Press release

THE ENGINES ARE WARMING UP FOR THE XVII EDITION OF FORMULA SAE ITALY: THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE VARANO DE’ MELEGGARI CIRCUIT, FROM 13th TO 17th JULY, AN EDUCATIONAL EVENT ORGANISED BY ANFIA WHERE 1,700 STUDENTS FROM ENGINEERING FACULTIES WORLDWIDE COMPETE TO INVEST IN THEIR FUTURE

The largest participating class is that of electric cars (Class 1E), with twenty-nine out of sixty-seven teams taking part. This is closely followed by the internal combustion car class (Class 1C), with twenty-five teams, the driverless class (Class 1D) with nine teams and Class 3 (project presentation, without prototype), with four teams.

Turin, 11th July 2022 - Just a few more days and the curtain will rise on the 17th edition of Formula SAE Italy, the educational event scheduled from 13th to 17th July that involves university students from engineering faculties around the world to compete in an international technical-sporting challenge. The event, organised by ANFIA, returns this year to the in-presence format, with appropriate anti-covid procedures in place, following the ‘hybrid’ edition - online and in-presence - pioneered in 2021 due to difficulties linked to the pandemic. The event will take place at the ‘R. Paletti’ Circuit of Varano de’ Melegari (Parma), a partner of the initiative with SAE International - with Alten as the primary sponsor and Motorsport.com, Motor1.com and Auto Tecnica media partners.

During the “five days” around 1,700 students will gather in the heart of the Emilian motor valley. Coming from twenty different countries and fifty-eight universities, they represent sixty-seven university teams - of which fifty-seven are from the European Union (20 Italian teams from fifteen various universities) and ten are from outside Europe. There are four participating classes: the largest being the electric car class (Class 1E), with twenty-nine out of sixty-seven teams taking part. This is followed by the internal combustion car class (Class 1C), with twenty-five teams; the driverless class (Class 1D), with nine teams and with all cars in driverless mode during the dynamic events; and Class 3 (project presentation, without prototype), with four teams.

The event enjoys the patronage of the Emilia Romagna Region, the Province of Parma and the Municipality of Varano de’ Melegari, as well as the support of 36 authoritative sponsors and partners, leading companies in the automotive supply chain represented by ANFIA and recruitment companies: Alten (main sponsor), Altair, Audi, Automobili Lamborghini, Bosch, BREMBO, Capgemini Engineering, Dallara Group, Danesi Engineering, Duerre Tubi Style Group, eDriveLab, Erre Technology Group, Eurogroup, Federal-Mogul, FEV, Fontana Gruppo, GeicoTaikisha, Industrie Saleri Italo, ItalDesign, Mathworks, Pirelli, Podium Advanced Technologies, Sabelt, Schaeffler, SKF, Streparava, Synergie, Techemet, Tenneco, Teoresi Group. The three technical partners are Adler-Pelzer Group, CSI and Flag-MS, while Red Bull contributes as a supporter.

Italian Association of the Automotive Industry

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Formula SAE was created in 1981 by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). This initiative required participating students to measure themselves in designing and constructing a prototype single-seater racing car destined for commercial use following certain technical and economic constraints as if a company in the automotive sector commissioned it for a non-professional user. During the event, the student teams take static tests - Design Event, Business Presentation Event and Cost Event - and dynamic track tests (Acceleration, Skid Pad, Autocross, Endurance; for Class 1D, Autocross, and Endurance have been replaced by Trackdrive).

The event aims to focus, more than the competition itself, on the skills the youngsters have acquired in terms of engineering knowledge, commitment, organisation and adherence to deadlines, design coordination and product presentation. It is an educational event where youngsters can learn the dynamics of teamwork, with specific rules and deadlines to be respected, and be put to the test on the prototype's actual construction and design phases, with all the difficulties this entails.

The event's opening ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday 13th July at 9 pm on the track's straight. After the welcome greetings to the teams, the ceremony will be attended by ANFIA Motorsport Section Coordinator Massimiliano Marsiaj, Alten Coach Business Manager Federico Criscuoli, and Dallara Group President Giampaolo Dallara.

The event will end on Sunday 17th July with a closing ceremony at the finishing straight of the circuit, all the youngsters will take part, and the winners will be awarded prizes. In addition, there will be awards for several categories, divided by class (Combustion, Electric, Driverless or Prototype-less projects) and by type of test.

