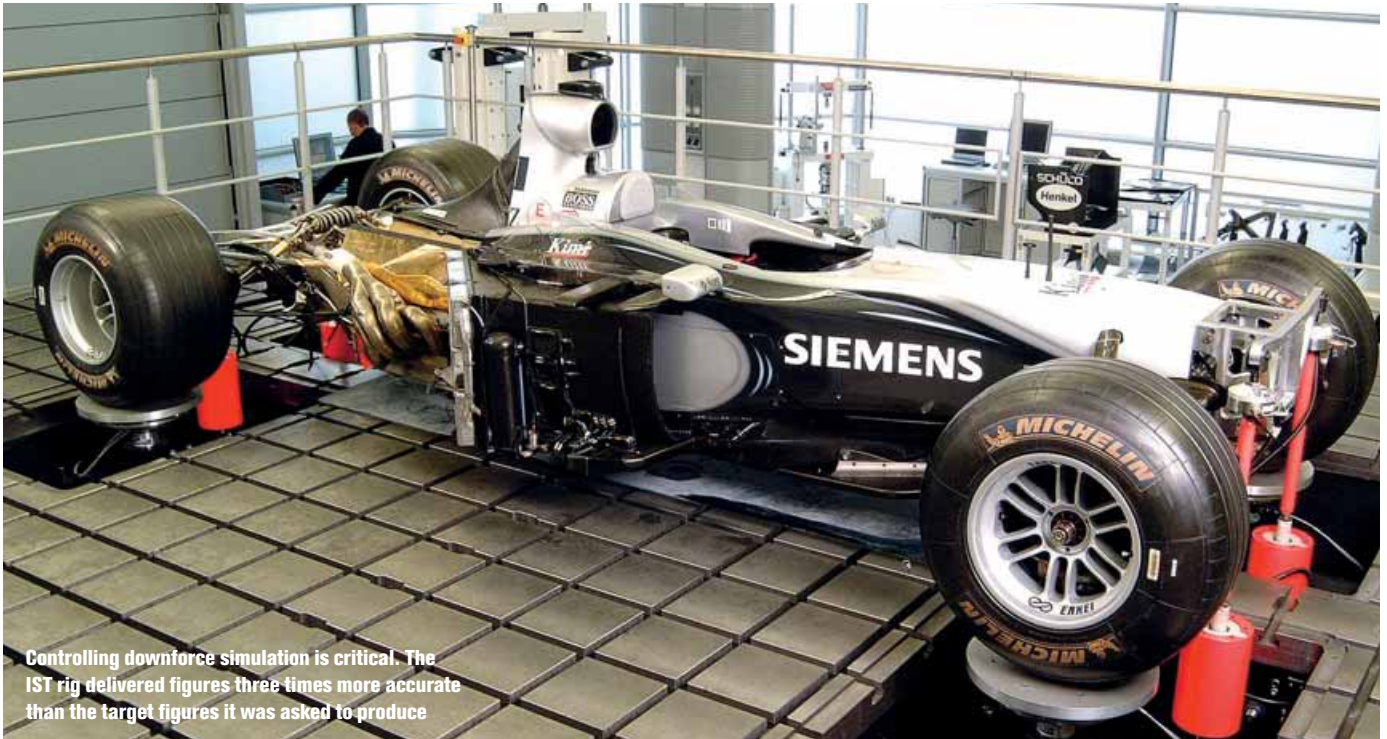


Data from the racetrack is fed back to the factory to be run on an identical car by the hydraulic test rig

Instron test rigs – an end-of-the-line hybrid system and an F1 racetrack eight-post rig – as well as other materials testing machines.

Moving through the McLaren Technology Centre, we come to McLaren Racing's test

department for the Team McLaren Mercedes Formula 1 operation. This houses an IST racetrack rig – commonly referred to as an eight-post rig. The first impression is striking, stunning even. Usually, such rigs are sunk into the ground so that



Controlling downforce simulation is critical. The IST rig delivered figures three times more accurate than the target figures it was asked to produce

However, using four chassis actuators means that chassis twist can be measured and thus taken into account. Given the accumulated expertise that goes into the design of an F1 racecar chassis and the inherent strength of the carbon fibre materials used, chassis twist is a surprising phenomenon. McLaren Racing will not disclose the measured figures, merely stating that it is 'very small'.

Still keeping it simple for the moment, having simulated track conditions, which areas of the racecar can be developed? Essentially, suspension components. Wheels, hubs, uprights, wishbones and so on can be assessed for flexing – using strain gauges. Friction and 'stiction' of joints can also be considered. Springs, dampers and anti-roll bars (both the parts themselves and various configurations) can be developed to minimise variations in tyre contact patch loads – maximal and consistent tyre loading is the ultimate quest of racecar designers.

Aficionados of F1 test rigs will know that some subject the wheels and/or chassis to horizontal inputs rather than just vertical ones. Richard Felton, team leader, Hardware in the Loop Simulation, McLaren Racing says: 'Some rigs have more axes, loading the cars laterally and longitudinally as well as vertically. The headline figures of how many posts you have look impressive but the extra inputs just introduce imperfections that would outweigh the very small increments we are looking for in terms of suspension design. The accuracy we are able to achieve is of an order of magnitude better than anything else currently available.'

This gives a clue to the excellence of IST. The contract with McLaren specified target levels of

accuracy across a range of parameters. Controlling downforce simulation is the critical factor and this is expressed as the RMS (root mean square) and the phase shift accuracy of the rig. In practice, IST produced a rig that was three times more accurate than the target figures. This was achieved by changes to the mechanics and hydraulics of the actuators, reductions in friction, improved compliant links (rubber bushes) between the actuators and the chassis and an advanced closed loop control technique.

Instron's director of sales and service, Phil Vere, says: 'Both companies are very engineering driven. We want to be the best by as big a margin

“WHILE ON TEST, THE RACECAR IS FITTED WITH IN EXCESS OF 60 SENSORS”

as we can be. McLaren Racing wanted precision and fidelity of data rather than sheer volume of numbers. That's what we have achieved together.'

While on test, the racecar is fitted with over 60 sensors – load transducers, displacement sensors and accelerometers. It is these that provide data to the RS LabSite(r) analysis software. The accuracy of the rig means that even the performance of sensors can be assessed and McLaren Racing is able to use this data to drive the development of sensors from the suppliers.

In this world of simulation, where cars can be 'raced' without turning a wheel, has the driver been forgotten? Not really, after doing tests with a driver sat in the racecar while on the rig,

McLaren Racing has been able to replicate the influence of its drivers using an equivalent mass. Moreover, the rig is sometimes used to investigate chassis or set-up anomalies reported by drivers. Invariably the drivers are proved correct – they are able to detect surprisingly small changes in the performance of a racecar.

The wheels do not rotate and the environment in which the rig is operated cannot be altered to mimic race circuit temperature and humidity. Instead, the tyre pressures are adjusted to compensate. Using the simulator, the effect of changes to the racecar can be very accurately measured and track testing validates the resulting performance differences. Indeed, validation of the accuracy of the rig is a key component of its success. 'Race engineers are a very sceptical bunch,' laughs Felton. 'It's not until you reach a certain threshold of accuracy that they say, "Yes, I'm going to go with your suggestion." Now, with this rig, we are really in the loop.'

For the operation of the racetrack simulator, IST's RS LabSite control software is used with a Labtronic digital controller. This control package offers levels of simulation accuracy and automation not available with other systems. From the range of RS LabSite software modules, the racetrack simulator uses RS BasLab (the operating environment), RS Block (for cyclic block programmes), RS Replay (for track data replay) and RS SigEdit (for signal editing). Results from test runs can be displayed, edited and printed or exported to other software packages.

Is there one line that sums up the expertise and effort that went into building the racetrack simulator and is still going in to its operation? Richard Felton: 'Yes – 0.2 seconds a lap...'

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Diamonds are forever



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Undoubtedly one of the smallest race engine manufacturers in the world, Millington has one product – its durable and adaptable Diamond all-aluminium four



Top: Darrian T90 GT, with Millington Diamond engine, is a formidable competitor on UK rallies

Main pic: although originally based on the Ford Cosworth YB, all the major castings of the Diamond engine are now made to Millington Racing Engines' own designs

Words	Simon McBeath
Photos	LAT; McBeath

Durability is one of the foremost qualities of any gem. It's also a key selling point of the Millington Diamond competition engine. Add in usability and competitiveness, and it's no surprise that Colin McRae is running one in his 'out of hours' Ford Escort Mk2 rally car. It could just be one of the best four-cylinder competition engines you've never heard of. Yet over 250 have competed in categories ranging from the American Le Mans LMP675 to UK hillclimbs, and numerous race and rally categories in between. But the Millington approach is dissimilar to most. There are many companies that modify and uprate production

engines for competition use, but there are very few smaller companies that *manufacture* competition engines. Yet that is effectively what Millington Racing Engines does, for it has also designed – and manufactured – its own castings.

Diamond formation

It hasn't always been totally this way though; the ancestry of the Millington Diamond can be traced to the Cosworth YB. Ford originally produced the

YB for the turbocharged Sierra Cosworth, with design input from Keith Duckworth. After the first roadgoing variants – YBA and YBB – there followed two competition variants: YBC, a Group A rally engine developing 280-300bhp; and YBD, which powered the Sierra Cosworth RS500 and, in Touring Car specification, turned out a rude 500bhp. So the basic engine had a good pedigree.

Roy Millington: 'Around 1988 BDA parts had become harder to find and the YB engine became

“DURABILITY WAS ALWAYS THE WATCHWORD, AND THIS QUALITY HAS BEEN WELL PROVEN”

popular for modifying. But it had a heavy [cast iron] block. I thought a lightweight version might work well, so I initiated an aluminium block project with Richard Jenvey, who cast the first 30 or 40 blocks in 1989; we then jointly machined them. With modified production cylinder heads these became the first 'Diamond' engines. Then, in the early 1990s, Holbay Racing asked us to do a 30-off block project, and the profit from that enabled an upgrade from a Moog Hydropath 3000 to a state-of-the-art four-axis CNC machine.

'I wanted to do the heads and porting by machine. There were not many people doing that then. It took three months to make up the jigs and fixings but it was worth it because we're still doing those jobs on that machine (and another machine we now have). We use a production casting but the porting, the contact facing on the inlets and lots of other little things are different. It takes about an hour and 20 minutes to machine what used to take a week to do by hand. A whole head can be prepared in half a day now, so it's been a good investment.'

Thus the Diamond was effectively a YB with an aluminium alloy block designed for competition – a Millington-modified head, plus Millington specified internals, induction system and exhaust. Among the alloy block's key features is a sump with integral bearing caps, and a shape designed to minimise windage. The block itself is said to be very rigid, with good cooling and long bearing life. Durability was always the watchword, and this quality has been well proven. Ready to run, the engine weighs 85-86kg (set to reduce with developments, as we'll see), excellent when it first appeared and still impressive when compared to competition modified production units today (see table 1). As Roy Millington modestly asserted, 'the Diamond was a good combination with the original YB head – light, durable and effective.'

Millington also believes in providing a good spread of usable power: 'you can put the car in its highest gear, put your foot flat on the throttle from 2500rpm and it will pull. This is one of the pluses of modern engine management systems of course [Weber Alpha is used typically]. The engine may not be running efficiently, and it'll be off cam, but it will pull.' In 2.0-litre guise, peak power is around 290bhp at 8100rpm, with peak torque in excess of 180lb.ft at 6800rpm. That torque figure rises to nearly 200lb.ft on methanol, where permitted, with a significant boost to torque and power between 5000 and 7000rpm. Maximum rpm is well over 9000rpm, but although good power is still being made it tails off at these speeds. With 'softer' camshaft profiles, rally variants produce slightly less peak power at the lower speed of 7700rpm, with a broader spread of power. In 2.5-litre guise, as fitted to Colin McRae's Mk 2 Escort, peak power is 315bhp at 7750rpm with

Table 1

ENGINE	Capacity	Weight
Vauxhall	2.0 litre	112kg
Ford Duratec	2.0 litre	92kg
Rover K2000	2.0 litre	75kg
Millington Diamond	2.0 litre	85kg (decreasing to 80kg)

Table 2

ENGINE	Bore	Stroke
Vauxhall 2.0	86.0mm	86.0mm
Duratec 2.0	87.5mm	83.0mm
K Series 1.8	80.0mm	87.5mm
K2000 2.0	82.5mm	93.3mm
Millington 2.0	95.0mm	70.5mm
Millington 2.5	95.0mm	88.0mm

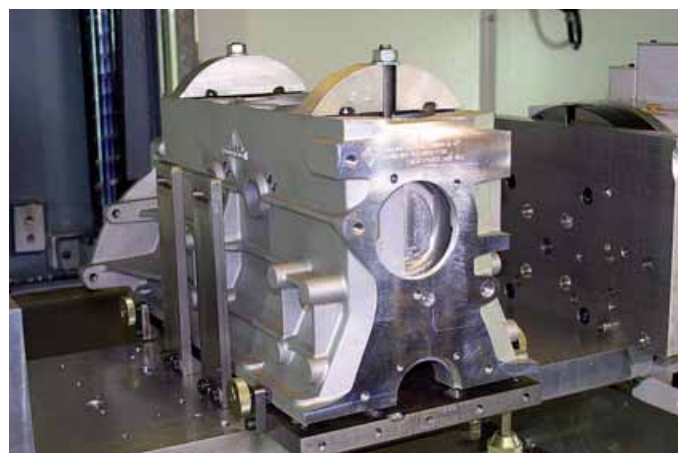
peak torque of 242lb.ft at 5500rpm, and there are a few 2.7-litre versions that generate the same peak power but a hearty 250lb.ft of torque.

Table 2 shows bore and stroke figures for the Millington Diamond in two variations, compared

“THE LATEST DIAMOND VARIANT WILL BE AROUND 80KG READY TO RUN”



The build process starts with the X-rayed, certified castings



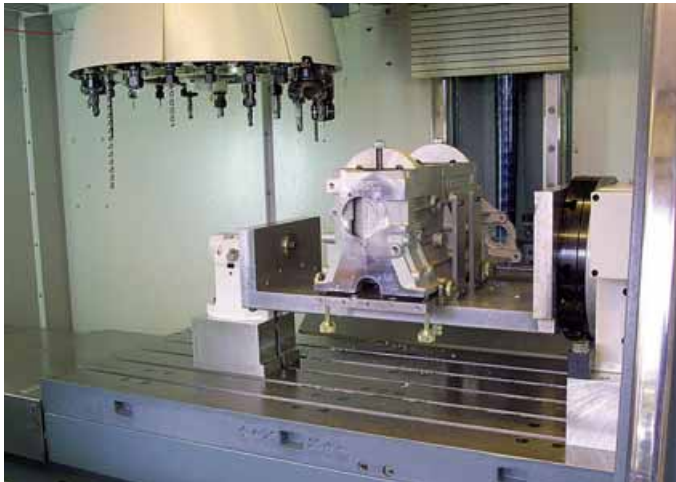
Preparing a block starts with machining the front and rear faces, and centres at each end. This is followed by a water and oil pressure test

to the previously mentioned competition-modified production engines. The differences are immediately apparent: the Millington, even in 2.5-litre form, is very over-square with a large bore offering a big valve area, key to attaining high power. It seems likely that this, in part at least, is why the Diamond can make 290bhp at just 8100rpm where other engines require at least another 400rpm to achieve peak power values that are not all this high. It should also be stated that Roy Millington has tested engines other than his own that were reputed to produce in excess of 300bhp but which were measured at around 290bhp on his dynamometer. This might suggest that the Millington dyno reads conservatively...

All new head

But Roy Millington was not content for development to stagnate, and supplies of YB head castings ebbed and flowed unpredictably. So Millington decided to design and manufacture his own head, based not unnaturally on the YB but with features he wanted to incorporate. Principal among these were the included valve angle, which at 45 degrees on the YB was thought to be too wide for efficient combustion; the exhaust port shape (designed for a turbocharged road car application so 'pointing the wrong way'); reduced weight, but retaining plenty of material around the combustion chamber; and incorporating good cooling for turbocharged applications. →

The Cincinnati Arrow 1250C is equipped with a comprehensive set of tools



Unique, traceable reference numbers are engraved on each casting, and records kept throughout every engine's life



Following the second machining phase, oil pressure testing is again performed, and then the block goes into stock



Line boring is done on a modified lathe. This is a QED/Millington Vauxhall alloy block



Millington remarked that 'the YB head was very good in its day [and for its application] but we wanted more efficient combustion.'

So a spell welding up and machining a number of YB heads ensued in what was described as 'home development, playing around to make it work better. It will produce more power because of better flow and better combustion – there are no 'dead' areas now – and we've saved 2kg because it is smaller. We were also struggling to get a high compression ratio with the old head, and had to use a large 'intruder' [extra metal intruding into the combustion chamber to reduce its capacity and raise the C/R]. This compromised the combustion chamber shape, so this will also improve with the new head.' Other details still being researched include inlet tract length, barrel versus butterfly throttles, trumpets and air filters. The aim is to make a more compact package for installation reasons, although Millington realises this will lose some torque.

Having settled on the new head's layout, significant capital investment was required to produce the complex set of patterns needed to make the castings. Fortunately, Grainger and Worrell, described as one of Europe's leading

“THE EXPECTATION [WITH THE NEW HEAD] MUST BE COMFORTABLY IN EXCESS OF 300BHP”

rapid prototyping and small volume aluminium and iron casting companies, is just a few miles from Millington in Bridgnorth, Shropshire. The company had been casting Millington's blocks and sumps for over seven years, and now the new heads are being made there, too.

With the weight saved on the head, and a 'few other lightweight parts' the latest Diamond variant will be around 80kg ready to run. 'We're using lighter internals to compete with the bike engines,' remarked Millington, 'which means reducing the weight of the crankshaft. Stronger steels and better heat treatments are now available, but we're going to have to monitor life – crack testing at regular intervals because we don't have the resources to do full endurance testing. They should be fine though.'

At the time of writing the new head had not yet run, although some of Millington's many loyal customers already had them on order. But with a bottom end that can withstand well over 9000rpm, and a head that should flow and combust better, once camshaft profiles and mapping have been sorted, the expectation must be comfortably in excess of 300bhp.

Cutting diamonds

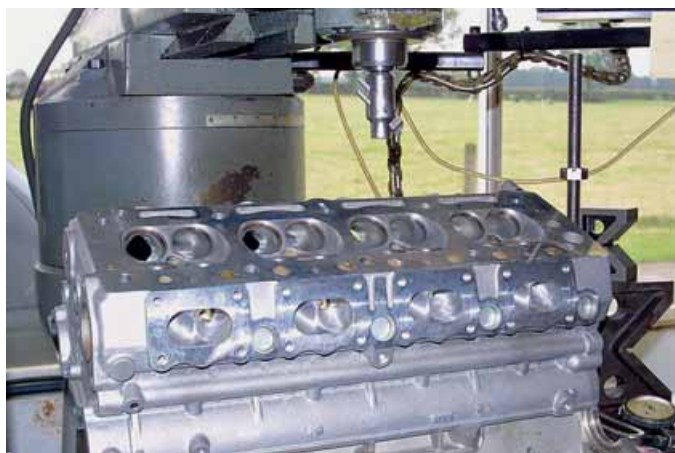
The well-organised engine building process at Millington starts with deliveries of X-rayed, certified castings that then require machining. Each new block is placed onto a Cincinnati Arrow 1250C four-axis CNC centre and located with bespoke jigs and fixings so that the two ends can be machined and centres located. The bore cores are also centred to specification, and unique reference numbers engraved on the front block face. This step takes around 25 minutes.

