

Friday, March 27, 2009

This Spring Student Teams From Across North and South America Will Travel Thousands of Miles...Per Gallon


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HOUSTON, March 27, 2009 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ ----2009 Shell Eco-marathon Americas(R: 28.26, -1.5492, -5.2%) will welcome 52 student teams looking to go the extra mile

HOUSTON, March 27 /PRNewswire/ -- While most high school and college students are busy writing papers and preparing for exams, a select group from across the Americas are taking what they've learned in the classroom and putting it to practical use - building high-mileage, fuel-efficient vehicles for the 2009 Shell Eco-marathon Americas(R: 28.26, -1.5492, -5.2%). After months of coordinating designs and constructing vehicles, 52 student teams - including nine high schools and 32 universities - are in the final stretch as they work to complete their vehicles for the 2009 challenge taking place April 16-18 at the Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif. Not only are these students looking to break the nearly 3,000 miles per gallon (1,275 kilometres per liter) record set in 2008, they are providing the world a glimpse into the fuels, technologies and transportation of tomorrow.

"By participating in the Shell Eco-marathon Americas, we have the opportunity to study new fuel-efficient technologies in automotive applications and gain practical experience for the future," said Andrew Ritter, student team leader of the Mater Dei High School team, who set the Shell Eco-marathon Americas record in 2008 with an astonishing 2,843 miles per gallon, equivalent to 1,208.6 kilometers per liter. "Last year, we didn't think our team could compete with such elite colleges, but we ended up breaking the 2007 record in our first run. And that motivated our team to keep pushing the limits of fuel efficiency, both on the track and in the classroom."

This year, student teams will participate in either the "Prototype" or "UrbanConcept" categories. For the Prototype category, teams will enter futuristic prototypes - streamlined vehicles that focus on maximizing fuel efficiency through innovative design elements, such as drag reduction. For the UrbanConcept category, new to the Americas event this year, teams will enter more "roadworthy" fuel-efficient vehicles. Aimed at meeting the real-life needs of drivers, these vehicles are closer in appearance to the higher-mileage cars seen on roads today. For both categories, teams can use any conventionally available energy source - including fuels such as diesel, gasoline and liquid petroleum gas (LPG: undefined, undefined, undefined%), as well as alternative fuels such as hydrogen, biomass and solar.

The Shell Eco-marathon(R: 28.26, -1.5492, -5.2%) is a global mileage challenge and forum for current and future leaders who are passionate about finding sustainable solutions to the world's energy challenge. The event challenges students to design, build and test eco-friendly vehicles that travel further using less energy. From vehicle design to financing, student teams manage their projects from start to finish. The winning teams in both the Prototype and UrbanConcept categories receive a grand prize of US\$5,000 for their school. And this year, Shell will also have several "off-track" awards, including the "Safety Award," "Technical Innovation Award" and "Eco-friendly Award" among others.

The 2009 Shell Eco-marathon Americas roster contains 52 teams from nine high schools and 32 universities from North and South America - including Brazil, Canada, Mexico and the United States. The Prototype entries include 35 vehicles powered by combustion engines, five by fuel cell/hydrogen technology, three by LPG, three by solar power, two by diesel fuel, and one by ethanol gas. The UrbanConcept entries include two vehicles powered by combustion engines and one by solar power.

The complete 2009 Shell Eco-marathon Americas roster is:

Prototype Category:

Combustion Engine Entrants:

School Name	Location	Team Name	Vehicle
Barstow High School 806	Barstow, Calif.	AZ-TECHS	Stingray
California Polytechnic State University	San Luis Obispo, Calif.	Cal Poly Supermileage	Black Widow
California State University, Chico	Chico, Calif.	Suffrage	One
California State University, Los Angeles	Los Angeles, Calif.	CSULA Supermileage	Super Eagle II
Cedarville University Racing II	Cedarville, Ohio	Jackets	Slipstre
Cedarville University	Cedarville, Ohio	GL4	GL4
Centennial High School	Corona, Calif.	Huskies	El Nino
Centro de Investigaciones de Diseno Industrial (CIDI: undefined, undefined%) / Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM: 7.5, 0, 0%)	Mexico City, Mexico	Nemesis	CLRT
Chitkara Institute of Engineering & Technology / Punjab Technical University	Punjab, India	TEAM STEALTH	STEALTH

