



Press release

**20 YEARS OF FORMULA SAE ITALY: VARANO DE' MELEGARI CIRCUIT TO HOST XX EDITION
FROM SEPTEMBER 10-14, FEATURING 1,600 ENGINEERING STUDENTS FROM 15 COUNTRIES
COMPETING IN STATIC AND DYNAMIC TESTS FOR A UNIQUE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

The largest participation class is electric car class (Class 1EV), with 28 teams participating out of a total of 51. The internal combustion car class (Class 1CV) has 10 teams, including 4 that are non-plug-in hybrids. The driverless class (Class 1DV) comprises 9 teams, featuring a mix of electric and combustion vehicles. Class 3, which focuses on project presentations without prototypes, features 5 teams. Additionally, 5 of the 9 teams in the driverless class are also participating in another category (1CV or 1EV). Italian teams are 21, across 17 different Italian universities

Varano de' Melegari, 9 September 2025 - The curtain is set to rise for the **20th edition of Formula SAE Italy**, an educational event scheduled **from 10 to 14 September**. This event involves university students from engineering faculties worldwide in an international technical and sporting challenge. Organised by ANFIA, it will take place at the **'R. Paletti' circuit of Varano de' Melegari (Parma) - partner of the initiative together with SAE International - with the main sponsorship from Magna and a media partnership with Auto Tecnica and Test Driver.**

This five-day event will bring together around 1,600 students from 15 different countries and 46 universities, representing **51 university teams, in the heart of Emilia Romagna's motor valley**. Among these, 41 teams are from the European Union (including 21 from 17 different Italian universities) and 10 from outside the EU.

There are four classes of participation, the largest being the **electric cars (Class 1EV), with 28 participating teams**. This is followed by the **internal combustion car class (Class 1CV) with 10 teams** - 4 of them with non-plug-in hybrid cars - **the driverless class (Class 1DV) with 9 teams** - with both electric and combustion vehicles - and with the cars always in driverless mode during the dynamic events, and finally **Class 3 (project presentation, without prototype), with 5 teams**. Continuing from last year, the double participation class 1EV+1DV and 1CV+1DV, which includes 5 of the 9 teams in the 1DV class.

The event enjoys the patronage of the Emilia Romagna Region, the Province of Parma, and the Municipality of Varano de' Melegari. Additionally, it is supported by 32 esteemed sponsors and partners from the automotive supply chain represented by ANFIA, along with various associations, consultancy firms, and recruitment companies. The 26 sponsors include **Altair, ASK Industries, Automobili Lamborghini, Bitron, Bosch, Brembo, CSI, Dallara, Danisi Engineering, Duerre Tubi Style, Dumarey, Ferrari, FEV eXaV, IHI Charging Systems International, Italdesign, Magna (main**

National Association of the Automotive Industry

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sponsor), Marelli, MathWorks, Meccanica 42, Norelem, Pirelli, PwC Italia, SKF, Synergie, Teoresi Group, and YCOM. The 6 technical partners of the initiative are Adler-Pelzer Group, Beond, Betacom, FCE, Flag-MS and Stellantis Italia.

Formula SAE was founded in 1981 by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). It challenges participating students to design and construct a prototype single-seater racing car intended for eventual commercialisation, adhering to specific technical and economic constraints as if a company commissioned it in the automotive sector for a non-professional user.

During the event, student teams engage in both **static tests** — such as the **Design Event**, **Business Presentation Event**, and **Cost Event** — and dynamic track tests, including **Acceleration**, **Skid Pad**, **Autocross**, and **Endurance**. For Class 1DV, the Endurance test is replaced by the **Trackdrive** test.

The primary goal of this event is not just the competition itself, but to help students develop essential skills in engineering knowledge, commitment, organisation and adherence to deadlines. It also emphasises design coordination and product presentation. This educational experience enables participants to learn about teamwork dynamics, with well-defined regulations and deadlines. Students are tested in the actual construction and design phases of the prototype, facing the challenges that come with these processes.

The opening ceremony of the event is scheduled for Wednesday, 10 September, at 9 PM on the track's straight. After welcoming the teams, the ceremony will feature speeches from Marco Stella, President of the ANFIA Components Group, and Ettore Camarda, Assistant General Manager of Magna PT, who will represent the main sponsor of the event.

The event will conclude with a closing ceremony on the finishing straight of the circuit **on Sunday, 14 September**. All participants will take part in this ceremony, during which the winners will receive their awards. Prizes will be awarded in several categories, divided by participation class and type of test.

ANFIA will recognise the winning team of the contest commemorating the creation of the logo for the **20th anniversary of Formula SAE Italy**. Additionally, like last year, ANFIA will honour the **Best Social Networker on the FSAE Italy 2025 App**. This award will go to the student who most actively engages with the **FSAE Italy app**, a new feature introduced in 2024 aimed at facilitating networking and recruitment between university students and representatives of sponsoring companies participating in the event.

Special prizes presented by sponsors include the best car/resources balance prize offered by **Dallara** and a prize from **Ferrari** for the teams in Classes 1CV and 1EV that achieve the highest scores in the dynamic Endurance & Efficiency test. Additionally, **FEV eXaV** will present the

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'Innovative Strategies for e-PWT System Control' award, while **Marelli** will reward the team that develops the most innovative electronic unit onboard. **Norelem** will offer a prize to the winning team in the Trackdrive dynamic test for driverless cars. Finally, **Teoresi Group** will present the Teorace Special Award 2025 to the team that demonstrates the best electronics development process, including innovative controls, methods, and architectures.