The oil galleries are then drilled, and the oil and water jackets are pressure tested. Providing this test is passed, the block is transferred to a Cincinnati Arrow 1000 four-axis CNC centre, jugged in place, and the two sides, the top and bottom are then machined. The main bearing surfaces are roughed out to within 15thou (0.38mm) and the bores are machined to the smallest that will be used. The oil galleries are once again pressure tested and, once passed, the block is put into stock. This second machining phase takes about one hour 10 minutes. Engines that are destined for turbocharged applications use through-bolt assembly that requires different machining. Sumps and cylinder heads are machined along much the same lines before they are put into stock.

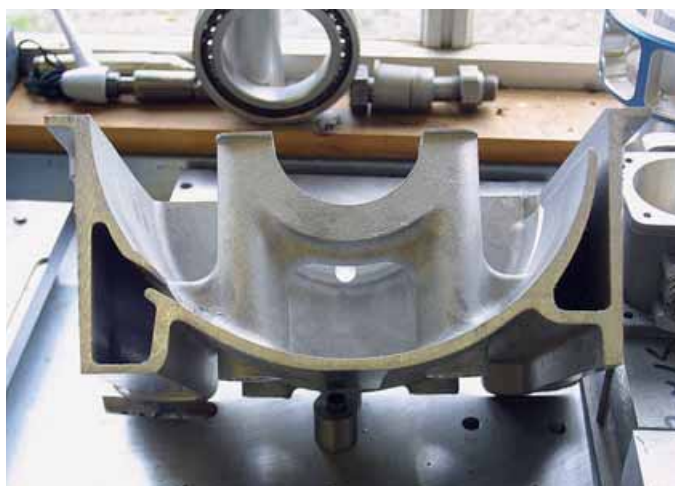
“CNC MACHINES ARE THE KEY TO THE VIABILITY OF THIS BUSINESS”

Roy wrote his own CNC programs in 1996 using 'text document G codes', which he described as 'a bit old fashioned but very easy to change – for example to a different valve spring platform or in some other detail.' Clearly these CNC machines are the key to the viability of this business, given that just three of the company's complement of four work on engine build.

Blocks and sumps are then clamped together and line bored on an in-house modified lathe. 'It's very difficult to get accurate line boring done outside,' remarked Millington, 'and our cold clearances are tight so we can use off-the-shelf competition bearings.' So sumps and blocks are paired up and numbered as matched sets. Then the blocks are split again so thin wall cast iron liners can be inserted. 'These are to our own specification and fit. They move with the block's expansion and contraction, and it works well if you get the thickness exactly right. We've been doing it this way for 14 years now. Nikasil bores would theoretically be better, but there is more cost and potential aggravation, and we can't do that in-house.' →



Valve seats are part machined on a manual mill. This is the YB cylinder head originally used on the Millington Diamond



This sectioned sump shows the integral bearing caps as well as the clever shaping of the sump and scavange rails



In the foreground is a section through a YB cylinder head, behind is Millington's new head, with shallower valve angle, and different port face angles. Just visible on the inlet side (left) is the barrel throttle option



Stocks of engine internals and ancillaries await orders for new, complete engines

The castings then join the internals in the assembly shop, managed by Wayne Mitchell who, says Roy Millington, helps maintain the company's high standards. Pistons come part-machined from Omega or Accralite and Millington machines the valve pockets and piston tops to suit the application, so just one piston variety needs stocking for the three different engine types (2.0 and 2.5-litre normally aspirated, plus turbocharged). Well-known suppliers are used for all major internal components, like DKE (crankshafts) Kent (cams), Arrow Precision (followers, conrods), Paul Ivey (valves), Richard Jenvey (inlet assembly parts) and Webcon or DTA for management systems. To ensure all is well prior to delivery, the company's dynamometer is used to map or check each engine.

Millington is distinct in another key respect. Whereas many engine preparation companies offer a staged approach to modifying a production engine, Roy Millington says 'there aren't cheaper parts available for our engines so we supply the customer with the best engine we can make. The only real option is milder cams to give more torque spread.' Thus the current price range of £18,500 to £25,000+VAT (\$33,300 to \$45,000)

“WELL-KNOWN SUPPLIERS ARE USED FOR ALL MAJOR INTERNAL COMPONENTS”

represents the price of a top specification Millington Diamond engine. But take into account this comment from one happy customer: 'rebuilt cost half what they did on our previous engine, the rebuild interval is twice as long, and it's just so reliable.' Add to this the fact that the second hand value for a Millington-serviced unit is around £14,000 to £15,000 and through-life costs seem relatively modest. Customer service is on a very personal level, and Roy Millington retains records of every engine he's ever built. But candidly he remarks, 'we do get problems. It's how you deal with them that matters.'

Millington Racing Engines has not sought a high profile, yet the combination of its engines' qualities, together with personal service, has seen steady business growth, largely through referrals. So as Roy Millington juggles his daily priorities to keep on top of the demands of the business, at least he doesn't have to worry about marketing...

Contact

Millington Racing Engines (Roy Millington)
Tel +44 (0)1746 789 268

Background

Roy Millington personally deals with customers as well as running the whole engine building operation



Roy Millington began working on engines in 1971, fixing agricultural diesel units on the family farm near Bridgnorth, Shropshire, progressing to re-boring BMC A-series engines, and then modifying Ford crossflow cylinder heads for Autograss competitors. He and his wife shared a car in that category, establishing a name and reputation, and this led to preparing rally engines for Opel Manta 400s and Ford Escorts. In turn this created a client base running Ford BDA engines, and ultimately it was the scarcity of BDA parts that led to the development of the original Millington Diamond.

While the normally aspirated Diamond is Millington's bread and butter, other fascinating projects intersperse the company's history. A customer's Ford Puma project, built to (non-homologated) World Rally Car specification, involved designing a through-bolt engine assembly. Thus, turbocharged Diamond engines became available, and Marshall Cooke Racing set about tackling the ALMS LMP675 category in 2002/03 using a turbocharged 2.0-litre Millington in its Lola B2K40s. Roy Millington recalls, 'it was a restricted, high compression, through-bolt engine. It produced around 485bhp when the MGs were said to have 500bhp,

though we couldn't verify their numbers. The Lola was fast but it was a heavier chassis than the MG. Nevertheless, Marshall Cooke was class runner-up in 2003. The engines ran for 38 hours and the customer was pleased with performance and durability.'

A spin-off from this project was the turbocharged engine in the UK hillclimbing Pilbeam MP88 of father and son Barry and Josh Goodyear. This started at 2.5 litres, but 'we originally had problems with too much power! Reverting back to 2.0 litres, and using a Pectel EMS with boost control, it became very driveable. It took time to develop, but now the engine has three different maps for different track and weather conditions. Torque from using methanol helped this programme, and this converted me to the benefits of methanol!'

Millington also flirted with a five-cylinder concept to achieve 2.5 litres when the original four cylinder block patterns were wearing out, and he had to review how to re-tool. But potential torsional vibration problems ultimately deterred him, given limited development resources. Ultimately, longer strokes allowed 2.5 and even 2.7-litre versions, but a 98mm Nikasil bore, 82mm 'short stroke' 2.5-litre engine is under consideration.



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Conversations

The retired boss of GM's North American racing operations has an enlightened vision of motorsport's future

Words	Paul Lane Jnr
Photos	LAT; GM

Retirement for a successful executive once meant a gold watch or carriage clock, a testimonial dinner and a life of leisure on the golf links. But that is no longer the lot for the likes of Herb Fishel.

Replacing it is the freedom to define one's view of what is important, and injecting new life into the tangled web that is motorsport has been Fishel's target: 'When I retired from GM in August 2003, I decided to take a couple of years to see where industry fits with the motorsports business and, more importantly, within the automotive industry itself.'

Fishel also spent time in the UK learning how the rapidly developing Motorsports Industry Association (MIA) operated as a focal point for the multi billion-pound British motorsports community. 'Retirement allowed me to get away from a company point of view and the politics that involves,' Fishel continues. 'In 40 years of working, my views of the automotive industry were limited to an in-company experience. I accepted the chairmanship of SAE's 2004 Motorsports Engineering Conference to help gain a broader understanding of how international motorsports and SAE functioned.'

Influences such as the native North Carolinian's early enthusiasm for NASCAR and stock car racing in general left him open to the necessity for a close and enduring bond between the automotive industry and the sport. A critical tool to revising his opinion was expanding his network of



After 40 years inside the auto industry, Herb Fishel has his own view of how motorsport should work with it

contacts within the industry worldwide.

It didn't take Fishel too long to realise that the size and complexity of motorsport required a narrowing of focus to primary views, past and present, and that there should be a strong, two-way relationship between motorsport and the automotive industry.

“THE MAJOR AUTO INDUSTRY COMPANIES NEED TO BE EDUCATED”

Globally, the tie between the two is not a strong one, he says, believing each industry operates in isolation of the other, with a significant technical and bottom line loss to both.

In response to this he has begun working with industry clients to develop a framework within

motorsport that will bring about healthy exchange at the major company levels. Central to this line of thinking is justification of investment – the total cost and the added value of showcasing an automotive or automotive-related company in competition.

As Fishel talks, it becomes evident he is encouraging revolution, a complete overthrow of the hype and excess evident in motorsport today. To that end he has come up with seven points that summarise (admittedly with a degree of idealism) his feeling about what needs to be achieved in the next couple of decades.

At the time of writing, revolution may be what is needed to salvage the integrity of top-level motorsports. Feuding, poor judgement, safety issues, runaway costs and sponsors viability have cast long and dark shadows over the sport.

Fishel is ready to bend the ear of all who will listen to what he calls his deliverables, justifying industry investment in motorsports.

with Herb Fishel



A native of North Carolina, Fishel was enthused by stock car racing but realised early on the importance of a strong bond between the sport and the auto industry

Looking to the future, Fishel suggests 'sportscar racing offers the best fit with OEM and tier-one manufacturers, the category could rise to exceed the sportscar glory days of the '50s, '60s and '70s.'

Reaction to the ongoing power struggles in F1 and among track owners and US oval track sanctioning bodies/promoters are among the worldwide instabilities that could offer the chance for revolution, though it all depends upon what fans will want or will tolerate.

The major auto industry companies need to be educated on the lost opportunities to derive bottom line profits from motorsport. The motorsport business model has got to change to provide a better cost/value proposition, or a better return on their investment, says Fishel.

Dynamics in the workforce

As Fishel works with industry, he sees its dynamic technical workforce questioning itself about its size and organisation, such as is the case in

Formula 1. Also in NASCAR where the team staff are increasingly degreed professionals. He also sees an interchange of assignments between motorsport activity and general automotive production in industry.

A number of visits to student groups at university level have left Fishel enthused: 'I found

“CHANGES IN MOTORSPORT RULES WILL REDUCE JOBS”

there is a high level of interest and enthusiasm in creating a curriculum that is motorsport driven,' he said. 'The faculties are trying hard to connect the curriculum to where motorsport and the industry currently are.'

But he only actually observed mixed success –

motorsport is fast moving and eager to use new technology and tools, whereas educational establishments typically are not. Even though a curriculum that dwells on theory will lose relevance and leave the new graduate at a competitive disadvantage. Fishel also witnessed some faculty members uncomfortable with the practical problem of meeting racing's demands.

'The type of skills developed in Formula SAE/Formula Student are an essential part of any curriculum,' he says. That recommendation is echoed by many in industry and motorsport in general, and alumni will attest that a Formula SAE graduate will show up on recruiters' preferred hire lists time and again.

Developing a programme that cycles promising industry personnel though a motorsport assignment was pioneered by Honda in the mid-'60s, but Fishel gives mixed marks to emulating companies. Where a structured programme is supported by top and middle management it →



Fishel believes sportscar racing provides the best fit with the big OEMs and sees a return to the glory days of the '50s, '60s and '70s ahead. He feels this type of racing offers manufacturers the best value for money

usually produces commendable results, but without complete support there can be a significant loss of benefits.

Fishel also suggests that continual changes in motorsport rules will ultimately reduce the number of jobs available, and those seeking a career exclusively in motorsport will find the competition stiff. A combination of in-depth education and experience, starting at the earliest age, is necessary.

Changes in technical approach

Fishel goes on to suggest that design and simulation software has now matured to a point where it can support an assortment of power plants such as reciprocating, hybrid or fuel cell, to achieve parity and run competitively in cars of the same class.

Le Mans organiser, the ACO, has historically been open to such innovation at Le Mans, and certainly this would be an opportunity to develop data and establish merit for future production vehicle applications.

In this instance he sees a need for a neutral party to develop the technical standards, perform evaluations, and/or act as ombudsman in development of race series or special events. With such a history of politics and bickering within motorsport in general, this would be a vital role. In Fishel's opinion, the Society of Automotive Engineers International is the best fit to carry out this role.

When challenged to compare the past with

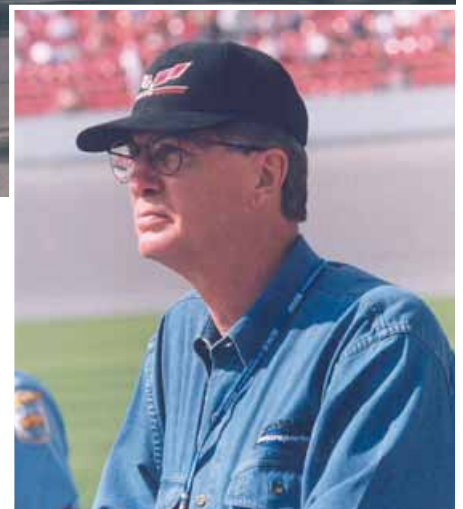
present and future approaches to racecar technology, Fishel characterises racecar development in the age of the Donohue/Penske 'Unfair Advantage' as a limited, fundamental, mechanical approach, whereas today's analytical methods provide a means of generating a large amount of data and rapidly laying out options.

He points out that today many tools within racing are state of the art, and the automobile industry is turning out engineers able to sift data and gain experience that is useful across the board. The trick is to be able to apply the rapid

“SPORTSCARS OFFER THE BEST FIT TO LARGE MANUFACTURERS”

out-pouring of information into an optimum integrated solution. Adding some old-fashioned, hands-on experience is often something that closes the decision loop.

The escalating cost of racing has always been a hotly debated topic throughout the motorsport community. Fishel applauds the current effort to reverse the pervasive trend to over-engineer, citing an alternative experience with the Chevrolet LS1 production-based engine utilised in the now defunct ASA stock car series (though still racing in Europe as SCSA). The bottom line is



today's near-stock production engine, enabled by current design techniques and tools, can be a season-long reliable race engine.

There are other proposals, too, such as the proposed rule changes in Formula 1. Anything aimed at reducing cost also has to satisfy critics, particularly those suggesting loss of image and entertainment value.

Fishel has a challenge ahead in developing pathways for potential clients to invest in motorsport programmes in an era of change. His vision is bound to stir controversy and discussion, yet his championing the elevation of sportscar racing, as Aston Martin, Porsche, Peugeot, Audi and other rumoured factory-backed teams surface, adds credibility to his vision for the future. Besides the half-dozen automotive manufacturers pouring tens of millions of pounds into F1 and new programmes starting in the sportscar series, the report card on Fishel's efforts – and that of other notable movers and shakers – will be the increase in industry interactive programmes. The price to world motorsports is maintaining enough stability to allow a return on industry's investment.

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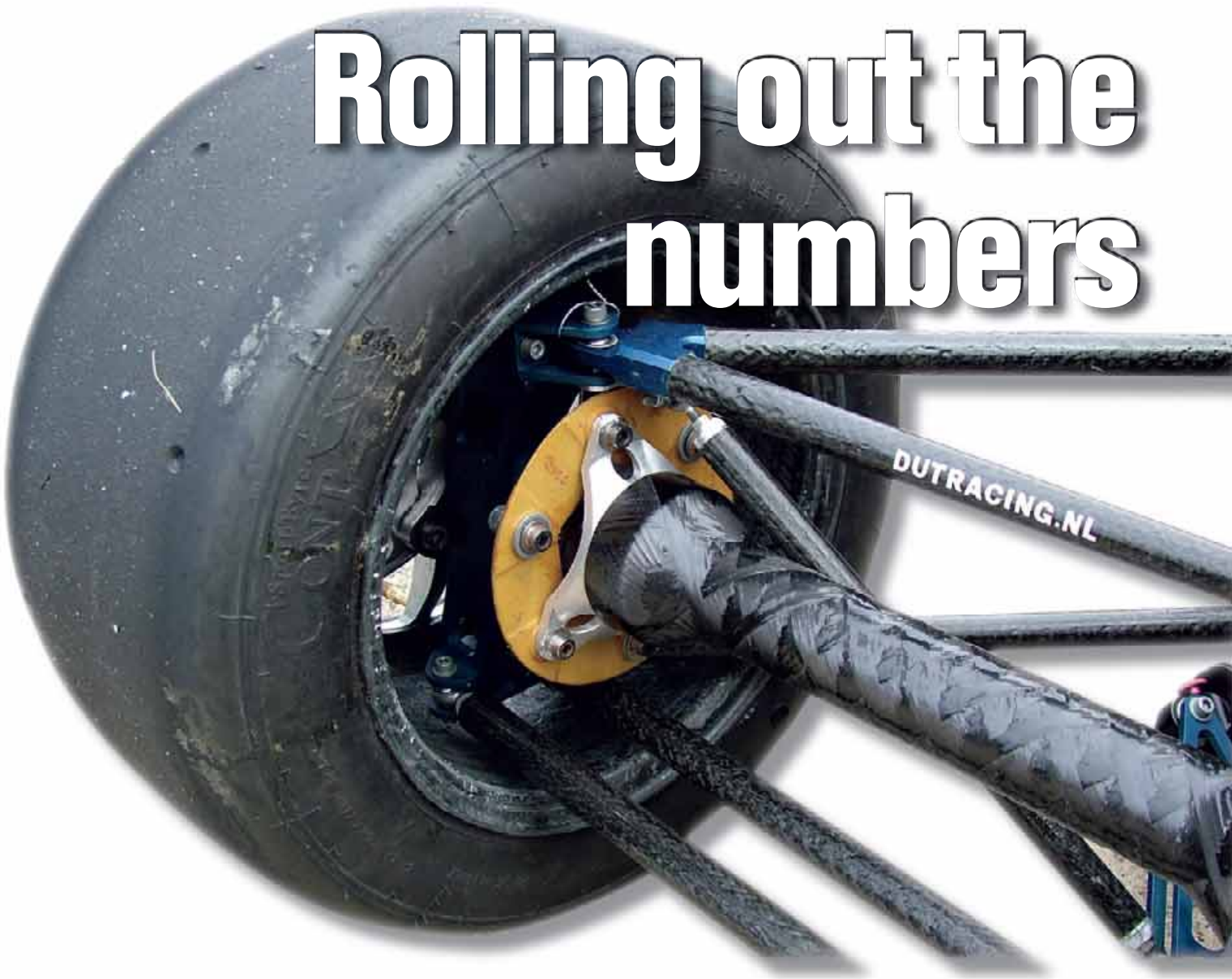
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Rolling out the numbers



Corporate support and a small group of willing individuals have provided Formula SAE competitors with essential tyre data that until now was simply out of reach

Words	Edward M Kasprzak
Photos	Sam Collins; Kasprzak

Tyres are one of the most important elements of any racecar and the design and tuning of a chassis and suspension are aimed at optimising tyre performance. At the same time, tyres are one of the most difficult elements of the car to quantify in engineering terms. Professional motorsport teams spend large sums of money each year conducting tyre tests in an attempt to understand, characterise and model them but traditionally such tyre data has been beyond the reach of today's engineering students. Until now.

Formula SAE and companion events in the

United States, England, Italy, Brazil, Australia and Japan draw entries from well over 300 colleges and universities each year. The competitions are unique in that, along with the performance-based competitions common across all areas of motorsport, they are also design and engineering contests. Students trying to design, fabricate and race their own car face the same issues, questions and limitations as professional motorsport teams, including the need for tyre data.

