

Formula Student

- International student design competition
- Design, build and race single seater formula 1 style car
- 600cc motor cycle engine with intake restrictor
- Competition judging criteria includes design quality, costing, static & dynamic tests culminating with an endurance race
- Students from a variety of disciplines involved including engineering, marketing, business, IT, finance etc.
- Funding mainly through industry sponsorships
- AIESEC supports this project with marketing and business student teams
- NMMU plans to enter the Formula Student Germany competition in Aug 2010



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Students Attend Formula Student Germany 2009

Hosted by the WOB Racing Team of the University of Applied Science in Wolfsburg, Mphathisi (Spyce) Colwana and Zerwick (Zee) Kruger attended the 2009 Formula Student Germany event from 4 to 9 August. Mphathisi writes:

"It has been a privilege for me to be part of the this trip to Germany, and from it I acquired an unbelievable amount of knowledge and experience about formula student race car design as well as the actual event at Hockenheim. During my short stay in Germany, working with the WOB Racing team, I had an opportunity to spend time assisting in the race preparation of their latest car (WR05). The vehicle testing phase before the event was particularly interesting.

Out of 78 teams that took part in Formula Student Germany 2009 from all over the world, many cars did not finish the final endurance event due to a host of engineering design problems such as excessive bending and torsion stresses created by the suspension, and insufficient time to properly test the car. A remarkable amount of innovative designs were evident and various types of material were used to ensure that the cars were as light as possible.

At the event in Hockenheim, the teams worked day and night preparing their cars for the next day of racing. The FSG event takes four days, starting with the judges scrutinising every car for safety and compliance with the rules before they are allowed to enter the dynamic events.

Using the expertise gained in Germany, we are working on finalising our own designs for the NMMU Racing Formula Student car. We plan to start building the car later this year and hopefully by March next year we will start testing our car for August 2010 event.

Our plan of action on our return from Germany is to share our experience and excitement with the rest of the team, in order to motivate them to work together with a common vision of being the first team from South Africa to compete in Formula Student Germany! Our goals are to comply with all the rules necessary to compete in the events and finish the race. Who knows, we could even win the event someday! "



NMMU Racing First Look at Continental Tyres

NMMU Racing met up with Continental Tyres at the Formula Student Germany 2009 event and had a first look at the tyres that we will be using on our racing car. Formula Student cars fitted with Continental tyres in the 2009 event performed very well in the competition, and we are fortunate to have access to this technology for our Formula Student car. Continental is also sponsoring advanced driver training for our team members with the Audi Advanced Driver Training School.





Images from Formula Student Germany 2009



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NMMU Racing Sponsors and Supporters

- **VW Racing:** technical support and racing vehicle components
- **Continental Tyres:** racing tyres
- **Dana Spicer Axles:** rear differential
- **General Motors:** test facility use
- **FI Outdoor Karting:** race track use & driver training
- **Terry Moss Racing:** technical and racing support from Terry Moss and Michael Stephen
- **Autograph Racing:** Diktator engine ECU
- **Honda Wing Port Elizabeth:** Technical support
- **Specialist Composites:** Technical support
- **AIESEC:** student society that provides business and marketing support by mobilising students on campus
- **DAAD:** German research funding
- **AIDC:** financial support
- **NRF:** research funding



Automotive Industry Development Centre



VOLKSWAGEN *Racing*



NMMU Racing meets the Mayor of Wolfsburg

The NMMU Racing team was invited to the Wolfsburg Mayor's office during our stay in the city. We were received in the Council Chamber, and were welcomed officially to the City of Wolfsburg by the Deputy Mayor. After showing us a presentation with highlights of Wolfsburg's attractions and achievements, the main one being "Autostadt", which houses the Volkswagen factory and various automotive museums, we then signed the official visitor's book. The team spent most of their time in Wolfsburg with the WOB Racing team at the University of Applied Sciences. NMMU currently

has a cooperative agreement with this university through the Automotive Chair, sponsored by Volkswagen South Africa, which allows for student exchange between our two organizations. Both German and South African students have gained excellent experience through being exposed to each other's culture and engineering expertise.

After the visit, we were interviewed by Wolfsburg's daily newspaper, "Wolfsburger Nachrichten" who published an article about our racing team in their publication the next day.