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Colorado School of Mines School of Mines	Denver, Colo.	Colorado	Blaster
Dalhousie University Scotia machine	Halifax, Nova Supermileage Mileage-	Dalhousie	Maritime
Design School/ University of Minas Gerais	Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais	Team Sabia	Sabia 6
East Los Angeles College	Monterey Park, Calif.	Huskies	Phantom
George M. Schurr High School	Montebello, Calif.	Spartans	R7
Grand Rapids Technical School	Grand Rapids, Minn.	G-Rock	Fastest Indian
Louisiana State University Bang Bang	Baton Rouge, La.	Tiger Racing	Chitty Chitty
Louisiana Tech University Bulldogs	Ruston, La. Donderhond	LA Tech	De
Loyola Marymount University	Los Angeles, Calif.	Gen2	Gen2
Loyola Marymount University	Los Angeles, Calif.	Team RAMROD	Tip of the Spear
Mater Dei High School Supermileage II Team	Evansville, Ind.	Mater Dei	Next Gen
Monrovia High School Machine	Monrovia, Calif.	Team Green	The Gree
Northern Arizona University	Flagstaff, Ariz.	Team SAE@NAU	Ragnarok
R. L. Turner High School	Carrollton, Texas	Turner	Microsqu
Rochester Institute of Technology Team	Rochester, NY	RIT Greenvehicle	X1
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Vehicles	Terre Haute, Ind.	R-H Efficient	RHEV 74
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	Terre Haute, Ind.	R-H Efficient Vehicles	RHEV 74++
Summit High School	Fontana, Calif.	Skyhawks	Skyhawk
University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, Calif.	Cal SMV	Care Bea
University of California, Los Angeles	Los Angeles, Calif.	Supermileage	The Enterpris
Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico - Facultad de Ingenieria	Mexico City, Mexico	Escuderia Puma	Ahuicyan
University of California, Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara, Calif.	UCSB Gauchos	Gaicho Mileage
Universite Laval Supermileage	Laval, Quebec	Alerion	NTF 3.0
University of Colorado, Boulder	Boulder, Colo.	CU-L.A.T.E.R	F-CAT
University of Houston	Houston, Texas	Team SAECO	Phoenix
University Of Texas, El Paso	El Paso, Texas	Miner Dilema	Orochi



Fuel Cell Entrants:

School Name	Location	Team Name	Vehicle
Cicero North-Syracuse High School Team	Cicero, N.Y.	Performance Engineering	Pure Speed
Lamar University Alliance	Beaumont, Texas	Rebel	1602
Los Altos High School Calif. Unified School District	Hacienda Heights, Puente	Hacienda La	Infusion
North Carolina A&T State University	Greensboro, N.C.	Aggie	Aggie
Penn State University & Gears HFV	University Park, Pa.	Blood Sweat	Penn Stat



LPG Entrant:

School Name	Location	Team Name	Vehicle
George M. Schurr High School	Montebello, Calif.	Spartans	Spartan
George M. Schurr High School	Montebello, Calif.	Spartans	Destiny
George M. Schurr High School	Montebello, Calif.	Spartans	Mach 1

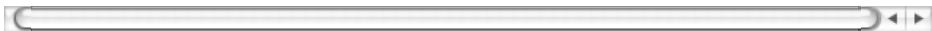
Solar Entrants:

School Name	Location	Team Name	Vehicle
Centennial High School	Corona County, Calif.	Huskies	The Blur
Purdue University Solar Pulsar	West Lafayette, Ind.	Purdue	Racing
Ohio State University Firefly 2	Columbus, Ohio	OSU Solar	Red Shift



Diesel Entrants:

School Name	Location	Team Name	Vehicle
College of the Redwoods Corsair Corsair	Eureka, Calif.	Diesel	Diesel
Wright State University Engineering	Dayton, Ohio	Raider	Eco-Raider



Ethanol Entrant:

Los Altos High School Calif.	Hacienda Heights, Puente	Hacienda La	HICE
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UrbanConcept Category:

Combustion Engine Entrants:

School Name	Location	Team Name	Vehicle
Louisiana Tech University	Ruston, La.	Tech EcoCar	Urban Car
Mater Dei High School Supermileage Team	Evansville, Ind.	Mater Dei	Street Bug

Solar Entrant:

School Name	Location	Team Name	Vehicle
The University of Arizona Team	Tucson, Ariz.	Arizona Solar Racing	SolarCat



To help ensure the 2009 Shell Eco-marathon Americas is a successful event for all the student participants, Shell is pleased to welcome the 2009 event sponsors, including Autodesk, Michelin, Pennzoil and SKF USA Inc.

With many successful years in Europe, the Shell Eco-marathon came back to the U.S. as the Shell Eco-marathon Americas in April 2007. The Shell Eco-marathon concept started as the Shell Mileage Marathon in 1939 between employees of Shell at a research laboratory in Wood River, Illinois. Today, the Americas event extends to student teams from across North and South America.

In Europe, the 2009 Shell Eco-marathon project will take place at the EuroSpeedway in Lausitz, Germany. The 2008 European event attracted teams from 20 countries, with the winning teams hailing from France, the Netherlands and Sweden. Plans are also underway to bring the Shell Eco-marathon to Asia in 2010.

For more information on the Shell Eco-marathon Americas, please visit www.shell.com/ecomarathon.

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