The Formula SAE Tyre Test Consortium (FSAE TTC) was established in 2005 to meet this need, by measuring Formula SAE tyre data and making it

available to students at a reasonable cost.

The Calspan Tyre Research Facility (TIRF) staffed a display booth at the 2004 Motorsports Engineering Conference and Exhibition in Dearborn, Michigan. A number of students and Formula SAE faculty advisors in attendance approached the booth to ask if there was any Formula SAE tyre data available. An idea was born and the FSAE TTC was established.

Three co-directors oversee the all-volunteer FSAE TTC. Edward Kasprzak (yours truly), a PhD candidate at the University at Buffalo and 10-year associate at Milliken Research Associates,

spearheaded the effort. Dr Bob Woods, founding member of Formula SAE from the University of Texas-Arlington, provided his considerable wisdom and experience and Denny Trimble, a student at the University at Washington, completed the trio.

At the time of writing, over 40 teams had paid the US\$500 (£290) registration fee. 100 per cent of this fee goes toward tyre testing and data distribution costs. Doug Milliken, vice president of Milliken Research Associates and respected FSAE design judge, volunteered his time to oversee the finances and consult directly to the FSAE TTC directors.

The Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Company and Hoosier Racing Tyre donated tyres. All tyres were new racing slicks between 6 and 7.5in width mounted on 10 or 13in diameter wheels. Reduction of the data to mathematical tyre models was donated by Stackpole Engineering Services (Pacejka-based tyre model) and Milliken Research Associates (non-dimensional tyre model). The corporate support provided for these tyre tests

“THE NUMBER OF POSSIBLE VARIABLES FAR OUTWEIGHS THE NUMBER OF TESTS THAT CAN BE RUN”

speaks of the stature of Formula SAE and the willingness of companies to support the education of young engineers.

In that same spirit, Calspan's Sam Pugliese and George Tapia offered to conduct the tests below cost – a significant contribution considering the cost of tyre testing. Seven tyre constructions were to be tested over the course of three full days at Calspan TIRF and the first tyre tests took place at the end of July 2005.

Calspan TIRF

The Calspan Tyre Research Facility, located in Buffalo, New York, was constructed in 1972 and remains one of the world's most capable tyre testing machines. Clients from the car, truck and motorsport worlds keep the machine running two shifts per day all year round. In motorsport, Calspan tests tyres for race teams, constructors and tyre manufacturers from F1 to NASCAR, to pro drag racing. Virtually every type of professional race tyre has passed through the facility.

The tyre-testing machine resembles a large belt

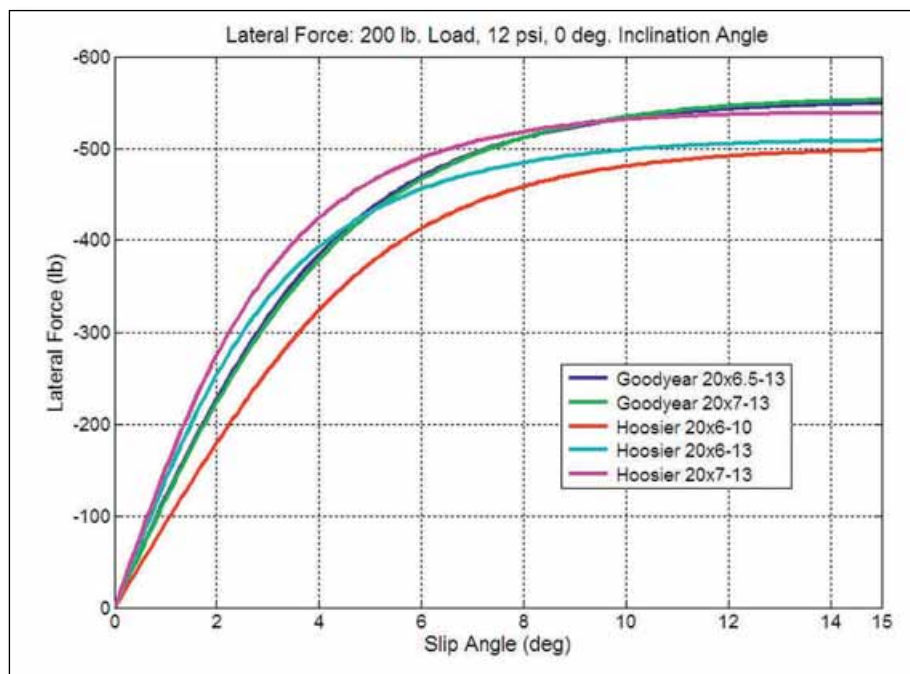


Figure 1: The lateral force plotted against slip angle for the five different tyre constructions tested

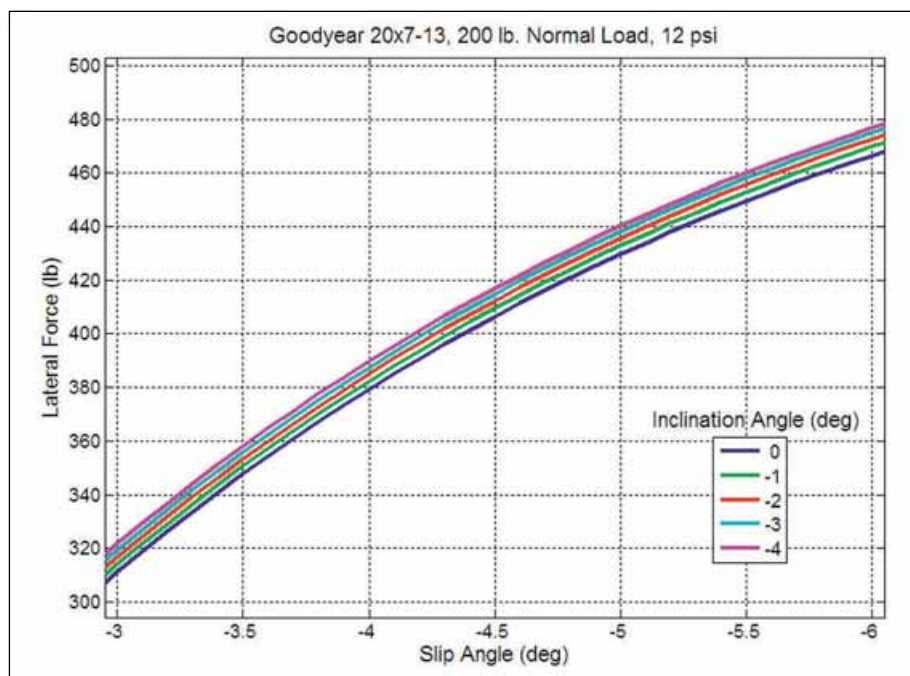


Figure 2: Trace showing how increased tyre inclination angle provides more lateral force on tyres

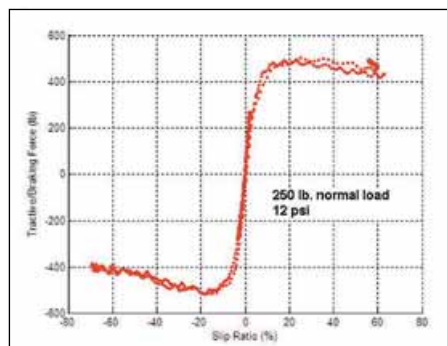


Figure 3: longitudinal data was collected to show tyre force changes in accordance with slip ratio

12,000lb of normal load. Test speeds over 200mph can be obtained. Underneath the contact patch the belt is supported by an air bearing, assuring accurate recreation of the correct pressure distribution in the tyre footprint.

The Formula SAE tyre test was designed by Dave Gentz, principal mechanical engineer at Calspan TIRF, in cooperation with the FSAE TTC and based on a general test philosophy at Calspan. The test was designed to produce curves of tyre performance as a function of tyre normal load, slip angle, inclination angle, slip ratio and inflation pressure. While the tests were fairly

sander that acts as a 28in wide roadway. A tyre is mounted on a head which can provide steer and inclination angles of 30 degrees and apply up to

FSAE tyre testing

extensive, the number of possible variables (including thermal cycles, tyre wear, rim widths/constructions, tyre dynamics, temperature effects etc) far outweighs the number of tests that can effectively be run.

Even with the use of DOE techniques, the size of a test becomes large, time-consuming and expensive very quickly as variables are added. As Gentz put it, 'that's something very few new customers understand when they first approach us. For the newcomer it's almost always a shock unless they've actually sat down and multiplied the numbers out. You could double a test size simply by having two rim widths, and so on.' The large number of variables, the need for a sizeable test machine and the cost of performing such tyre tests mean there are very few tyre-testing facilities operational worldwide. Consequently, tyre data has until now remained the domain of the highest levels of motorsport and passenger car development.

“FSAE TESTS INCLUDED SEVERAL INTERESTING TYRE SPRING RATE TESTS”

Formula SAE tyres

Because of his position, Gentz has possibly seen more tyre data on more types of race tyres than anyone else in the world. And fortunately for Formula SAE students, many of the trends seen in full-size race tyres were also seen in the Formula SAE tyre data. 'The testing went like a normal race test. In general, they act like little race tyres.'

The first notable feature of the Formula SAE tyres is the amount of grip they provide. Peak friction values ranged between 2.5 and 3.0, meaning that a tyre operating at 200lb normal load could produce between 500 and 600lb of lateral or longitudinal force. Few tyres tested at Calspan have shown such performance, as Gentz explained: 'That says they're similar to an F1 tyre with very high coefficients. F1 tyres normally run between 1.5 and 2.5.'

The tyres were also remarkably sticky at operating temperatures – fingerprints could be left on the tread and more than one person made the mistake of brushing against a warm tyre only to wear some of the rubber home. The soft compounds were similar to rain racing tyres tested at Calspan. During the tests the belt stayed fairly clean, although at the end of each test some build-up accumulated on the tread. Carcass



One of the Goodyear Formula SAE tyres on the tyre test machine, post-test. Note the build-up on the tyre

pyrometer readings immediately after each test reported temperatures between 120-170degF, depending on the tyre and the test. Formula SAE students in attendance confirmed that this was consistent with what they see on their cars during on-track testing.

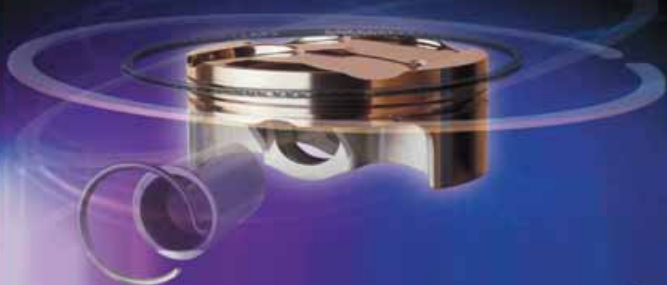
Students will be interested in comparing the performance of different tyre constructions. For example, figure 1 plots lateral force against slip angle for five different tyre constructions. The two Hoosier 13in tyres exhibit higher cornering stiffnesses (initial slope of lateral force versus slip angle), but the Goodyear 13in tyres ultimately have higher peak lateral forces. The Hoosier 10in tyre produces less lateral force, likely because of its smaller footprint, but the tyre/wheel assembly is also lighter. So which one is the best? Keep in mind that this is only a single load, a single inflation pressure and a single inclination angle. Change the inflation pressure or the load and you may see different results. If tyres could be understood and optimised from a single graph motorsport would not be as challenging as it is.

Besides, while the optimum is a very important operating point, in practice it is difficult to achieve. A racecar has four tyres, not one, and all four need to work together in conjunction with the vehicle's weight, load transfer, suspension, aerodynamics, engine etc – a very complex system to optimise. For tuning purposes it's just as important to understand the sensitivity of the tyres to changes in load, inflation pressure or inclination angle as it is to know the conditions of the peak performance.

For example, the Formula SAE tyres proved to be less camber sensitive than most racing tyres, mainly due to the low normal loads. Representative data in fig 2 at 200lb normal load shows that an increase in tyre inclination angle from zero to -4 degrees provides about 15lb more lateral force, or about eight per cent of the load on the tyre. In the plot shown, this effect is nearly the same at all slip angles. The tyre tests allow these sensitivities to be determined at various operating conditions, along with the sensitivity to other variables such as inflation pressure.

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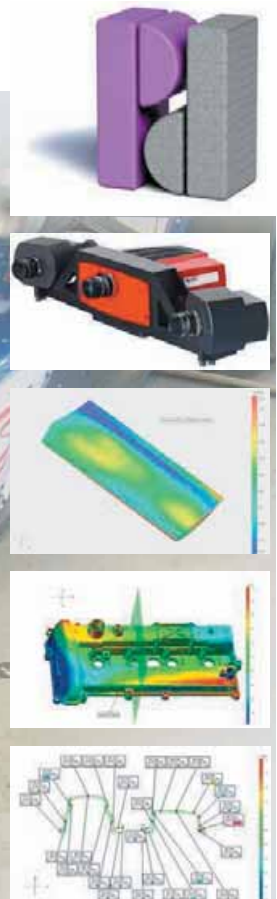
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The Formula SAE tyre tests included several interesting tyre spring rate tests and the test segment was repeated four times during the life of the tyre. When a brand new tyre was placed on the test machine, a range of normal loads was applied and the loaded radius measured, from which vertical spring rate was determined. This was done first with the tyre stationary and then with the tyre rolling. Warm up and conditioning cycles were then performed for several minutes, and the spring rate test (rolling) was repeated. The main segment of the tyre test was then performed, after which a final spring rate test (rolling) was conducted on the worn tyre.

Results showed that the tyre's vertical spring rate was different in each of the four tests. For example, the Hoosier 20x6-13 produced vertical spring rates of 735lb/in (new, non-rolling), 926lb/in (new, rolling), 810lb/in (intermediate, rolling) and 700lb/in (used, rolling). This shows that tyre spring rates measured with the tyre rolling are different from a stationary tyre. It also shows that as a tyre is used it loses vertical stiffness. Analysis

“THERE ARE MANY OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS IN TYRE DATA ANALYSIS”

of the data during the slip angle and slip ratio sweeps shows that non-free-rolling conditions reduce the vertical stiffness of the tyre even further. Therefore, because of the lateral sidewall deflections, a tyre has a lower vertical spring rate while cornering than while running straight. This has implications on the tyre's contribution to roll stiffness and chassis ride height.

Longitudinal data was also collected on all the Formula SAE tyres. Typically, Calspan tests just past the peak slip ratio which, on these tyres, occurs around 10-20 per cent slip ratio. At the request of Josh Callaway, Formula SAE student from the University of Illinois, a final slip ratio sweep at 250lb normal load was taken to almost +/-100 per cent, from spinning at twice the roadway speed to near lock-up. At the peak, the optimal percentage of the print is operating at the static friction limit. Past the peak, the tyre force approaches the lower sliding friction value as less and less of the footprint is stuck to the roadway (see fig 3 for the results).

As with other racing tyres, the Formula SAE tyres show basic inflation pressure trends. Within a reasonable range, increasing inflation pressure increases lateral force but decreases longitudinal force. The optimal inflation pressures for lateral



Nicholas Fishbein, Formula SAE student at Cornell University, taking notes during the test at Calspan

and longitudinal forces do not coincide. This is one of many trade-offs FSAE students will have the opportunity to discover, study and ponder.

In all, over 20 channels of data were recorded on the tyres, including lateral and longitudinal forces, aligning and overturning moments, three infrared tread surface temperatures and all the tyre operating conditions. FSAE TTC members received a DVD containing the raw data, Pacejka and non-dimensional models of the data, and video recordings of all the tests.

On-track performance

It's one step to realise you have a need for tyre data, it's a second step to collect that data. Understanding and making engineering judgements based on the data however is a third, significant step. It is a challenge for well-funded

professional motorsports teams, and will be a challenge for Formula SAE students as well. There are many open-ended questions in tyre data analysis. The Formula SAE forums will be filled with discussions and debates over the data for years to come.

Perhaps the first question to ask though is how tyre data collected on a tyre testing machine correlates with tyre behaviour on track. Calspan's controlled environment allows for repeatable test conditions on a known surface, but the belt is not paved like a typical roadway. For racing or high performance tests, 120grit 3M-ite is the only surface Calspan has ever used.

Fortunately, this question has a scientific answer, as Gentz explained: 'We can run a test here called ASTM E501. It uses a laboratory tyre with straight grooves in it. It looks like an aircraft

tyre with a flat top. Those are one of the tyres run on outdoor skid trailer testers that the highway departments use periodically to measure roadway friction. We replicate the ASTM E501 procedure here, including water depth (if desired), velocity and load on that tyre.' The result of the test is a measure of surface friction known as the 'skid number', based on a locked wheel. The nominal skid number for dry 120grit 3M-ite is 85, or a friction coefficient of 0.85.

'Then you can look in accident reconstruction handbooks for different surface types and friction numbers. It's a wide range – from polished concrete to coarse concrete to some of the blacktops. The low end of the range is around 50 and the upper end is around 90. It's a huge spread depending on the type of surface and the condition of the surface.' Simulations used in professional motorsport often have two surface friction modifier coefficients. One describes the friction at each location around the track as the surface changes paving material, age etc. The second is a global modifier, which can be adjusted as track temperature, rubber build-up, sun/clouds or other factors affect the entire track. In this way, engineers can adjust the simulation for varying track conditions and grip levels.

“STUDENTS WILL USE THIS DATA FOR YEARS TO COME”

The Formula SAE Tyre Test Consortium plans to conduct another round of tests before the 2006 competitions, and may continue to test tyres in future years based on funds available. The goal of providing extensive tyre data from a top-notch test facility to students for use in Formula SAE has been achieved. Many students will use this data for years to come, and several students made the trip to Calspan to witness the tests in person.

Gentz put the student involvement in the programme into perspective: 'They asked reasonably intuitive engineering questions. Clearly they're not the kinds of questions you'd get from an engineer who's worked in the field for a few years, just because they don't have the experience yet. But I think they saw basic engineering trends in the data. I'm sure that a number of students, once exposed to the data for a while, will come up with a whole bunch of useful questions. Some of them will have very good ideas about something else to do or some imaginative way to look at the data.'

And that, in a nutshell, is what Formula SAE is all about.

Calspan Corporation

The Calspan Tyre Research Facility is located in Buffalo, New York, USA, across the street from the Buffalo Niagara International Airport and about 30 minutes from Niagara Falls. The company's roots date back to 1943 when it was founded as the research arm of Curtiss-Wright Airplane Division. In 1946 it became Cornell Aeronautical Laboratories (CAL), a not-for-profit research lab affiliated with Cornell University. In addition to an advanced 10ft diameter (test section) transonic wind tunnel, early work focused on in-flight measurement of aeronautical stability derivatives and the invention of the first variable-stability aircraft.

In 1952, aircraft and automobile research were united as CAL began applying its considerable expertise to the dynamics of automobiles on contract to General Motors. Flight research expanded into transportation research and beyond. In 1972 CAL became a public company, Calspan Corporation. That same year the Tyre Research Facility (TIRF) was constructed.

Calspan's accomplishments through the years are impressive and too numerous to list. Several

“ONE OF THE MOST CAPABLE TYRE-TESTING MACHINES IN THE WORLD”

in-flight simulators – aircraft modified via variable-stability technology to fly like other aircraft – have been developed and used for aircraft handling evaluation, handling standards establishment, pilot training and the development of 'fly-by-wire' technology. Calspan's transonic and hypersonic wind tunnels have been used in the development of the space shuttle, advanced military aircraft and have even been used



The Calspan Tyre Research Facility tyre tester

by members of the US Olympic skiing team.