This year ANFIA, for the first time, will be awarding the "Type-approve your FSAE Italy car" prize - reserved for Italian teams. The team member who submits the best-written paper describing the European legislation for type-approval of motor vehicles. This person must name the most relevant components, imagining their specific Formula SAE car to be type-approved for road circulation and showing the main constraints it would have to follow. The document's delivery allows students to enter the selection process for an extracurricular internship at ANFIA's Technical and Regulatory Affairs Department.

Special prizes awarded by the sponsors include the award for the best cost-efficient car presented by Dallara Group and the “Know-how, Agility and Problem Solving” prize awarded by Erre Technology Group. In addition, Fontana Gruppo will present the “Award for the best-bolted joints” to the team, presenting the car with the best-bolted joints. In contrast, the “Podium Advanced Technologies Best Battery Award” will be presented by Podium Advanced Technologies in recognition of the team that has developed the most innovative battery system in compliance with all project requirements and constraints. Finally, Teoresi Group will award a prize to the team with the best electronics development process (innovative controls, methods and architectures).
On display at the racetrack will be the Automobili Pininfarina’s Battista electric hypercar, of which Danisi Engineering S.r.l. is engineering and development partner; an electric racing hydroplane by eDriveLAB; the Nissan GT-R 50 by Italdesign; the SCG 007 by Podium Advanced Technologies.

The event will also include side events and entertainment designed for students, such as the Welcome party on Wednesday 13th July in the upper paddock of the Varano circuit.

The event is open to the visiting public on all five days. You can buy tickets to access the paddock at the circuit’s Formula SAE Italy Registration Area. Prices are specified at the following link: https://www.formula-ata.it/tickets-visitor/.

This year, you can take guided tours in either Italian or English.

You can find further information on the event’s website (https://www.formula-ata.it/), where you can find the complete programme (https://www.formula-ata.it/official-schedule/), a list of participants (https://www.formula-ata.it/registered-teams/) and all event details.

For information:

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ANFIA - Italian Association of the Automotive Industry

Born in March 1912, over these one hundred years, ANFIA mission has always been to represent the interests of its associate members and ensure effective communication between the Italian motor vehicle industries on the one hand, and the Public Administration and Italian political bodies on the other, with regard to all technical, economic, fiscal, legal, statistical and quality-related issues referred to the automotive sector.

The Association is structured in three product-based Groups, each one chaired by a President.

Components: motor vehicle parts and components manufacturers; Car Coachbuilders and Designers: companies working in the sector of design, engineering and style of motor vehicles and/or parts and components for the automotive sector; Motor vehicles: motor vehicles manufacturers in general, including trucks, trailers, camper vans, special means of transport.

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The Automotive Production Chain in Italy

5,156 companies
268,300 employees (direct and indirect), the 7% of the employees in the Italian manufacturing sector

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92.7 billion Euros of turnover, which means 9.3% of the Italian manufacturing sector turnover and of 5.2% of the Italian GDP
76.3 billion Euros of tax levy of motorization

Formula SAE Italy

Formula SAE was established in 1981 on the initiative of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) and requires the participating students to design and build a prototype single-seater racing car destined for eventual sale. They must follow specific technical and financial constraints as if a company in the automotive sector commissioned it for a non-professional user. During the event, the teams of students take part in static tests - Design, Business Presentations and Cost Events - and dynamic tests on the track (Acceleration, Skid Pad, Autocross, Endurance; for Class 1D, the Endurance has been replaced by the Trackdrive).

The event aims to focus not on the competition itself, but the skills acquired by the young people in terms of engineering knowledge, commitment, organisation and adherence to deadlines, design coordination and product presentation. Thus, the competition is an educational event in which young people can learn teamwork dynamics, with strict rules and deadlines that must be respected and be put to the test in the actual construction and design phases of a prototype and with all the difficulties that this entails. Formula SAE arrived in Italy in 2005, organized by ATA (Associazione Tecnica dell’Autoveicolo). After 12 editions, since 2017, with the acquisition of ATA by ANFIA, the organization of the event passed to ANFIA, which organized 4 editions at “R. Paletti” Racing Track of Varano de’ Melegari (Parma).

https://www.formula-ata.it/

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