Main sponsor **Magna** will showcase four advanced powertrain solutions at the circuit: the eDrive System Mid, Hybrid Transmission DHD Duo, Dual-Clutch Transmission DCT Eco, and Dual-Clutch Transmission 8DCL900.

Automobili Lamborghini will present two cars: the Huracán Super Trofeo EVO2 and the Revuelto. The Huracán Super Trofeo EVO2 will compete in Lamborghini's three continental championship series starting in 2022. With radical aerodynamic enhancements and an uncompromising design by Lamborghini Centro Stile, it represents the most extreme and high-performance evolution ever created for the one-make series. The Revuelto is a hybrid high-performance electric vehicle (HPEV) equipped with a 12-cylinder V12 engine, three electric motors, and a transverse gearbox. This new V12 engine is capable of producing an impressive 825 hp in combination with the electric motors, allowing it to reach a top speed of over 350 km/h.

Dallara will display a Dallara stradale, which embodies fifty years of racing experience. This car represents the culmination of a dream for engineer Giampaolo Dallara, who drove the first example on his eightieth birthday, marking a new beginning. It is an aerodynamic, mechanically pure, analogue car that lacks electronic enhancements, prioritising what truly matters on both road and track: fun and pure driving pleasure.

Ferrari will exhibit two cars: the Ferrari SF90 road car (hybrid) and the Ferrari 12Cilindri. Additionally, the Ferrari Museum will showcase the Ferrari 365 GTB4, which debuted at the Paris Motor Show in 1968. Many enthusiasts refer to it by the unofficial name 'Daytona,' due to its famous hat-trick at the Daytona 12 Hours in 1967. This model was equipped with a 4.4-litre V12 engine producing 352 hp and had a top speed of 280 km/h.

Norelem will also have a show truck on display.

Join us for the **Track Show** on Friday, 12 September, from 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM! Experience the thrill of racing on the track with the **Dallara Stradale** and the **Ferrari 365 GTB4**, both of which will allow students to enjoy a hot lap with a professional driver.

Additionally, the event will feature various side activities and entertainment tailored for students. Don't miss the **Pasta Party** scheduled for Saturday, 13 September, at the camping area, where you can indulge in a tasting of delicious pasta dishes provided by ANFIA.

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The event is open to the public for all five days. Tickets for access to the paddock can be purchased both online (<https://www.ciaotickets.com/it/biglietti/formula-sae-italy-varano>) and directly at the circuit during the Formula SAE Italy, at the Registration Area. Please refer to the following link for ticket prices: <https://www.formula-ata.it/tickets-visitor/>. Among the various options available, there will be **guided tours offered in either Italian or English** on Saturday, 13 September, and Sunday, 14 September.

For further information, please visit the initiative's website (<https://www.formula-ata.it/>), where you can find the complete program (<https://www.formula-ata.it/official-schedule/>), the list of participants (<https://www.formula-ata.it/registered-teams/>), and all other details regarding the event.

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ANFIA - Italian Association of the Automotive Industry

Founded in 1912, its aim for over 100 years has been to represent the interests of its members vis-à-vis public and private, national and international institutions and to study and resolve technical, economic, fiscal, legislative, statistical and quality issues in the automotive sector.

The Association is structured into 3 product groups, each coordinated by a President.

Components: includes manufacturers of motor vehicle parts and components; *Car Design & Engineering:* includes companies active in the design, engineering, styling and design of motor vehicles and/or parts and components for the motor vehicle sector; *Manufacturers:* includes manufacturers of motor vehicles in general - including trucks, trailers, camper vans, special vehicles and/or vehicles dedicated to specific uses - or specific fittings and equipment mounted on motor vehicles.

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The automotive production chain in Italy

5,451 enterprises

272,000 employees (direct and indirect), 7.1% of those employed in the Italian manufacturing sector

113.3 billion Euro in turnover, equivalent to 9% of manufacturing turnover in Italy and 5.8% of Italian GDP

71 billion euro tax levy on motorisation

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Formula SAE Italy

Formula SAE was founded in 1981 by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). It is a university competition aimed at engineering students worldwide, challenging them to design and construct prototype single-seater competition cars, either combustion or electric, including self-driving models. The goal is to create vehicles intended for eventual commercialisation, adhering to specific technical and economic constraints, as if commissioned by an automotive company for a non-professional user.

During the event, student teams participate in two categories of tests: static and dynamic. Static tests include the Design Event, Business Presentation Event, and Cost Event, while dynamic tests consist of Acceleration, Skid Pad, Autocross, and Endurance. In the 'Driverless' participation class, the Endurance event is replaced by Trackdrive.

This educational event focuses on developing students' skills by providing them with a training experience that emphasises teamwork, adherence to regulations, and meeting deadlines. Participants are tested throughout the design and construction phases of their prototypes, facing various challenges along the way.

In Italy, Formula SAE made its debut in 2005, organised by the Associazione Tecnica dell'Autoveicolo (ATA). After 12 editions, the organisation of the event transitioned to ANFIA in 2017, following ATA's takeover by ANFIA. Since then, ANFIA has organised seven editions at the 'R. Paletti' Autodrome in Varano de' Melegari (Parma). <https://www.formula-ata.it/>

Social channels of Formula SAE Italy:



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