Calspan developed the first fully automated aircraft carrier landing system, terrain-following radar, worked on the 'Star Wars' space-based laser defence system and developed numerous still-classified projects for the US government.

On the ground, the fundamental equations of motion of the automobile were developed at Calspan and are the basis for many automobile simulations worldwide. The same dynamicists, apparently enjoying their work, developed the 'spiral jump' – made famous by James Bond in *The Man with the Golden Gun*.

Calspan performed pioneering work on seat belts (for which it holds the patent), the box beam guardrail and has been performing crash sled testing for over 30 years. The Tyre Research Facility continues to be one of the most capable and most used tyre-testing machines in the world.

Since the early 1970s Calspan has had various owners including Arvin Industries, Veridian and General Dynamics. Calspan Corporation is now once again independently owned. Over 20 spin-off companies have been fathered by Calspan over the past 60 years, and Calspan has cooperative ties with the University at Buffalo.

Today, the company's many focuses are divided into crash data research, flight research, systems engineering, wind tunnel and transportation sciences.

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School for the skilled



Words	Ian Wagstaff
Photos	NC4M

A shortage of suitable engineers coming into motorsport has led to the launch of a bespoke facility offering courses and apprenticeships in motorsport engineering



During the last two or three decades the concept of the apprentice has been largely forgotten in the UK. This could be one of the reasons why the trade bodies MIA (Motorsport Industry Association) and AMRA (Automotive Manufacturers' Racing Association) found themselves complaining to Patricia Hewitt, then minister at the Department of Trade and Industry, that they were having difficulty finding the right skills from traditional recruiting areas such as aerospace, military and railways. The supply chain was struggling to find suitable workforces, particularly with the leading teams 'cherry picking' the best candidates. The industry seemed to have sufficient graduates, but what it could not find were the technicians.

Ms Hewitt formed the Motorsport Competitive Panel. One result of this was the establishment of

a CoVE (Centre of Vocational Education) aimed specifically at training technicians – people who want to enter the motorsport industry – from potential car constructors to mechanics. This was publicly launched at Autosport International in 2004, initially with three existing colleges: Tresham Institute, the lead partner with a motorsport facility already operational close to Rockingham Speedway; the Oxford & Cherwell

Valley College that has recently moved from Rycotewood, Thame to Bicester (also being re-named in the process) and Milton Keynes College in Bletchley.

All three can deliver the core engineering skills that are the foundation basis of the course. On top of this they have their own specialist fields. Tresham's specialist area is the training of race mechanics, with many of its apprentices working full time within the motorsport industry. Some are already with high level racing teams, as well as a cohort of full time learners training to reach a level of competence that will take them onto a race team. Oxford & Cherwell, for example, operates a composite facility. That college's engineering head, Evers Pearce, points out that it does not just provide race mechanics but also serves other parts of the industry. On its new,

“THE GEOGRAPHICAL LINKS WITH ‘MOTORSPORT VALLEY’ ARE OBVIOUS”



The 6000ft² Silverstone facility gives students direct access to the circuit for testing and among the racecars available for them to work on are FFords, FRenaults, F3 cars, karts and a Honda race bike. As well as foundation courses in general hand skills, apprentices can specialise in all areas of racecar manufacture and preparation, from electronics to model making, composites and fabrication



On the inside

Those lecturing and working within the NC4M come from the industry itself. At least four – Jim Harrod, Justin Downard, Mark Savage and Dave Juniper – have been Formula 1 technicians with the likes of Williams, Lotus and Arrows, while two have worked within Formula Palmer Audi. Another, Chris Hodgins comes from Jordan's composites department, while Derek Ashby was a machinist with Benetton and Andy Thomas worked in Switzerland as a welder fabricator with Sauber.

Other companies whose former staff members now work at the NC4M include Parallel Motion, Hewland, Xtrac and Rockingham Speedway, as well as the touring car teams of Vauxhall, Nissan and Renault.

20,000ft² premises are to be found a welding and fabrication workshop, composites facilities with clean room, autoclave and trim room, a machine shop and an electric and electronic room. Milton Keynes is currently reorganising its engineering department to gain more space for its chosen specialisation, race engine building in Bletchley.

The geographical links with 'motorsport valley' are obvious. The Oxford & Cherwell is based next to the former Reynard operation, while Tresham has the Rockingham-based SCSA oval racing teams on its doorstep. However, it was also the intention to have a racetrack-based centre, and this came to fruition at Silverstone – among the multitude of racing teams that reside there – in April 2005. This enables the National College for Motorsport, NC4M as it is collectively known, to make use of the facility's self-contained Southern

circuit on a regular basis. Up to four hours track time can be used twice a week. The new unit features an industry standard workshop with five vehicle bays and a small sub-assembly area, lecture room, student study area, two industry meeting rooms and offices.

Twelve students were initially recruited, mid-academic year, for the 6000ft² Silverstone unit. Within 10 days all had been placed as apprentices

with companies within a 25-mile radius. Students are also brought in from the other colleges.

AMRA, which has close links with the British Racing Drivers Club, the owner of Silverstone, was closely involved in the setting up of the operation. The industry has been supportive, particularly SPA, which assisted with the purchase of a damper dynamometer, Lista which has installed extensive storage facilities and the workshop race bays and Würth, which has been responsible for the consumables used in the workshop. Brian James Trailers has assisted in the purchase of a race shuttle, while Demon Tweaks, which helped with racecar set-up equipment and Ford, which assisted with a fleet of minibuses, have also supported the college. The college also owns a race trailer unit built by J S Fraser with a tractor unit supported by Mercedes-Benz. [At →

“FOR THE APPRENTICES A PARTICULAR PATHWAY IS MAPPED OUT”

the time of writing the trailer, which enables courses to be run anywhere, was being used at MIRA.] Other potential deals are in the pipeline.

The Silverstone facility is also spoilt for racecars, with a number of Formula Firsts having come from the BRDC driving academy. The students can also work on a collection of Formula Fords, a Formula 3 car and two Formula Renaults, as well as a Honda CBR600 racing bike.

There is also one full-time member of the educational staff based at Silverstone – former Williams Renault touring car chief mechanic Justin Downard – while the centre is managed by Jim Harrod, lately chief mechanic with Williams F1. Other staff used at Silverstone may be full time at the other colleges. The NC4M prefers to employ people who have come direct from industry, rather than an education background. 'It's easier to take somebody who knows about motorsport and teach them a bit about education than take someone who has been in teaching for years and teach them about motorsport,' observes Pearce.

Bespoke qualifications

Prior to the launch of the NC4M, there had been no bespoke qualifications at the craft or technician grade level. This was, therefore, 'one of the first things to make happen.' The result has even attracted the attention of NASCAR.

Full time courses and apprenticeships are now offered in motorsport engineering and the NC4M has worked with the Motorsport Development UK in creating courses at what are known as Levels 1 and 2. A foundation course is also offered in the general hand and machining skills such as turning, milling and grinding – 'the skill sets that you need before you can do anything,' says Pearce. For the apprentices a particular pathway is mapped out, sometimes even bespoke for companies involved.

The apprenticeship contains a technical certificate that concerns the theory side of engineering. The course then moves on to an NVQ (National Vocational Qualification) that proves competence. The full timers complete their technical certificate requirement in year one and will also have intensive time in the workshops developing their practical skills. If they stay on for the second year they can have these assessed with an NVQ and can add on units that will prepare them for going to university.

Beyond that, apprentices can specialise in areas such as race/rally technician, composites, fabrications, electrical and electronics, pattern and model making (it has been estimated that the industry will require 45 new model makers this year) and manufacturing.

Overall, around 4–500 students may start each year at the NC4M and candidates are expected to have at least four GCSEs at grade C or above, especially, indeed crucially, maths.

Not all graduates necessarily stay in



The facility gives students access to all areas of relevant practical experience in a real-world environment



NC4M's own smart trailer unit. Other companies have assisted with consumables and set-up equipment

motorsport, as the skills learnt can be applicable elsewhere. Pearce refers to one former student now working in the bio-medical field. However, there are plenty of opportunities for the NC4M former student. 'The need is out there at the moment,' he says.

“THERE IS A NEED FOR SPECIALIST ENGINEERS IN EVERY COMPANY”

Most companies, on taking on an apprentice, will give them a tour of the firm in the first year, spending some time in each department. The company will look at its own needs and what the skills of the apprentice are. These will help to determine the path of the student through college. Pearce points out that this is made possible by the bespoke nature of the courses. MIA surveys have identified that there is a need

for specialist engineers in every company and it is hard for other colleges to accommodate this. Presently 38 different companies have apprentices studying at the NC4M.

The whole NC4M process is run by a board comprising the Learning & Skills Councils of Northamptonshire and of Milton Keynes, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Northamptonshire Partnership and the East Midlands Development Agency, SEEDA, senior management from the three partner colleges and representatives of the Motorsport Development UK and the Motorsport Academy. The chair is Caroline Wilkinson, deputy principal of Tresham Institute, the lead partner.

The industry is already responding well to what the NC4M is offering. Prodrive normally takes up to 10 students a year from the three colleges. BAR has said that it will take nine apprentices this year, Williams three. The span of interested companies is wide and is now likely to expand into the motorcycle sector, too. 'NC4M tries to cultivate the right mindset, the cleanliness, and presentation that are expected by this industry; the 'can-do' attitude,' concludes Wilkinson. RE



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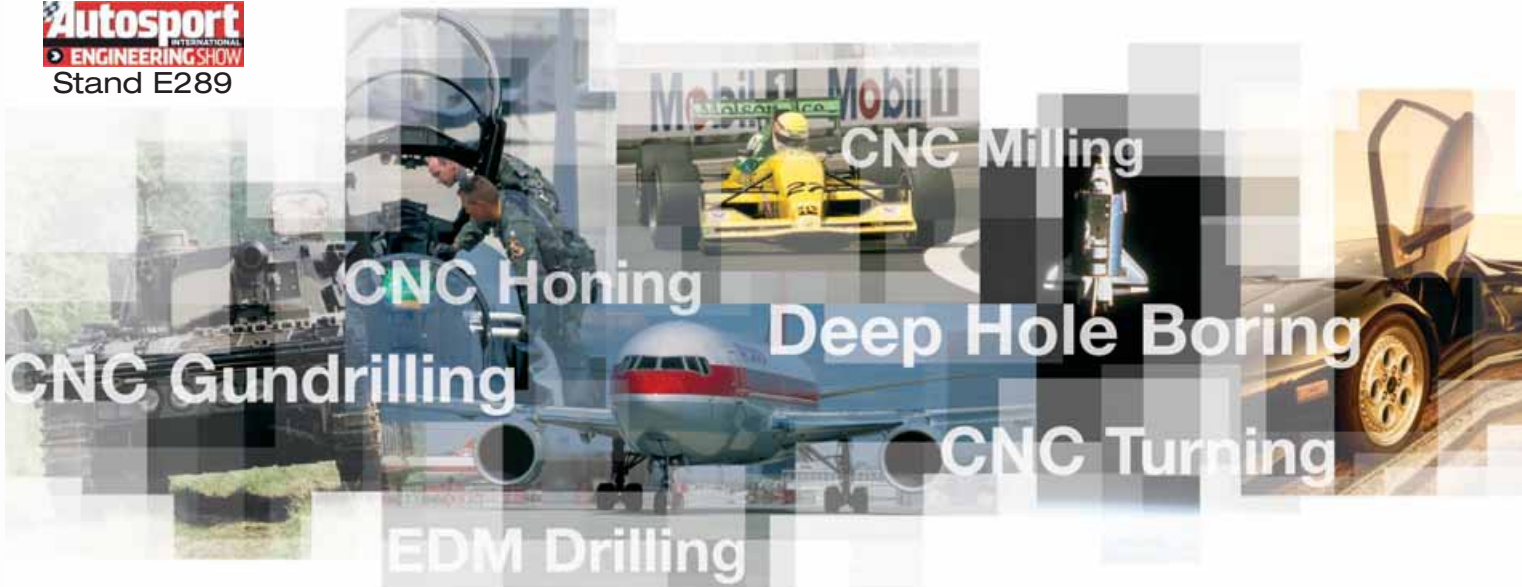


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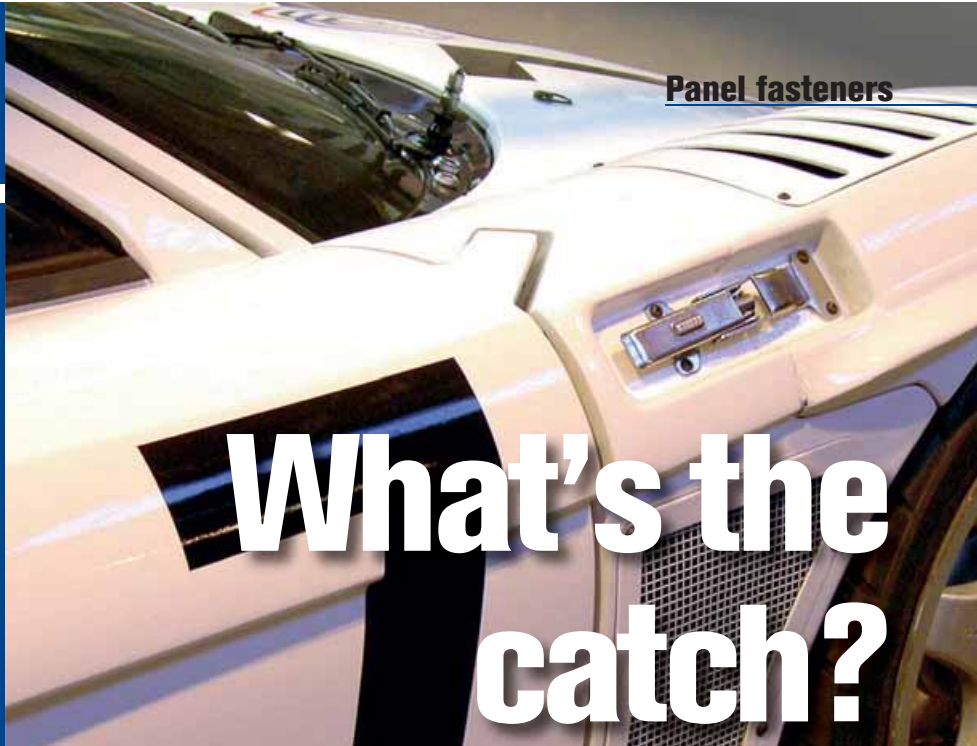
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What's the catch?

There has been little progression in fastener technology in the last half century but recently some innovative designs have come to market

Words | Ian Wagstaff

UK-based Protex offers a large range of over-centre catches, as seen above

Quite recently a motorsport magazine carried a photo of an Australian V8 Holden at Bathurst, its bonnet adrift because it had not been fastened securely. This is not such an uncommon occurrence. Earlier this year a Belcar contender's bonnet flew off at the first corner at Zolder because a member of the pit crew had put the panel fastener pins in his pocket.

Perhaps it is not surprising that such incidents occur given the fact that, as Racecar observed last year, the science of panel fastening has not moved much over the past four decades. The traditional product has been the quarter-turn fastener. The two 'names' associated with this are Camloc and Dzus, although others have also been responsible for similar items. Dzus is said to have produced the original quarter-turn fastener in the early 1930s, initially for aerospace use. The Dzus fastener familiar today is virtually the same as that which would have been found on fighter 'planes in the Second World War.

“FASTENERS FOR MOTORSPORT APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE AIRCRAFT CERTIFIED”

The idea was to provide a vibration resistant, quick-action fastener with a pre-determined clamp setting – something that would be either done or undone. The cam design retains the fastener in place. Motorsport demands aerospace standards and Dzus has not really developed a new product for this sector for around 25 years.

As Specialty Fasteners and Components' (SFC) Graham Leo points out, the panel fastener is not something people give consideration to 'until the time comes to hold A to B.' About 12 months ago SFC stated that it was about to bring the business of securing bodywork into the 21st century. Since then, the company has been able to report that it has achieved what it describes as 'the biggest success so far' for its innovative, over-centre AeroCatch in that it was used on the bonnet and boot of Matt Neal's British Touring Car Championship-winning Honda Integra-R.

The drivers in this series have been known for the occasional





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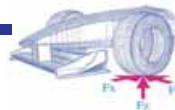
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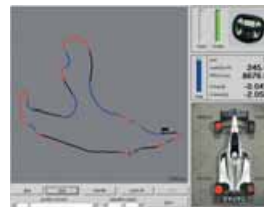
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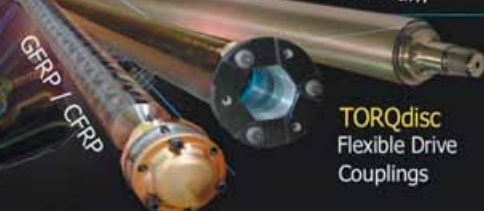
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Quarter-turn fasteners, such as those by Dzus and Camloc are still the industry standard



outbreak of panel bashing and so it was an ideal one for the AeroCatch to prove its worth. It has also found its way this year onto WTCC cars, endurance racers, and is now being used extensively at club level, particularly on rally cars where retro fitting onto existing studs – removing the old latch and replacing it with an AeroCatch – has been employed.

To remind you, the AeroCatch was launched towards the start of 2005, following an 18-month R&D programme carried out at XAT – the University of Exeter's commercial engineering department. SFC wanted a replacement for the standard bonnet pin that was flush mounted and had a double locking function. Importantly, to avoid incidents such as that which happened to the Belcar team, it should be obvious for driver and pit crew to see whether it was locked or not. The result is manufactured from high strength, glass-reinforced thermoplastic. Pressure releases a panel that then draws a sliding pin out of a hole in the end of a standard bonnet pin. The double locking function is achieved first by closing the panel and then by pressing on a protruding lever. Two versions, the 120 Flush and 125 Plus Flush series, are available – one a genuine flush mounting, the other with a mounting flange. Being flush fitted and easy to paint, they should not interfere with any livery. An optional sight window allows checking to see whether the AeroCatch has engaged the strike stud.

By its very nature, the AeroCatch is unsuitable for single seaters. However, it is not the only product available from SFC. The Devon-based company both manufactures and supplies fasteners for a wide range of industries, including the more traditional quick-release items also used in motorsport. Products offered include Camloc quarter-turn fasteners and toggle latches, Livelock, SFC's own Push-Turn Fasteners, captive screws and quick-release pins. AeroCatch is available throughout the world through a network of distributors such as the US-based Coast Fabrication.

Coast Fabrication points out that fasteners for motorsport applications should be aircraft certified (AN.MS.NAS) for strength and quality. In addition to AeroCatch, it distributes Alcoa fastening systems and MRC fasteners, both from major industrial concerns acknowledged within the aircraft industry. Alcoa, which this July sponsored the winning vehicle in the North American Solar Challenge, is currently responsible for the



Aston Martin DBR9 GT car uses Livelock fasteners, also available from SFC



SFC's innovative AeroCatch is a flush, double locking bonnet pin replacement

Camloc name when it comes to fasteners [ArvinMeritor still retains the right to use it for other products, namely in the shock absorber field]. It is also responsible for Livelock fasteners, which were first developed by Tridair for aerospace applications. These are suitable where juddering is a problem for standard fasteners. They feature a four start lead thread that prevents them from working up and down under vibration. Livelock fasteners are expensive though and are aimed at the top end of the market. An example of recent use is on the Aston Martin DBR9 GT cars.

A major UK distributor of fasteners used by the motorsport fraternity is Clarendon Engineering, now part of the IS-Group. Like Coast, it is also an

official distributor for Alcoa. It holds a large inventory of aerospace-quality lines, including product from Southco, the US company that about a year ago became responsible for the familiar Dzus quarter-turn

“THE 24-HOURS DEMAND THAT ALL EXTERNAL LATCHES MUST BE OPERABLE BY HAND”

fasteners. In the USA Dzus had perhaps been more aggressive in its pursuit of motorsport business than in Europe, supplying actively to the drag and NASCAR fraternity. Under Southco there has been less interest in this sector as the group concentrates on larger and presumably more productive markets. The name Dzus is often used in a generic fashion to describe quarter-turn fasteners, but in fact the majority of these products found in motor racing tend to be Camlocs. However, Dzus probably has a greater penetration of the motorcycle sport market where its product is used extensively on fairings.

Dzus does not deal with the end user in motorsport but will sell through such distributors as Clarendon and Race Parts in the UK. Prior to the Southco takeover, the company did become involved, as a sponsor, of the Team Taurus Le Mans diesel project, supplying fast lead thread fasteners – not quarter turns as such – for the engine covers. Whilst a visible position for publicity, the Lola-Caterpillar was seen more as a hospitality vehicle to entertain OEMs, rather than for promotion to the motorsport world. →



Dzus fasteners (now owned by Southco) in use on the Taurus diesel project

Panel fasteners



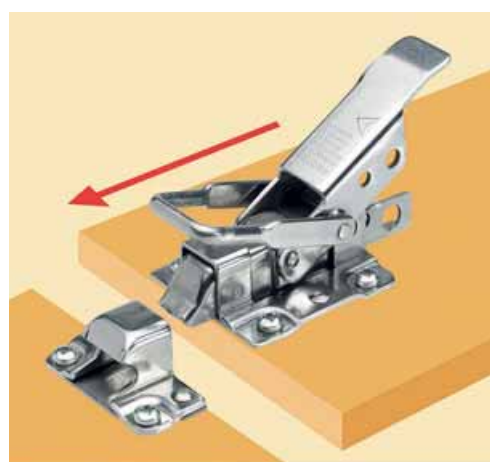
Left and right: more over-centre catches from Protex. Its fasteners are available in different strengths depending on application



Redditch-based Protex Fasteners claims to manufacture the world's largest stock range of over-centre fasteners. Those typically employed on racecar bodywork include the type 50-1535 over-centre latch, as specified by Radical for securing a car's nose, centre section and rear bodywork. It is a shortened version of Protex's type 50-535 standard range adjustable catch, which is available in either stainless steel or mild steel with a passivated zinc plate finish. A simple locking action is featured that does not require the use of any tool.

Heavier duty Protex products include the company's 60 and 70 series units, along with their corresponding type 61 and 71 fasteners, which feature a vibration-resistant integral safety catch. These have an ultimate strength of 454kgf, as opposed to the 350kgf of the 50-1535. In addition, Protex supplies a range of flush panel latches, quick-action fastener variants with screw adjustment, spring-claw fastening and a variety of safety locking devices.

It says, though, that the most demanding panel retention applications



Protex's patented CatchBolt design is said to be the ultimate in heavy duty, hand operable panel retainer, as used on Audi R8s



“JUDDERING IS A PROBLEM FOR STANDARD FASTENERS”

can be met by its patented CatchBolt design. This has been used by both Audi and Bentley to secure the composite nose, tail and centre bodywork sections on their R8 and Speed 8 Le Mans winners. Regulations for the 24-hours demand that all external latches and fastenings controlling access to the cars must be operable by hand, without the need for implements such as screwdrivers or coins.

The CatchBolt, which is mounted into moulded recesses, meets this requirement. Its initial closing action draws a mating keeper towards the main body of the fastener. Continued operation of the lever pushes a square section, spring-loaded bolt under the keeper. This acts on the bolt's tapered profile to ensure positive retention in all three axes. In stainless steel form, the CatchBolt has an ultimate strength of 600kgf in the longitudinal and lateral axes and 900kgf in the vertical plane. It is also available in plated mild steel.

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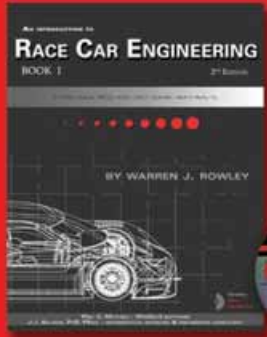
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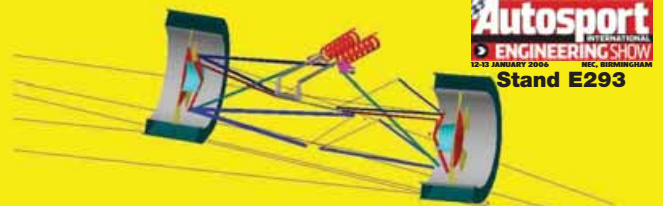
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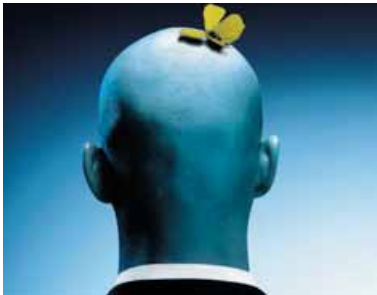
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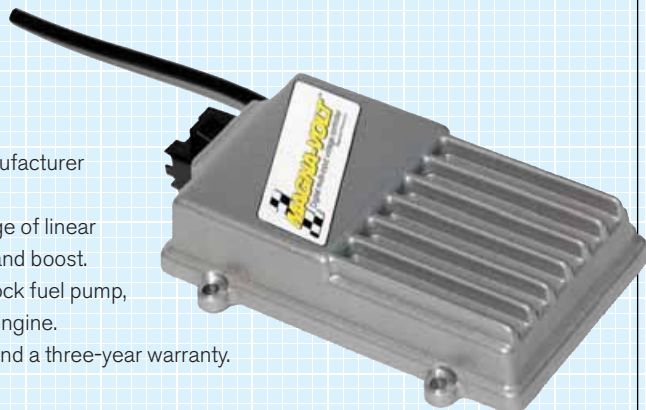
RCS - Cables and Controls

Digital fuel control

A new digital voltage controller is now available from US-based supercharger manufacturer Magnuson Products.

The Magna-Volt multi-input digital voltage controller is said to have the advantage of linear power flow and reliability, allowing high-performance fuel delivery based on RPM and boost. When either of these reaches a pre-determined level it increases voltage to the stock fuel pump, maximising fuel efficiency and allowing for high performance modifications to an engine.

The plug-and-play unit comes pre-set and ready to install, with full instructions and a three-year warranty.



● For more information call +1 (805) 289 0044 or visit www.magnusonproducts.com

Evolution conversion

Australian-based engine management expert, MoTeC, has devised a powerful new engine management system for the Mitsubishi EVO IX.

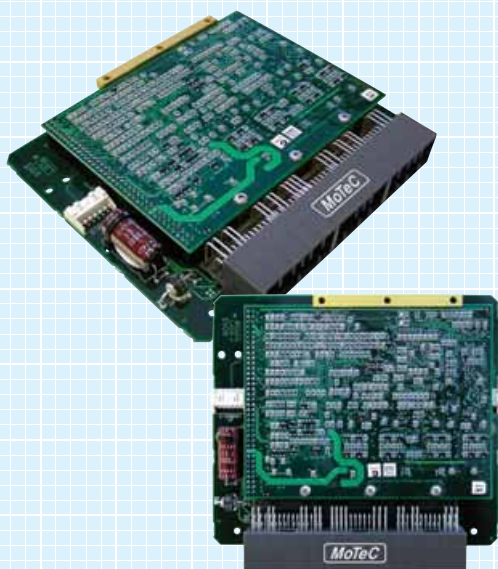
The new plug-and-play ECU is based on the successful MoTeC M800 model and is available for road, race or rally.

Designed to achieve the best engine performance possible, the replacement board is completely programmable with an OEM connector and slots directly into the ECU case to avoid the need for additional sensors, hardware or wires.

The system offers users a variety of racebred selections, alongside a comprehensive package to optimise tuning flexibility and gain control of factory-managed functions.

Advanced functions include an overrun boost enhancement and upgrades such as Pro Analysis. Single or dual wideband Lambda can also be initiated using a password structure.

● For more information call +61 3 9761 5050 or visit www.motec.com.au



Cool race shirts

UK-based race and rally parts distributor, Demon Tweaks, is now supplying the new Cool Shirt driver cooling systems.



Designed to tackle the loss of performance that can be caused from heat fatigue, each shirt – either cotton or Nomex – has been designed with over 15m (50ft) of medical grade capillary tubing stitched into it. This is then attached to an internal pump and cooler, facilitating the flow of chilled water around the shirt during a race. Circulating cool water close to the skin is proven to gradually cool the body, preventing performance levels from dropping in high heat conditions.

● For more information call +44 (0) 1978 664466 or visit www.demon-tweaks.co.uk

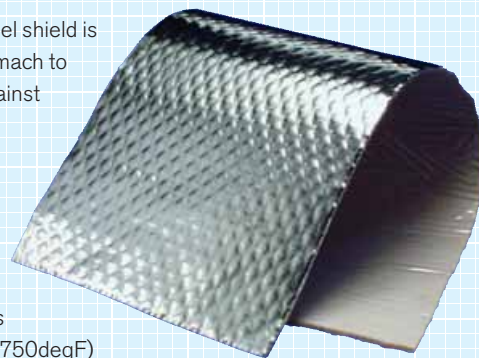
Insulation shield

A new floor and tunnel shield is available from Agriemach to insulate racecars against heat and sound.

Constructed from bonded aluminium and glass fibre, the custom fit shield is said to be able to endure temperatures of up to 955degC (1750degF) and is backed with an aggressive adhesive that assists fitting and can resist temperatures past 230degC (450degF).

The shield is 4mm thick and comes in various size sheets so can easily be trimmed and shaped to protect under bonnet areas, firewalls and exterior under-vehicle areas.

● For more information call +44 (0) 1342 713743 or visit www.agriemach.com



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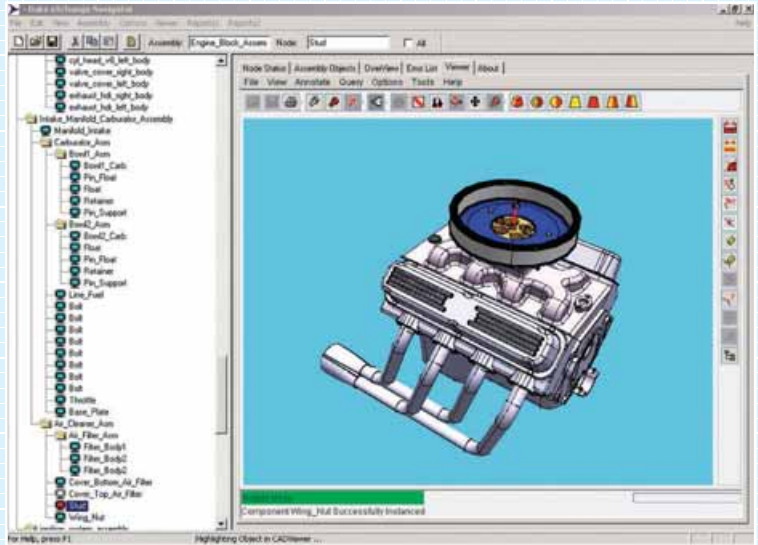
New products and services for racecar engineers

CAD file exchanger

New from product data exchange experts, Theorem Solutions, is the Data eXchange Navigator (DXN), a product aimed at speeding up the process of translating data from large assembly files. The company claims large component and sub-assembly data files can be targeted and translated faster and easier than before using its new system. The DXN tackles the problem of having to translate the whole assembly file when several users are working with various software programs.

It has been designed to read assembly information from all leading CAD systems, and to distinguish the orientation and offset of each component before translating it to the preferred CAD format and saving the original master assembly if necessary.

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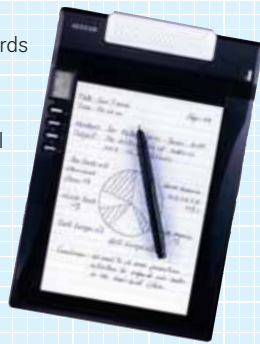
New products and services for racecar engineers

Digital notepad

UK-based Unimatic Engineers has created an electronic clipboard that allows manual notes and hand drawn diagrams to be digitally transferred onto a PC or laptop.

The DigiMemo A501 transfers any handwritten notes from an A5 notepad into an electronic file. It can then be viewed, edited and emailed, or used in union with My Scripts Notes. Files are transferred via a USB port to the DigiMemo where they can then be saved as an e-file and 8MB allows 1000 pages of notes to be saved. Additional Compact Flash memory cards can increase the storage space further.

The portable clipboard has the advantage that it can be used simultaneously by several users, with amendments being added as it is passed between consumers.



● For more information call +44 (0) 208 9221000 or visit www.unimatic.com

New Instron catalogue



Instron has announced the release of the second edition of its catalogue of accessories to improve material testing systems.

The 480-page catalogue features products designed to test the mechanical properties of materials and machinery. Some of the products featured include load cells, extensometers, grips and environmental chambers. Most products can also be tailored to adapt to equipment from other manufacturers.

The catalogue includes a colour guide designed to inform readers which products achieve optimal results with various testing equipment and applications. The catalogue is free and can be ordered from the company's website.

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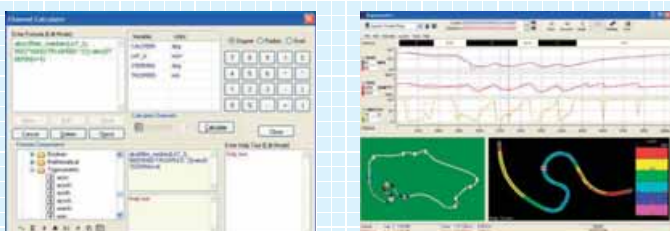
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Acquired knowledge



Stack has launched a new version of its popular DataPro data acquisition and analysis software.

The new DataPro 4 features the same successful characteristics from previous versions, alongside a host of new and improved features. Amongst these the 'advanced channel calculator' is the most noteworthy and provides users with a means of obtaining new analysis data from various recorded channels. So-called 'rainbow maps' are another significant advancement, designed to enable users to zoom into any section of the map whilst having the option of working in discreet or non-discreet modes.

Data from a 1Hz or 5Hz GPS unit can also be transferred from existing vehicle data channels thanks to the inclusion of a new GPS interface, too.

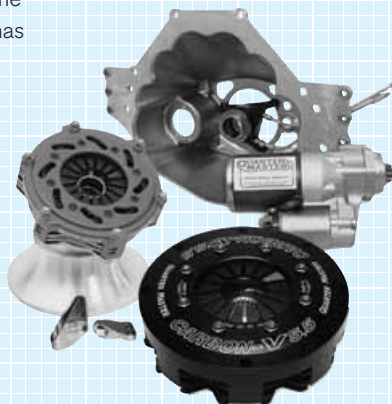
● For more information call +44 (0) 1869 240404 or visit www.stackltd.com

No quarter clutch

US racing clutch and driveline specialist, Quarter Master, has released a new, lightweight clutch package with rear mount starter.

The 5.5 Optimum kit includes the company's lightest and stiffest ever magnesium bellhousing with integral engine mounts and a lightweight, billet, one-piece ring gear. Using the latest design software in its development has enabled the company to reduce the 5.5 clutch's moment of inertia and, at the same time, extend its durability.

It even claims the 5.5s moment of inertia is within 20 per cent of a carbon/carbon application.



● For more information visit www.racingclutches.com

Cheating

An inside look at the bad things good NASCAR Nextel cup racers do in pursuit of speed

By Tom Jensen

It would be hard to turn out a bad book on this subject, given the wealth of amusing and technically interesting stories that have come out of NASCAR. There are tales of maximising the rules, bending the rules and totally disregarding them. Everything is mentioned and explained in detail – how they work and why crews tried them, from oversized engines to undersized cars.

This book is inspirational, and reading it you will find yourself thinking up ways of circumventing rules yourself. It also details how the cheats were caught out (useful information in itself...). Sometimes through a lack of attention to detail and sometimes through sheer stupidity, but there were times when the teams got one over on everyone, Smokey Yunick being one of the leading exponents of this.

Jensen has been given good access to NASCAR's confiscated parts room and, whilst clearly getting along with the organisation, he is not afraid to rock the boat, going on to explore in some detail the controversy surrounding the confiscation of Tony Stewart's Joe Gibbs Chevrolet a couple of years ago. All in all, a must read.

● Published by David Bull Publishing (www.bullpublishing.com), softbound, 312 pages, \$17.95



How to be a winning crew chief

By Larry McReynolds, with Jeff Huneycutt

This practical guide to running a stock car covers everything from setting up your workshop to setting up your car. Aimed squarely at amateurs, the book gives the benefit of McReynolds' vast experience. British NHRPA teams could learn a lot, as could a lot of US amateur oval racers.

Plenty of good practical hints and tips are featured, but 'the stock car source book' might perhaps have been a better title.

Whilst nowhere as detailed as Allan Staniforth's essential *Race and Rally Car Source Book*, it is far more targeted. If you run or plan to run stock cars of any type then this would be worth reading.

● Published by David Bull Publishing (www.bullpublishing.com), softbound, 176 pages, \$24.95



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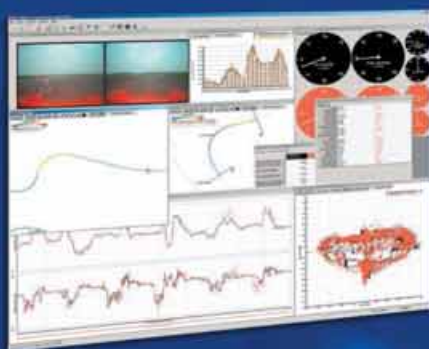
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SPACE HEATERS
 FASTENER FACTORY 01327 311018

STOPWATCHES
 CASIO 0208 450 9131
 DEMON TWEETS 01978 664466
 GRAND PRIX RACEWEAR 020 8987 5500
 KS MOTORSPORT Germany (49) 2271 44905
 RACING RADIOS USA (t) 404 366 3796
REDLINE MOTORSPORT Tel 01606 737500
 TRIDENT 01327 857822

STORAGE SYSTEMS
 KAISER & KRAFT 01923 23332
 LISTA (UK) LTD 01908 222333
 POLSTORE STORAGE 01403 750000
 PRONALS France (33) 3201 997510

TAPE
 DEMON TWEETS 01978 664466
 CLARENDON 01455 842000
 DRC RACE CAR USA (t) 609 397 4455
 FASTENER FACTORY 01327 311018
 KS MOTORSPORT Germany (49) 2271 44905
 RALLY DESIGN 01795 531871
REDLINE MOTORSPORT Tel 01606 737500
 TRIDENT 01327 857822

TIMING SYSTEMS
 CASIO 0208 450 9131
 CONTINENTAL SPORT USA (t) 513 459 8888
 ME MOTORSPORT 08884 253070
 MOTEC Australia (61) 9761 5050
 MOTEC (EUROPE) UK 08700 10100
 MOTEC JAPAN Japan (81) 489 46 1734
 MOTEC SYSTEMS USA USA (t) 714 897 6804
 M1 SPORTS TIMING 01684 523479
PI RESEARCH 01954 253600
 PIT BITS 01727 858297
 STACK 01866 240404
 UNISYS 0208 453 5562
VULCAN ENTERPRISES USA (t) 602 759 7926

TOOL CABINETS
 FACOM UK 01932 566099
 KAISER & KRAFT 01923 23332
 POLSTORE STORAGE 01403 750000
 SLINGSBY 01274 721591

TORQUE WRENCHES
 FACOM UK 01932 566099
 NORBAR TORQUE TOOLS 01295 270333
 RALLY DESIGN 01795 531871

TRACKING GAUGES
 A.R.T. USA (t) 914 889 4499
 DEMON TWEETS 01978 664466
 GMD COMPUTRACK Australia (61) 2 9644 1946
REDLINE MOTORSPORT Tel 01606 737500
 THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 01256 320666

TYRE PRESSURE GAUGES
 BERU Fi SYSTEMS 01374 646200
 GRAND PRIX RACEWEAR 0208 987 5500
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 01256 320666
 TRIDENT 01327 857822

TYRE TEMPERATURE GAUGES
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 01256 320666
 TRIDENT 01327 857822

TYRE TROLLEYS
 OMS RACING 01132 575956

TYRE WARMERS
 BANDIT Australia (61) 3 9318 0644
 DEMON TWEETS 01978 664466
 GRAND PRIX RACEWEAR 020 8987 5500
 JAYBRAND 01733 68247
REDLINE MOTORSPORT Tel 01606 737500
 SEEKERS 0151 524 0919

5.2 Paddock Equipment

AWNINGS
 ALERED BULL 01483 575492
 ALFORSOD TECTONICS 01962 736316
 AWNING COMPANY 01204 363463
BARKERS 020 8653 1988
 DEANS AWNINGS 01942 241399
 MAYFLOWER 01494 712131
 PIT BITS 01727 858297
 TOP MARQUEES 01623 740777

MOTORHOME HIRE
 ATLANTIC COAST 01297 552222
 DAVID WILSON'S TRAILERS 01825 740696
 DUDLEYS 01993 703774
 MIDLAND INTERNATIONAL 02476 336411
 SPIRES OF OXFORD 01865 875539
 WESTCROFT AMERICAN 01902 731324



Database 6

COMPETITION CAR CHASSIS COMPONENTS

6.1 Driver's Equipment

ANTI MIST FLUIDS

DEMON TWEAKS Tel 01978 664466 / Fax 01978 664467
Hugmore Lane, Llany-Pwll, Wrexham, Clwyd LL13 9TE, Wales
GRAND PRIX RACEWEAR Tel 0208 987 5500
Fax 0208 742 8999
Power Road, Chiswick, London, W4 5PY, England



REDLINE MOTORSPORT Tel 01606 737500
Fax 01606 737683
E-mail info@redlinemotorsport.co.uk

BOOTS & GLOVES

DEMON TWEAKS 01978 664466
GRAND PRIX RACEWEAR 0208 987 5500
MECHANIXWEAR USA (t) 805 257 0474
REDLINE MOTORSPORT Tel 01606 737500

COOL CAPS & SUITS

DEMON TWEAKS 01978 664466
GRAND PRIX RACEWEAR 020 8987 5500
REDLINE MOTORSPORT Tel 01606 737500

DRIVING SUITS & ACCESSORIES

DEMON TWEAKS 01978 664466
GRAND PRIX RACEWEAR 020 8987 5500
REDLINE MOTORSPORT Tel 01606 737500

HELMETS & ACCESSORIES



QINETIQ Tel 44 (0) 8700 100942
www.QinetiQ.com
Cody Technology Park,
Ively Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 0LX

Database 7

CHASSIS ENGINEERING SERVICES

7.1 Chassis Services

BODYWORK SPECIALISTS

ABBEY PANELS 02476 644999
ADVANCED COMPOSITES 01773 793441
ANDY ROUSE ENGINEERING 02476 635182
AERO APPLICATIONS USA (t) 562 597 0000
AERODINE COMPOSITES USA (t) 317 271 1207
(660) 729 5628
AERODYNAMIC CONSULTANTS 01842 765319
ASQUITH BROTHERS 01924 402001
C&B Consultants Aerodynamics 01202 687 0707
CML GROUP 01931 647 5531
COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (t) 727 539 0605
CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY 01234 754152
CROPREDY BRIDGE GARAGE 01295 758444
DEREK PALMER ENGINEERING 01555 893315
DON FOSTER France (33) 470 580308
EARS MOTORSPORT 01625 413773
FIBRESPORTS 01268 527313
GRAHAM HATHAWAY RACING 01621 856956
GTC COMPETITION 01483 272151
GTI ENGINEERING 01280 700800
HAMLIN MOTOR SERVICES 01528 841284
HEDDINGTON COACHWORKS 01380 850198
INTAPORSCH 01273 834241
LOTUS ENGINEERING 01953 608000
LYNX MOTORS 01424 851277
MERLIN BODYCRAFT 01280 705156
MITCHELL NZ (64) 78236188
PODIUM DESIGN 07000 763486
SPA COMPOSITES 01543 432904

COMPOSITES SPECIALISTS

Active engineering USA 001 714 637 1155
ACTIVA TECHNOLOGY 020 8974 1615
AOLUS TECHNOLOGY USA (t) 970 472 1288
AERODINE COMPOSITES USA (t) 317 271 1207
APPLIED FIBREGLASS 01842 765319
ASTEC 01332 875451
B&K RESINS 0208 484 7734
C&B CONSULTANT AERODYNAMICS 01202 660707
CARBON FIBRE TECHNOLOGY 01508 488257
CARBONE INDUSTRIE France (33) 14 972 2305
COMPOSITE AUTOMOTIVE TECH 01249 443438
COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (t) 727 539 0605
COMPOSITE WINGS 01953 885478

Cranfield UNIVERSITY

CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY Tel 01234 754902
Fax 01234 751671
Cranfield, Bedfordshire, MK43 0AL
www.motorsport.cranfield.ac.uk
motorsport@cranfield.ac.uk

CROSBY GRP 0127 857042
CTG +44 (0)2095 220130
CTS 01480 459378
DELTA COMPOSITES 01280 861598
DEREK BENNETT 01565 777395
ELAN COMPOSITES USA (t) 706 628 2853
DU PONT UK 01438 731000
Switzerland (41) 22 717 511
USA (t) 302 774 1000
FIBREGLASS FABRICATIONS 0208 568 0293
G FORCE COMPOSITES 01243 544192
HEYES ENGINEERING 01453 750491
HITCO USA (t) 213 526 5707
JANUS TECHNOLOGY 0751 866996

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Tyne & Wear NE8 8AL

LOTUS ENGINEERING 01953 608000
MICRO CRAFT USA (t) 909 947 1843
MIRA 0247 6355 000
NERO 01254 202085
PANKL Austria (43) 3862 515000
PODIUM DESIGN 07000 763486
PRONALS France (33) 320 99 75 10
QINETIQ 08700 100942
RICHARD HINTON RACING 01279 771607
RMCS (CRANFIELD) 01791 785359
SAMCO sport 01443 238 464
SECAT USA (t) 203 798 6698
SCOTT RADER 01933 663100
SPA COMPOSITES 01543 432904
SQUARE ONE MOTORSPORT 01825 734455
STRAND GLASSFIBRE 0208 268 7191
TAG EQUIPMENT 01787 427290
TECHFLEX USA (t) 201 729 6253
TECHNICAL RESIN BONDERS 01480 54381
TONY THOMPSON RACING 01604 812451
TURBO HEAT 01535 664909
UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE 01707 284270
VIN MALKIE RACING 01565 777395
ZEUS M/SPORT ENG LTD 01604 878801

DESIGN AND ANALYSIS

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Email office@enablingtechnologies.co.uk
Web enablingtechnologies.co.uk
Innovation Centre, St Cross Business Park,
Monks Brook, New Port, Isle of Wight PO30 5WB, England
Tel 01480 453101
Fax 01480 456722



RICARDO MIDLANDS TECHNICAL CENTRE
Tel 01926 477208 Fax 01926 477222
Email pmarkwick@mtc.ricardo.com
Website: www.ricardo.com
Southern Rd, Radford Semite, Leamington Spa CV31 1FQ

FABRICATION

ABBEY PANELS 02476 644999
A-MAC FABRICATION USA (t) 408 727 9288
ANDY ROUSE ENGINEERING 02476 635182
ANEX SYSTEMS 01869 345038



AUTOMOTIVE FABRICATION Tel/Fax 001 214 745 1148
Email weld666@aairmail.net
1027 Levee Street Dallas, Texas 75207

ASTEC 01332 875451
AZTEK 01509 261299
BBW 01481 722 713
BOB SPARSHOTT ENGINEERING 01908 618080
BRADY FABRICATIONS 01869 252750
BRISSE ALLOY FABRICATIONS 01332 22343
BSS PARTS 01772 606102
CHEVRON RACING 01565 777395
CHIP GANASSI RACING 01243 544192
CML GROUP 0151 647 5531
COLMET PRECISION 01296 686658
COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (t) 727 539 0605
COMPETITION FABRICATIONS 01953 454573
CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY 01234 754152
CTG RACING 01202 871002
DEREK BENNETT 01565 777395
DJ RACECARS 01663 734518
DOCKING ENGINEERING 01327 857164

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FOXCRIFT ENGINEERING
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GOMM METAL DEVELOPMENTS
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GTC COMPETITION
HAMLIN MOTOR SERVICES
HAUS OF PERFORMANCE USA (t) 714 545 2755
JAGO DEVELOPMENTS 01243 789366
KRONTEC MASCHINENBAU (49) 9401 700352
LOTUS ENGINEERING 01953 608000
LYNX MOTORS 01424 851277
MACDONALD RACE ENG 0208 889 1633
MATRIX ENGINEERING USA (t) 888 249 0013
MASON ENGINEERING USA (t) 805 527 6624
MICRO CRAFT USA (t) 909 947 1843
MIKE TAYLOR DEVELOPMENTS 01243 789366
MIRKO RACING USA (t) 408 776 0071
POISON 01440 820171
PREMIER AEROSPACE 01332 850515
QinetiQ 08700 100942
RACEPREP 1001 01903 734499
RBS 01788 543094
RETRO TRACK & AIR UK 01453 545160
RICARDO MIDLANDS TECHNICAL CENTRE
Tel: 01926 477752
Fax: 01926 319332
Email: jain.wright@ricardo.com

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Ray Mallock LTD (RML) Tel 01933 402440
Fax 01933 679519
www.rmlmallock.co.uk

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SNAPDRAGON MOTORSPORTS USA (t) 413 2506061
SPA AEROFOLDS LTD 01827 260026
SOUTH CERNEY ENGINEERING 01285 860295
UNICLIP AUTOMOTIVE 01932 355777
VAN DYNE ENGINEERING USA (t) 714 847 4417
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ADVANCED COMPOSITES 01773 763441
AERODINE COMPOSITES USA (t) 317 271 1207
ASTEC 01332 875451
BENTLEY CHEMICAL TRADING 01562 515121
BUTSER RUBBER 01730 894034
CML GROUP 0151 647 5531
COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (t) 727 539 0605
COMPOSITE WINGS 01953 885478
CROSBY GRP 01327 857042
CROMPTON TECH GROUP 01295 220130
CTG +44 (0)2095 220130
G FORCE COMPOSITES 01243 544192
GRIFFITHS ENGINEERING 01582 600629
JANUS TECHNOLOGY 0751 866996
MICRO CRAFT USA (t) 909 947 1843
PROTECH COMPOSITES LTD Tel: +44(0) 1420 471 400
Fax: +44 (0) 1420 487 047
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STARTLINE UK LTD 01933 665752
SECART ENGINEERING 001 203 798 6688

SPACEFRAME DESIGN
AOLUS TECHNOLOGY USA (t) 970 472 1288
ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES LTD 01983 550481
COSINE TECHNOLOGY 01706 378821
CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY 01234 754152
DAVID POTTER CONSULTING 0033(0) 494 319090
DEREK BENNETT ENGINEERING 01565 777395
MAGNUM CARS 01913 442861
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Fax 01933 679519
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STARTLINE UK LTD 01933 665752

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DRIVETRAIN & SUSPENSION ENGINEERING SERVICES

8.1 Engine Services

RACE PREPARATION

ALDON 01332 875253
ANDY ROUSE ENGINEERING 02476 635182
AUTOKRAFT 0121 777 2083
AZTEK 01509 261299
BJ MOTOR ENGINEERS 0161 748 8663
BR MOTORSPORT 01026 451545
DAVE CROSS MOTOR SERVICES 01246 477986
SBD MOTORSPORT 0208 391 0121
CLEM COMPETITION USA (t) 214 503 8044
CONCEPT MOTORSPORT 0208 568 0293
CONTINENTAL M/SPORT USA (t) 513 459 8888
DBR Motorsport Tel 061 627 4189 Fax 061 627 4189
Unit 4 Forge Ind Estate, Green Acres Road,
Oldham Lancashire, OL4 7LE
DJ RACECARS 01663 734518
DTM POWER 01865 407726
DUNNELL ENGINE 01449 677726
EARS MOTORSPORT 01625 413773

0121 3314944
01264 81010
01241 544192
01483 764876
01621 856956
01483 272151
01582 600745
USA (t) 714 545 2755
01243 789366
(49) 9401 700352
01953 608000
01424 851277
0208 889 1633
USA (t) 888 249 0013
USA (t) 805 527 6624
USA (t) 909 947 1843
01243 789366
USA (t) 408 776 0071
01332 850515
08700 100942
01903 734499
01788 543094
01453 545160

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01827 260026
01285 860295
01932 355777
USA (t) 714 847 4417
01565 777395

01773 763441
USA (t) 317 271 1207
01332 875451
01562 515121
01730 894034
0151 647 5531
USA (t) 727 539 0605
01953 885478
01327 857042
01295 220130
+44 (0)2095 220130
01243 544192
01582 600629
0751 866996
USA (t) 909 947 1843
Tel: +44(0) 1420 471 400
Fax: +44 (0) 1420 487 047
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01933 665752
001 203 798 6688
USA (t) 970 472 1288
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01706 378821
01234 754152
0033(0) 494 319090
01565 777395
01913 442861
Tel 01933 402440
Fax 01933 679519
www.rmlmallock.co.uk

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ELABORAZIONE COLASUNO 01708 857108
ENGINE DATA ANALYSIS 01977 516622
ENGINE SHOP 01280 812999
FISCHER ENGINEERING USA (t) 888 767 8840
FORWARD ENGINEERING 01676 523526
GEMINI ENGINEERING 01474 534779
GOFF RICHARDSON ENGINEERING 01480 861599
GF BECK MOTORSPORT PREPARATION 01646 621814
GLOWFLOW 01491 875554
GOODMAN RACING ENGINES 01327 300422
GRAHAM HATHAWAY RACING 01621 856956
GRIFFIN MOTORSPORT 01793 771802
HARPERS PERFORMANCE 01642 881888
HARTWELL 01202 559566
HAUS OF PERFORMANCE USA (t) 714 545 2755
HT RACING 01474 878888
IRMSCHER 01543 414466
IWAN DUTTON 01923 816277
JANSPEER MOTORSPORT 01722 318133
J MATTIS ENGINTECH Greece 003 019 512 761
JOHN WILCOX COMPETITION ENG 01455 230526
JONDEL 01933 419193
KENT AUTO DEVELOPMENTS 01901 874082
KREMER RACING Germany (49) 221 170025
LE SPORT France (33) 14 582 4490
LIGHTNING PERFORMANCE USA (t) 904 439 5283
LINENFELTER USA (t) 219 724 2552
MARDI GRAS MOTORSPORTS 01272 8561 0067
MATHWALL ENGINEERING 01252 703191
MATRIX ENGINEERING USA (t) 888 249 0013
MAXSYM ENGINE TECH 01608 685155
MERLIN DEVELOPMENTS 01283 511884
MILLINGTON 01746 789268
MIRNERVA MOTORSPORT 01509 211970
MINISTER RACING ENGINES 01614 682377
MIRKO RACING USA (t) 408 776 0071
M/SPORT/TECHNIK GERMANY (49)263880394
MOUNTUNE RACE ENGINES 01621 851299
NEIL BROWN ENGINEERING 01775 723052
PHIL JONES ENGINE DEV 01454 310936
PHIL MARKS ENGINE DEV 01564 824869
PRIME MOTORSPORT USA (t) 812 546 4220
PRIMA RACING 015 9419093
PRODRIVE 01295 273555
QUICKSLIVER RACE USA (t) 310698 9009
QUORN ENGINE DEVELOPMENTS 01509 412317
RACE ENGINE DEVELOPMENT USA (t) 760 610 0450
RACEPREC 01925 676959
RACE TECHNIQUES 01424 245640
RACING BENT USA (t) 714 779 8677
RANDLINGER Germany (49) 761 16371
ROAD & STAGE MOTORSPORT 01524 814066
ROADSPEED PERFORMANCE 01453 750864
RPM FRANCE (33) 1 86 66 00 08
SCARBOROUGH Canada (t) 416 759 9309
SEARLE 0208 305 2250
STEVE CARBONE RACING USA (t) 918 815 0596
SWAYMAR 01932 868377
SWINDON RACING ENGINES 01793 53121
TECNO 01268 764047
TERRY SHEPHERD TUNING 01905 574454
THINK AUTOMOTIVE Tel 0208 568 1172
Fax 0208 847 5338
Email matt@thinkauto.co.uk

USA (t) 888 767 8840
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USA (t) 909 947 1843
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01332 850515
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01932 355777
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01565 777395

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01562 515121
01730 894034
0151 647 5531
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01582 600629
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01933 665752
001 203 798 6688
USA (t) 970 472 1288
01983 550481
01706 378821
01234 754152
0033(0) 494 319090
01565 777395
01913 442861
Tel 01933 402440
Fax 01933 679519
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01933 665752

8.2 Engine Services

REBUILDS
ANDREASON RACING 01300 141899
ANEX SYSTEMS 01866 345038
BIR PREPARATIONS 01977 52348
EARS MOTORSPORT 01625 13773
GTC COMPETITION 01483 272151
HAUS OF PERFORMANCE USA (t) 714 545 2755

HEWLAND
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Fax 01628 829706
Waltham Road, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 3LR
01481 764226
01327 858151
01814 724 4086
01880 850130
USA (t) 888 249 0013
01884 253070
Tel 01732 741444
Fax 01732 741555
Email info@quaffle.co.uk
www.quaffle.co.uk
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ATHON MOTORSPORT 0114 2490 272
AZTEK 01509 264299
BEAUFORT RESTORATION 01795 830288
BRADY POTTER CONSULTING 0012010494 339090
DAVID FABRICATIONS 01869 252750
CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY 01234 754152
DON FOSTER France (33) 470 580308
EARS MOTORSPORT 01625 433771
GEOSCAN (G.I.L. Design) 01225 790568
LOLA Tel 01480 453101
Fax 01480 456722
USA (1) 714 545 2755
0454 412777
INTERPRO ENGINEERING 01953 608000
LOTUS ENGINEERING 01327 858096
MARDI GRAS MOTORSPORT USA (1) 704 933 8976
MARK ORTIZ 01778 424818
PILBEAM RACING DESIGNS 07000 761 486
PODIUM DESIGNS Tel 01933 402440
Fax 01933 679519
Ray Mallock LTD (RML) www.rmlmallock.co.uk
6-10 Whittle Close, Park Farm Industrial Estate,
Wellingborough, Northants NN8 6TY England
FSUSPENSION TECHNOLOGY 01237 858558

Shock Box

SHOCKBOX DAMPER SERVICES Tel: 07939 340590
Website: www.shockbox.co.uk
Email: ghbj@compuserve.com
67 Blackthorn Road, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR7 1YJ UK
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 204666
UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE 01707 208470

ENGINEERING SERVICES

RACING INDUSTRY TECHNICAL SERVICES USA (1) 248 645 1724

8.4 Metal Services

BEAD & SAND BLASTING

BLAST-IT-ALL USA (1) 800 351 2612
CAMCOAT PERFORMANCE COATINGS 01925 445003
01494 465000
COMPACT AUTOPOWER HANCOE MOTORSPORT 0208 889 1633
MACDONALD RACE ENG 01932 868377
SWAYMAR CASTING 01795 415000
AEROMET 017 985 9964
GM DESIGN 01582 600629
GRIFFITHS ENGINEERING HILLGARD Sweden (46) 300 60630
JENVEY DYNAMICS 01746 768810
KENT AEROSPACE CASTINGS PANKL Austria (43) 3862 525090
QUAIF ENGINEERING 01732 741444
QDF COMPONENTS USA (1) 847 540 8999
QUARTERMASTER Tel 08700 100942
www.QinetiQ.com
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Hampshire, GU14 4LX
ZEUS ALUMINIUM 01384 482222

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BAT, UK
CAMCOAT PERFORMANCE COATINGS 01925 445003

CTG

CTG Tel: +44 (0)1295 220170 Fax: +44 (0)1295 220178
E-mail: motorsport@ctgintd.co.uk
www.ctgintd.co.uk
Thorpe Park, Thorpe Way, Banbury, Oxfordshire
OX16 4SU United Kingdom

LURO COTE USA (1) 909 885 3223
KENT MOTORSPORT CASTINGS 01795 662288
POETON 01452 309500
POLYMER DYNAMICS USA (1) 713 694 3296
QINETIQ 0 8700 100942
SWAIN TECH USA (1) 716 889 2786
WALLWARK HEAT TREATMENT 0161 797911

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E-mail: enquiries@zircotec.co.uk
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528.10 Unit 2 Harwell business Centre,
Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 0QJ United Kingdom

FINISHING

ALUMINIUM SPECIAL 01384 299090
APPERLEY HONING 01242 528668
ARMORALL PRODUCTS 01799 53130
CML GROUP 0151 647 5531
GRIFFITHS ENGINEERING 01582 606029
HERFORTH INTERNATIONAL 01484 717220
JENVEY DYNAMICS 01746 768810
KENT AEROSPACE CASTINGS 01795 476333
QUAIF ENGINEERING 01732 741444

QINETIQ
RICHARD BARRETT MOULDS
ZEUS ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS

0 8700 100942
USA 353 282 9842
01384 482222

FOUNDRIES

AEROMET 01795 415000
BA HARRISON 016 2769351
GM DESIGN 017 985 9964

FINECAST

FINECAST
H GRIFFITHS ENGINEERING 01901 765821
JENVEY DYNAMICS 01582 606029
KENT AEROSPACE CASTINGS 01746 768810
KENT MOTORSPORT CASTINGS 01795 476333
QUALCAST 01795 662288
UK RACING CASTINGS 01237 750877

HEAT TREATMENT

AR CORNELL 01245 268008
AUTOSPRINT 01675 464857
AVONBAR 01932 840058
BEAUFORT RESTORATION 01795 830288
JENVEY DYNAMICS 01746 768810
PANKL Austria (43) 3862 525090
QUANTUM HEAT TREATMENT 01908 642242
TECVAC 01954 231700
ZEUS MOTORSPORT 01604 878101

MACHINING

ABBEY PANELS 02476 644999
ACTIVE ENGINEERING USA (1) 714 637 1155
APPERLEY HONING 01242 528668
ATHENA MANUFACTURING LP AVONBAR USA (1) 9512 928 2693
AZTEK 01932 840058
BEAUFORT RESTORATION 01795 830288
CML GROUP 0151 647 5531
COLEMAN MACHINE USA (1) 906 863 8945
DATUM ENGINEERING 02476 383032
FORMULA FABRICATIONS 01953 606590
DONCASTERS LTD 01332 864900
JENVEY DYNAMICS 01746 768810

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Fitting & Hose Systems

KRONTEC GMBH Tel Germany (49) 0401 5353-0
Fax Germany (49) 9401 5353-10
Pommersstraße 33, 93073 Neutraubing, Germany
LANGSTONE ENGINEERING LTD 02392 452439
LINGENFELTER USA (1) 219 724 2552
LOTUS ENGINEERING 01953 608000
MACDONALD RACE ENG 0208 889 1633
MASON ENGINEERING USA (1) 805 527 6624
METAL SPINNERS 0191 267 1011
MILSPEC PRODUCTS USA (1) 407 814 8997
0 8700 100942

PANKL AUSTRIA (43) 386252125000
PERFORMANCE MACHINE USA (1) 303 828 4546
PREMIER AEROSPACE 01332 850925
PREMIER FUEL SYSTEMS 01332 850925
QUAIF ENGINEERING 01732 741444
RICARDO INC USA (1) 714 397 6666
RICHARD BARRETT MOULDS USA 353 282 9842
TITAN MOTORSPORTS 01840 474402
TREVOR MORRIS ENGINES 015474 289
TRICK MACHINING 01493 752666
VIN MALKIE 01565 777395

METAL MATRIX COMPOSITES

BP METAL COMPOSITES 01252 37

Cranfield University

CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY Tel 01234 754902
Tel 01234 751671
Email motorsport@cranfield.ac.uk
www.motorsport.cranfield.ac.uk
Motorsport Group, Cranfield University,
Cranfield, Bedfordshire, MK43 0AL
GM DESIGN 017 985 9964
MMCC USA (1) 697 893 4449
PANKL Austria (43) 38625 12500

METAL SUPPLIERS

ADVANCED METALS INTERNAT 01923 210250
AIRC METALS LTD 01818 973 0509
ALUMINIUM SPECIAL 01384 299090
APPERLEY HONING 01242 528668
BRADY FABRICATIONS 01869 252750
BRITISH ALCAN ALUMINIUM 01753 887373
AVESTOPOLARI LTD 0182 243311
BYWORTH MATERIAL SERVICES 01453 826009
COLUMBIA METALS 01604 810191
CROMPTON TECH GROUP 01295 220130
MASON ENG USA (1) 805 527 6624
RICHARD BARRETT MOULDS USA 353 282 9842
RGB STAINLESS 0121 558 3101
SMITHS HIGH PERFORMANCE 01767 604708
SPA AEROFOLIS LTD 01827 260026

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Tel: +44 (0) 1908 260707 Fax: +44 (0) 1908 260404
Email: sales@superalloys.co.uk
Number 1 Garamonde Drive, Wyubush
Milton Keynes MK6 9DF UK

TITANIUM SPECIALISTS

AIRC METALS LTD 01818 973 0509
A.N. MOTORSPORT DESIGN 01628 776120
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ATHENA MANUFACTURING LP USA (1) 9512 928 2693
CML GROUP 0151 647 5531

COAST FABRICATION USA (1) 714 842 2601
DATUM ENGINEERING 02476 383032
DONCASTERS LTD 01332 864900
PANKL Austria (43) 38625 12500
QINETIQ 0 8700 100942
SPA AEROFOLIS LTD 01827 260026

ATI Titanium International

ATI Titanium International
Tel: 0121 789 5764
Fax: 0121 784 8054
Email: rnhoskisson@ati.co.uk
Keys House, Granby Avenue, Garretts Green,
Birmingham B33 0SP

TUBE FORMING

CONTRACT MFG & ASM USA (1) 920 720 4225
MALVERN AIRCRAFT 01684 892600
SPA AEROFOLIS LTD 01827 260026

8.5 Race Preparation

CHASSIS

ACTIVE ENGINEERING USA (1) 714 637 1155
AMS 01818 501361
AMT MOTORSPORT 0444 483477
ANEX SYSTEMS 01869 345038
AUTOMECH 0161 775 1851
AVONBAR 01932 840058
BARCEL MOTORSPORT 0208 397 4411
BR MOTORSPORT 01929 451545
BRR MOTORSPORT 01327 858095
CHRIS LEWIS MOTORSPORT 01677 422621
DEREK BENNET ENG 01565 777395
PRO MOTORSPORT 01555 893135
DOME CARS LTD Japan (81) 75 744 3331
DON FOSTER France (33) 470 580308
FOXCAST ENGINEERING 01264 810110
FRP RACING 01494 776099
GRAHAM WISEMAN 01278 685349
HAUS OF PERFORMANCE USA (1) 714 545 2755
HAWKINS RACING 0208 579 1431
INTERPRO ENGINEERING 01454 412771VAN
JACK CRONE RACING USA (1) 909 371 6099
JOHN VILLAGE AUTOMOTIVE 01246 459580
K2 RACE ENGINEERING 01825 766728
MACDONALD RACE ENG 020 8889 1633
MARDI GRAS MOTORSPORT 01327 852746
MARK BAILEY RACING 01818 805030
MARK DUNHAM RACE ENG 01353 648922
MATRIX ENGINEERING USA (1) 888 249 0013
MELTUNE PX MOTORSPORT 01923 242336
MIRKO RACING Tel USA (1) 408 776 0073
Fax USA (1) 408 779 9319
www.rmlmallock.co.uk

1689 Church Street, Building no.14, Morgan Hill, CA 95037, USA
Planet Motorsport
Podium Designs
QINETIQ 0 8700 100942
RAYCRAFT INTERNATIONAL 01780 207000
RACE TEST DESIGN & ENGINEERING 01386 871922
RILEY & SCOTT USA (1) 317 248 9470
Tel 01933 402440
Fax 01933 679519
www.rmlmallock.co.uk

6-10 Whittle Close, Park Farm Industrial Estate,
Wellingborough, Northants NN8 6TY England
01237 858955
Germany (49) 8554 2034
01312 862901
01933 665752
01274 85 4367
01926 496075
01333 636098
01435 344550
01565 777395
Germany (49) 2636 87923

ROY KENNEDY RACING
SCHNITZER
SHENPAR PRODUCTS
STARLINE UK LTD
STORM MOTORSPORT
TECH-CRAFT MOTORSPORT
TOLBAR RACING
TJ AUTOMOTIVE RACING
VIN MALKIE
ZAKSPEED Germany (49) 2636 87923

Database 9

TESTING SERVICES

5.1 Chassis Testing

CALIBRATION SERVICES

RICARDO INC USA 001 734 397 6666
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666
TORQUE FAST CALIBRATION 01782 744212
UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE 01707 284270

CRASH TESTING

CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY 01234 754152
CRANFIELD IMPACT CENTRE 01234 751681
KISTLER INSTRUMENTS LTD 0420 544477
MIRA LTD 0247 635 5000
QINETIQ 0 8700 100942
Ray Mallock LTD (RML) Tel 01933 402440
Fax 01933 679519
www.rmlmallock.co.uk

6-10 Whittle Close, Park Farm Industrial Estate,
Wellingborough, Northants NN8 6TY England
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT

AUTOSPRINT 01675 464857
BEAUFORT RESTORATION 01795 832888
BERU FI SYSTEMS 01734 646200
CCA DATA SYSTEMS 01525 378931
CRANFIELD INSTITUTE 01908 494134
GENESIS ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS 01923 893 3999
INSTRON SCHENK 01494 456789
INTERCOMP USA -763 476 2531

KISTLER INSTRUMENTS LTD 0420 544477
LONGCRE USA (1) 425 485 0620
LOTUS ENGINEERING 01953 608000
MICROLEASE 0208 427 8822
MIRA LTD 0247 635 5000
MOTORSPORTS INTERFACE 01788 890412
QINETIQ 0 8700 100942
ROEHRING ENGINEERING Tel USA (1) 336 431 1827
ROTO TEST AB Sweden (46) 85 325 5800
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

ROLLING ROADS

ALDON AUTOMOTIVE 01384 78508
AUTOMECH 0161 775 1851
AUTOSPRINT 01842 706226
AUTOSPRINT 01675 464857
BD ENGINEERING 01795 849800
PIT STOP 01993 850654
B&J MOTOR ENGINEERS 0161 748 8663
BOSCH 01895 834466
BBR GTI LTD 01280 702389
BRUNO HANSON Denmark (45) 85 99 1616
CARBURETTOR CENTRE 0208 340 2957
CHAMPION MOTORS 01621 857444
CRANFIELD INSTITUTE 01908 694134
DERBY AUTO ACCESSORIES 01332 671919
DTM CONSULTANTS (UK) 01865 407726
ELABORAZIONE COLASANO 01738 737 8331
FGR 01885 400639
FROUDE CONSINE 01905 856800
INTERPRO ENGINEERING 0454 412777
JANSPEED MOTORSPORT 01722 218312
MACHTECH 01923 269788
MATRIX ENGINEERING USA (1) 888 249 0013
MIRA LTD 0247 635 5000
MOTORSCOPE 01609 780452
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY USA (1) 614 292 5491
OSELLI ENGINEERING 01865 248100
PERFORMANCE CENTRE 0161 761 1177
RICHARD LONGMAN RACING 01202 482629
ROADSPEED PERFORMANCE 01453 750804
SARDOU France (33) 16 00 10 367
SCIENCK 01869 32111
SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY 01701 585044
TIM STILES RACING 01278 453936
TIPTON GARAGE 01404 832099

STRESS ANALYSIS

COSINE TECHNOLOGY 01706 378859
LOLA Tel 01480 451301
Fax 01480 456722

WELD TESTING

C&B CONSULTANTS AERODYNAMICS LTD
Tel 01202 661707 Fax 01202 685588
Email candb@aerodyna.co.uk
www.candbconsultants.com
Units 2B, 8 Cowley Road, Nuffield Ind Est,
Fosse, Dorset, B319Y 0J

C&B INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED
Tel 317 291 0978 Fax 317 536 0566
email candb@aerodyna.com
6210 La Pas Trail, Indianapolis, IN 46268, USA

KISTLER INSTRUMENTS LTD 0420 544477
WIND TUNNELS ACTIVA TECH 0208 074 1015
AIOLOS ENG Canada (1) 416 674 3017
CRANFIELD INSTITUTE 01908 694134
CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY 01234 754152
DOME CARS LTD Japan (81) 75 744 3331
IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON 0207 589 5111
LANGLEY FULL-SCALE USA (1) 757 856 2266
MARCH 01280 704160
MICRO CRAFT USA (1) 909 947 1843
MIRA LTD 0247 635 5000
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY USA (1) 614 292 5491
RMCS (CRANFIELD) 01793 785359
QINETIQ 0 8700 100942
SARDOU SA France (33) 16 00 10 367
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND USA (1) 301 405 6861
WESTLAND HELICOPTERS 01935 702190

WIND TUNNEL MODELS
ADVANCED COMPOSITES 01773 763447
AERODINE COMPOSITES USA (1) 317 271 1207
CAPITAL PATTERS 0208 777 9276
COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (1) 727 539 0805
DOME CARS LTD Japan (81) 75 744 3331
MARTIN FELDWICK USA (1) 909 947 1843
MICRO CRAFT USA (1) 909 947 1843
MIRA 0247 635 5000
SARDOU SA France (33) 16 00 10 367
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

WIND TUNNEL MODELS
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COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (1) 727 539 0805
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MIRA 0247 635 5000
SARDOU SA France (33) 16 00 10 367
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

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COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (1) 727 539 0805
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MIRA 0247 635 5000
SARDOU SA France (33) 16 00 10 367
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

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MIRA 0247 635 5000
SARDOU SA France (33) 16 00 10 367
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

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COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (1) 727 539 0805
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MICRO CRAFT USA (1) 909 947 1843
MIRA 0247 635 5000
SARDOU SA France (33) 16 00 10 367
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

WIND TUNNEL MODELS
ADVANCED COMPOSITES 01773 763447
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COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (1) 727 539 0805
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MICRO CRAFT USA (1) 909 947 1843
MIRA 0247 635 5000
SARDOU SA France (33) 16 00 10 367
THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

WIND TUNNEL MODELS
ADVANCED COMPOSITES 01773 763447
AERODINE COMPOSITES USA (1) 317 271 1207
CAPITAL PATTERS 0208 777 9276
COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (1) 727 539 0805
DOME CARS LTD Japan (81) 75 744 3331
MARTIN FELDWICK USA (1) 909 947 1843
MICRO CRAFT USA (1) 909 947 1843
MIRA 0247 635 5000
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THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

WIND TUNNEL MODELS
ADVANCED COMPOSITES 01773 763447
AERODINE COMPOSITES USA (1) 317 271 1207
CAPITAL PATTERS 0208 777 9276
COMPOSITE DESIGN USA (1) 727 539 0805
DOME CARS LTD Japan (81) 75 744 3331
MARTIN FELDWICK USA (1) 909 947 1843
MICRO CRAFT USA (1) 909 947 1843
MIRA 0247 635 5000
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THE STRAIN GAUGING CO 0256 320666

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RICARDO INC
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RICARDO
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01372 300000
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01773 794144
USA (i) 734 397 6666
0 8700 100942
01273 45561
0154 74289

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PAUL PFAFF RACE
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01509 233970
01634 682577
01621 854029
01775 723052
01249 815929
01805 248100
USA (i) 714 894 7573
01454 310 936
01564 824869
01233 7347377

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ROTOTEST
SUPERFLOW
BELGIUM
TAT

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01795 83288
01234 754152
USA (i) 315 339 1265
USA (i) 800 243 3966
USA (i) 603 329 5645
01708 857108
01905 865800
01953 608000
01923 269788
01906 3680394
01788 800412
USA (i) 734 397 6666
Sweden (46) B 532 55890
USA (i) 719 471 1746
31 15 216300
Germany (49) 7252 84258

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QUORN ENGINE DEVELOPMENTS
RACING BENT
RICARDO INC
RICARDO
ROAD & STAGE MOTORSPORT
ROTO TEST
SCARBOROUGH
SEARLE
SCHENCK PEGASUS
SOUTH CERNEY ENGINEERING
SPECIALISED ENGINES
STERLING ENGINES
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SWINDON RACING ENGINES
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VAN DYNE ENGINEERING
WARRIOR
WESLAKE DEVELOPMENTS

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USA (i) 812 546 4220
0115 9491993
USA (i) 616 847 5000
01295 273355
01732 74144
USA (i) 301 698 9009
01509 41237
USA (i) 714 779 8677
USA (i) 734 397 6666
01273 794144
01524 844066
Sweden (46) B 532 55890
Canada (i) 416 759 9309
0208 305 2250
USA (i) 248 689 9000
01285 860295
01375 318606
USA (i) 209 267 5081
0191 987731
01793 53121
0154 74289
USA (i) 714 847 4417
01255 754811
01797 224090

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AIRFLOW RESEARCH
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ANDY ROUSE ENGINEERING
ARIAS
ATKINSONS MOTORSPORT
AUTOKRAFT
AUTOMECH
AUTO SPECIALISTS
AVONBAR
EVOLUTION ENGINEERING
BERTILS ENGINES
BJ MOTOR ENGINES
BOB WIRTH RACING
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BR MOTORSPORT
BRODIE BRITTAIN (BBR)
CAMBRIDGESHIRE SPORTS
CARBONE RACING
CENTRAL AUTO TECH
COMPETITION ENGINE
CONCEPT MOTORSPORT
CONNAUGHT
DAVE CROFTS
DAWSON AUTO DEVELOPMENT
DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT
DRAGON PROJECT RACING
DUNNELL ENGINES
DYNOMITE
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ELABORAZIONE COLASUNO
ELLIOTT & SON
EDS
ENGINE DATA ANALYSIS
FAST CAR CLINIC
FISCHER ENGINEERING
FONTANA AUTOMOTIVE
FROUDE CONSOLE
GAERTI ENGINES
GEMINI ENGINEERING
GEOFF RICHARDSON ENG
GMI ENGINEERING
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GRAHAM HATHAWAY RACING
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GEORGE HARTWELL
HASSELGREN ENGINES
HAUS OF PERFORMANCE
HIGHLAND ENGINEERING
HODSON ENGINEERING
HOLWAY RACE ENGINES
HOLMAN AUTOMOTIVE
HUDDART
INTEGRAL POWERTRAIN
INTERPRO ENGINEERING
INTER-TUNING
IVAN DUTTON
JANSPEED ENGINEERING
JENNETTS ENGINES
JF ENGINES
JOHN BROWN ENGINEERING
KREMER RACING
LANGFORD & PECK
LINGENFELTER
LISTER CARS
LOTUS ENGINEERING
LYNX MOTORS
MRE
MAXSYM ENGINE TECHNOLOGY
MACHTECH
MATHWALL ENGINEERING
MERLIN DEVELOPMENTS

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01352 667629
USA (i) 888 800 0646
01384 78508
Germany (49) 714 3020
02476 632182
01403 784022
01539 732500
0121 777 2083
0161 775151
USA (i) 704 786 0187
01932 810058
0207 701 2225
USA (i) 708 395 4244
0161 748 8663
USA (i) 510 487 1279
USA (i) 517 279 8458
01926 454545
01280 702389
01954 210248
USA (i) 018 835 6596
0121 4558392
01296 435389
0208 588 0293
01795 843802
01246 477566
01327 857729
01695 524454
Tel 0118 974 4175
01449 677226
USA (i) 603 329 5645
USA (i) 805 373 6806
0207 738 8331
01306 712175
01708 857108
01977 516622
01274 579564
USA (i) 888 504 0300
USA (i) 310 538 2505
01905 865800
USA (i) 219 223 3016
01474 534779
01480 860599
USA (i) 801 225 8970
01327 390422
01621 865966
01624 818188
01202 556566
USA (i) 510 524 2485
USA (i) 714 545 2755
0208 959 4923
01732 463658
01473 621000
USA (i) 704 394 2151
01270 665495
01908 278600
01454 417277
Belgium (32) 473 865012
01923 816277
01722 321833
01993 801776
01491 680791
01903 773022
Germany (49) 221 17 1025
01933 441661
USA (i) 219 724 2552
01374 377474
01953 608000
01424 851277
0208 889 1633
01608 685155
01923 269788
01252 793191
01281 510184

ENGINE BALANCING

AUTOMOTIVE BALANCING USA (i) 562 861 5344

FLOWBENCH ANALYSIS

ADVANTEC NEW TECHNOLOGY (49) 2261 61901
AM TEST SYSTEMS 01253 780780
BOB WIRTH RACING USA (i) 510 487 1279
CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY 01234 754152
HAUS OF PERFORMANCE USA (i) 714 545 2755
INTEGRAL POWERTRAIN 01908 278600
LINGENFELTER USA (i) 219 724 2552
LOTUS ENG 01953 608000
MAXSYM ENGINE TECH 01608 685155
MOBILIS LAB CANADA (i) 450 647 1890
NEIL BOLD ENGINEERING 01204 71636
RACE ENGINE DEV USA (i) 700 630 0450
RACE TECHNIQUES 01242 245640
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RICARDO 01273 794144
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Don't forget the tyres

A recurring theme in Aerobytes is the surprisingly large-scale influence of small changes to components. This month it's rear tyres

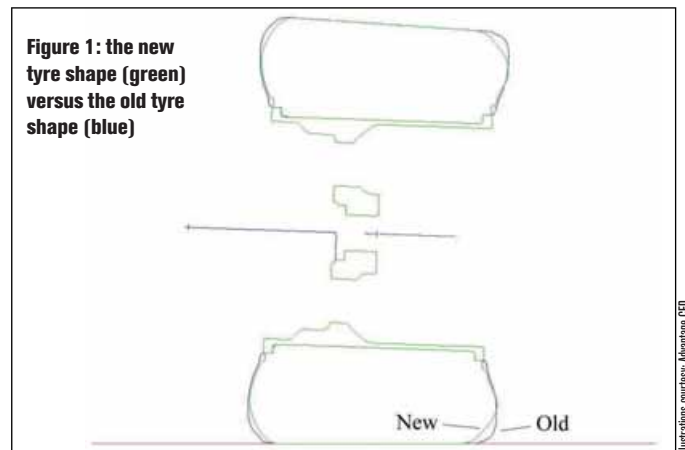
Tyre shape can change, even in one model from one manufacturer. This can have surprising effects on drag and airflow characteristics around a racecar



Tyres are a major source of aerodynamic drag, especially on single seaters, and frequently also generate lift that counteracts some of the body and wing-generated downforce. So changes to tyre size, via width or diameter, will cause potentially significant changes to aerodynamic forces. But what about changes to tyre *shape*? They may all start out round, but in cross section tyres can vary in shape between brands, and possibly between 'models' or types within a given brand. Is this something to be concerned about, aerodynamically speaking? Going by the results of this particular study by Advantage CFD on a Reynard 2KI ChampCar, the answer to that question is a definite 'yes'.

The aim of the study was to better simulate actual tyre geometry by investigating the influence of sidewall shape. The comparison here was between the shapes of a model tyre used on the 40 per cent scale wind tunnel car and that of a bulging sidewall variation more closely resembling the real tyre current at the time. Width and rolling radius remained unchanged. Both were modelled in CAD (see figure 1) and evaluated using CFD on the virtual car model in 'road course' configuration. Total downforce was up by 6.18 per cent yet total drag only increased by 0.28 per cent. Flows around and, especially, in the wake of wheels are difficult to predict using steady-state CFD because of the unsteady nature of wheel wakes. And dynamic changes to tyre shape (through weight transfer and aero load) were not modelled here either. But this 'snapshot' showed force changes that were pretty significant.

Figure 1: the new tyre shape (green) versus the old tyre shape (blue)



The biggest contributor to the change in downforce was the underfloor, which provided approximately three quarters of the increase. There was also a marked decrease in rear wheel lift, which also contributed to the overall downforce increase. Other significant increases in downforce came from the rear wing and the so-called 'flugelhorns' (the radiator exit ducts and flip ups ahead of the rear wheels). And principally because all the gains in downforce were felt at the rear there was a marked shift in aerodynamic balance in that direction.

As usual, the delta Cp plots illustrate where changes in surface pressures occurred as a result of the change to the geometry, and hint at possible mechanisms. Figures 2 and 3 show that the upper surface pressures were only slightly affected by the change in tyre shape, with small areas of decreases (negative, green colour) and increases (positive, yellow and red). In passing, notice that the front wing flaps were slightly affected by the change of rear tyre shape...

Figures 4 and 5 demonstrate vividly where the bulk of the downforce →

Produced in association with Advantage CFD

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Figure 2: static pressures change little on the upper surfaces

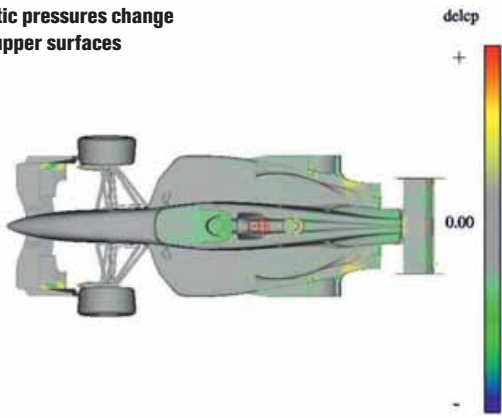


Figure 3: static pressures change little on the upper surfaces

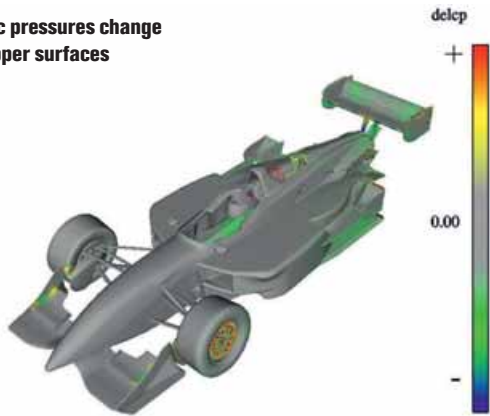


Figure 4: widespread change to the static pressures under the car

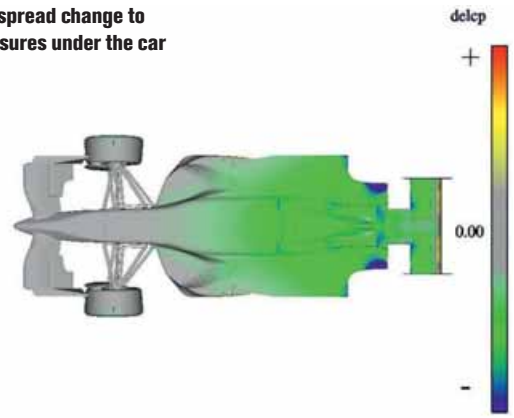
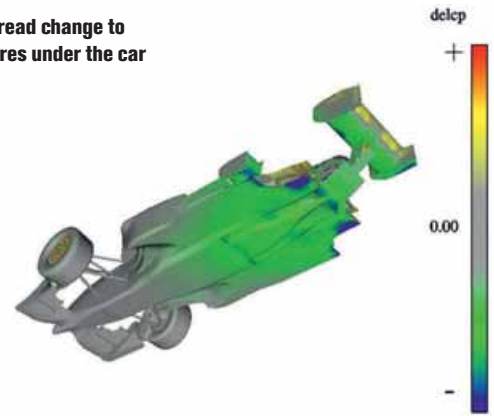


Figure 5: widespread change to the static pressures under the car

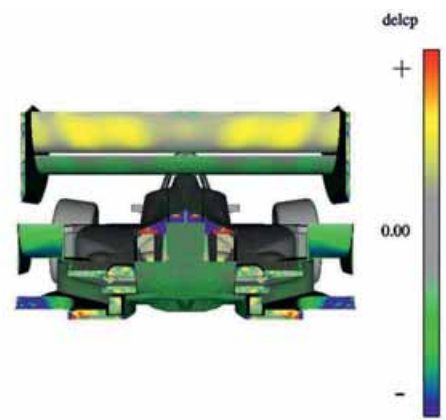


increase from the new tyre shape arose, with a widespread decrease in static pressure in the rear two thirds of the underfloor. The underside of the rear wing mainplane also benefited from increased suction. Notice how the most marked decreases in static pressure (blue areas) occurred just inboard of the rear tyres (not shown for clarity). Figure 6 shows marked decreases in static pressure on the back of the rear 'tyre Gurneys' (bottom, left and right), which were associated with the above mentioned blue areas on the underfloor adjacent to the rear tyres. And there was also a marked decrease in static pressure on the underside of the sidepod winglets. There was also an *increase* in static pressure evident on the back of the rear wing flap, and we'll come back to that shortly.


So what mechanisms were at work? The evidence from the delta Cp plots points to the cause of these changes in surface pressures being located, unsurprisingly, adjacent to the rear tyres, but low down. There were no significant changes occurring to upper surface pressures of the racecar body - for example, the sidepod winglets saw a decrease in pressure on their undersides but not on their top surfaces. Furthermore, the most intense pressure changes were quite localised, adjacent to the lower side of the rear tyres. And yet the widespread pressure change across so much of the underfloor points to a more global effect that acted like a skirt, better sealing the underfloor area from detrimental lateral flow from outboard. The conclusion is that the change to the tyre shape modified the flow structure around the lower sidewall, in this instance with highly beneficial effect. The increased suction on the rear wing mainplane and the winglet undersides probably stemmed from mutually beneficial interaction with the underbody. Not shown in these plots, but referred to earlier, is that rear wheel lift markedly reduced with the new tyre shape, and this may have been due to changes on the lower or upper half of the rear tyres.

The changes to drag as the result of altering tyre shape were small, but important because of that. There was a small increase in drag from the underfloor but this was offset by a reduction in drag from the rear wing,

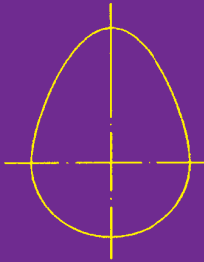
Figure 6: decreased static pressure under the winglets and behind the tyre Gurneys, increased static pressure behind the rear flap



which can be explained by the increases in static pressure on the rear of the flap mentioned earlier. The increases on the rear flap are located behind the areas of most marked static pressure decrease (blue) on the leading edge of the mainplane, and the consequent steeper chord-wise pressure gradients may have lead to earlier flow separation. There was also a small decrease in drag from the rear wheels, which may just have been due to the slightly smaller frontal area of the tyres and their more rounded shape.

If the aim of this study was to demonstrate that small details matter when it comes to simulating reality with CFD (or indeed wind tunnel) models then the results here are clear. But a further inescapable thought is that if there are potential gains as significant as this to be had, in categories where tyre choice is free, it could be worthwhile evaluating different brands in this way. Perhaps the major players could persuade their suppliers to develop more aerodynamic tyres? Indeed, one wonders if any of the big teams have already followed this route. Speculative (or informed) responses to racecar@ipcmedia.com please... 

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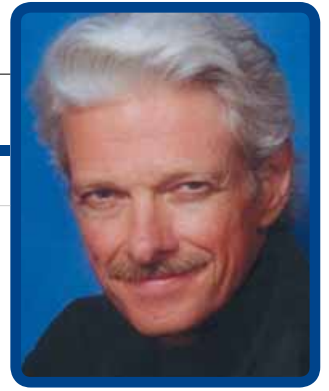
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Load transfer in cornering

Forward acceleration will always compress the rear suspension in a front-wheel drive car but even in steady-state cornering there will be a longitudinal effect due to attitude or drift angle



Q If a car starts to corner and 400lb of load is transferred from the inside rear tyre to the outside rear tyre, this leaves zero load on the inside rear tyre. But the car continues to speed up in the turn, reaching the limit of adhesion, and now there is 600lb of load on the outside rear tyre. Where does this additional 200lb of load come from? Does it all come off the inside front tyre? If you have a rear anti-roll bar, it can actually push the inside tyre up into the tyre well so I guess this would be a negative load on the inside rear tyre?

For the sake of argument, let's assume the following conditions apply: 1) total rear roll resistance is 600lb/inch of rear suspension travel; 2) the static weight on each rear tyre is 400lb; 3) the car's rear suspension compresses one inch when cornering at the limit, therefore there is 600lb of load transfer onto the outside rear tyre.

A If I understand the question correctly, you are supposing that the outside rear suspension compresses one inch from static, implying that the tyre gains 600lb of transferred load, which

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would make its load 1000lb. If we are assuming that the car is in steady-state cornering on a flat, smooth, un-banked turn, with no geometric anti-roll or pro-roll, and no aerodynamic downforce, you are describing an impossible

“THERE CAN BE NO SUCH THING AS A NEGATIVE TYRE LOAD”

case scenario. Unless something adds load to the rear wheel pair beyond the static value, the outside wheel cannot have more load than the total for the wheel pair.

There can be no such thing as a negative tyre load, unless the tyre can somehow pull upward on the road surface. Short of creating a tread →

If the rear suspension reaches 100 per cent load transfer and further lateral acceleration is applied, the inside rear wheel will start to lift off the ground. In this situation, an anti-roll bar will merely prevent the inside suspension from reaching full droop. The result is an average displacement from static of zero



compound that is sticky beyond our usual conception, or nailing the tyre to the road (either of which would make it very difficult for the car to attain enough speed to corner hard), that just can't happen. It is also impossible for load to transfer from the front wheels to the rear wheels when the car is only accelerating laterally.

What will happen if the rear suspension reaches 100 per cent load transfer, and then further lateral acceleration is applied to the car, is that the inside rear wheel will lift off the ground. The car will continue to roll, but without any further motion of the rear suspension. That implies that the rear ride height, measured from middle of the frame to ground, will increase as the wheel lifts off the road.

The anti-roll bar will push the inside tyre up into the wheel well, only in the sense that it may prevent the inside suspension from reaching full droop – not in the sense of compressing the inside suspension beyond static position. The suspension's ride displacement from static will be zero. Its roll displacement will be two thirds of an inch per wheel. The inside wheel will be off the ground, yet the suspension will be extended only two thirds of an inch beyond static. The outside wheel will be compressed two thirds of an inch from static. The average displacement of the two wheels, from static, will be zero.

We may say that in this situation the rear suspension is *saturated* in terms of load transfer; it has absorbed all the load transfer that it can. Any further load transfer must be absorbed by the front suspension alone. This implies that the inside front wheel will lose load, but that load will not go to the outside rear; it will go to the outside front. The total load on the front wheels and the total load on the rear wheels cannot change.

Remember, though, that we made a number of simplifying assumptions here: purely lateral acceleration; no bumps; no banking; no geometric anti-roll or pro-roll; no aerodynamic downforce. In the real world, any combination of these might be present, meaning that we could very well

have data acquisition traces showing an inch of compression from static on the outside rear.

To know how much added load we would need to get that added one third of an inch of ride compression, we would need to know the rear suspension's wheel rate in ride as well as in roll. The required extra load wouldn't necessarily be 200lbs. If the wheel rate in ride were 300lb/in, we'd have that condition (100lb/wheel divided by 300lb/in = one third of an inch/wheel).

If the only factor compressing the rear suspension is banking of the turn, and if the tyres are racing slicks with a coefficient of friction around 1.30, we'd need about a 25-degree banking to generate 200lb of extra load. A banking around 35 degrees would do this without the tyres generating any cornering force.

If the turn is flat, and the only factor compressing the rear suspension is aerodynamic downforce, we'd need 200lb of that at the rear axle if the wheel rate in ride is

300lb/in. If the wheel rate in ride is less, these values decrease. If the wheel rate in ride is greater, the values increase.

The suspension geometry can generate a downward jacking force. This would be most likely in a lowered strut-style suspension, when most or all of the load is on the outside tyre. In most cases, this will not be enough to compress the suspension a third of an inch unless the ride rate is very soft, but the effect could add to others to produce that much compression.

Forward acceleration will usually compress the rear suspension. In a front-wheel-drive car, it always will. We think of steady-state cornering as purely lateral acceleration, but actually there will be a car-longitudinal (x-axis) component, even at constant speed, because of the car's attitude angle or drift angle.

Since any or all of these effects can be present, it is entirely possible for the rear suspension to be compressed more than we would calculate for pure cornering on a flat surface. But something has to add ride compression for the condition described here to occur.

“ROLL DISPLACEMENT WILL BE TWO THIRDS OF AN INCH PER WHEEL”

DON'T SACRIFICE THE WIN

The difference between WINNING and LOSING is STAYING CONNECTED...
Get Connected!

ADEL WIGGINS Flexible Tube Connectors

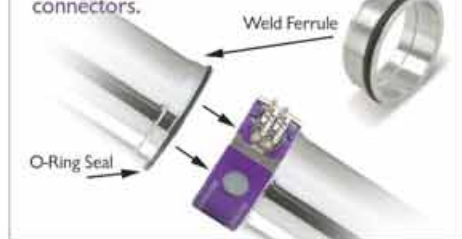
GROUP

SECURE YOUR WIN

Stay connected with Adel Wiggins Flexible Tube Connectors! The difference between winning and losing is in the connection. Do not sacrifice a win to a simple hose blowout or burst. This occurs when conventional hose clamps or barbs fail to secure the hose located between the connections or components. Adel Wiggins Flexible Tube Connectors eliminates these failures. This is why they have caught the attention of so many professional racers today. One of the main reasons for its popularity is its ability to be removed or installed with only one hand quickly and easily, whether they are being used with tubing or hose. Adel Wiggins Flexible Tube Connectors are offered standard in lightweight aluminum and are available in stainless steel or titanium upon special order. They have an operating temperature range from -120° F to 800° F and are able to withstand boost excess of 125 PSI.

SAFETY-LOCKING, ONE HAND INSTALLATION

The locking latch design eliminates troublesome and time-consuming installation of safety-wire or the necessity of tools to make the connection. The electrical bonding feature eliminates the external clamps, fasteners and jumper wire required in some applications. Elimination of lock wire holes, bolt-on bars, grounding clamps, snake clamps and jumper wires removes what can be a cumbersome and unattractive connection. The W900 series minimizes weight and unit cost, while retaining the proven performance and reliability of other WIG-O-FLEX connectors.



APPLICATIONS

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