



CUER

Cambridge University Eco Racing

Update from the Outback

October 2009

G'day Supporters!

Welcome to our 'Update from the Outback' micro-Newsletter. There will be a full Newsletter prior to the start of the race, updates on the website during the race and then a full Race Completion Newsletter once we have reached Adelaide.

You can follow our progress in Darwin and across the Outback on our blog www.cuer.co.uk/blog and look out for our updates on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/cuerendeavour>. Don't forget to check our Facebook page at <http://tinyurl.com/cuerfacebook> for more photos and updates.

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CUER in Darwin

After an epic journey from the UK, CUER has made it to Darwin!

A well deserved two weeks were spent travelling up the East Coast of Australia from Sydney seeing some sights along the way. After a wonderful three days spent sailing The Whitsundays we travelled north to Darwin across the Outback which gave us some valuable practice driving part of the race route, along with an illuminating camping experience.

We arrived in Darwin on Tuesday 22nd September where we met *Endeavour* after her journey across land from Sydney. CUER received a very warm welcome from our hosts here in Darwin, BOC. They have provided us with the crucial and much appreciated workshop and office space. Huge thanks are also due to Virgin Atlantic who flew the chassis out from the UK and returned it to us without a scratch on it. We have also just received our solar array and bodywork from our sea freight container delivered via the port in Darwin. Well done to the



A brief break from solar car building aboard *Habibi* in The Whitsunday Islands

technical team who packed the container so well that we were the fastest ever team to get through customs!

CUER has received a wonderfully welcoming reception from our supporters here in Australia and local Darwin businesses, some of whom have joined us as sponsors. We are looking forward to the party being thrown for us by the Royal Commonwealth Society here in Darwin on Thursday 15th. Special thanks are due to Graham Churcher, Harry Cheek and Nathan Johns for all of their support and enthusiasm.



Endeavour and the team outside our wonderful workshop facilities at BOC in Winnellie, Darwin

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Endeavour on the roads



Our intrepid test driver Mike takes *Endeavour* for her first outing on the Australian highways.

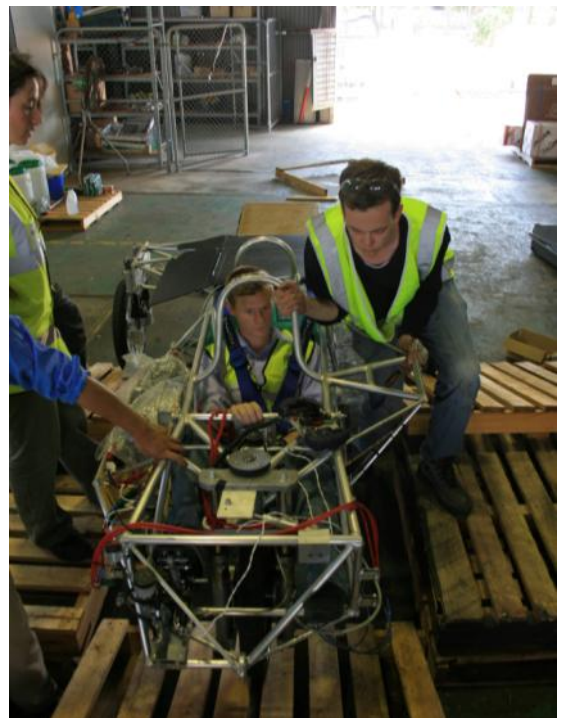
Pre-race scrutineering has seen *Endeavour's* first triumph; the Australian Transport Board here in Darwin has seen fit to grant her road legal status. This means that, a few days ahead of schedule, we are able to road test the chassis on the Australian highways performing essential shake-down tests. We are currently testing the underlying electronics and mechanics before we add the bodywork and solar array.

A fantastic effort from the entire technical team has meant that really great progress was made over the last two weeks in preparing the car to pass this crucial test. Progress has included some modifications to improve the braking system, some significant tuning of the motor, and even some new comfort measures for the driver.

Tuesday saw the start of this 'in situ' testing; *Endeavour* reached speeds of 80kph which is very encouraging at this stage. We now have three weeks before the race is due to begin and this time will be used primarily for testing and final alterations. This is great news because we be-

lieve that it is a lengthy and comprehensive testing programme that will give us the edge over our competition and see us achieving a fantastic race position.

CUER are in a strong position looking forward to race scrutineering after further tests have been done to include the bodywork and array that we have just received off the boat.



Handbrake testing in our BOC workshop.



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Sponsors

CUER are pleased to announce that Virgin Atlantic and Schlumberger have joined HP and Cambridge Precision as Platinum sponsors. We are hugely grateful to Virgin Atlantic, who in a matter of a few days had transported *Endeavour's* chassis half way across the world. Schlumberger continue to be a very supportive sponsor after providing a much needed cash injection to the CUER coffers. Similarly Ford and BOC have been upgraded to Gold sponsors after providing the very valuable use of their facilities in the UK and Australia.

We are also delighted to welcome Red Earth Studio (look out for our promo film premiering soon) and The Royal Academy of Engineering as Silver sponsors. AST, New Energy Finance and The School of Public Health at Hong Kong University have also joined us as Bronze sponsors. All support at this crucial stage of the project

has a huge impact on the team's chances so it is wonderful to see new sponsors coming on board.

Here in Darwin we have also found local businesses enthusiastic about joining our project. Thank you to BOC for providing the facilities necessary for us to work on *Endeavour*; having the appropriate space whilst we make her race ready is an invaluable asset for CUER. Thanks also to Global Gossip who are providing CUER with wireless internet access, and The Coffee Club, Mitchell Street, who are providing a much needed caffeine boost!

We are currently in the progress of updating the website to acknowledge these amendments and additions.

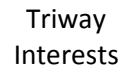
We would like to thank our army of Friends whose ranks have swollen rapidly over the past few weeks. Keep up the good work!



Unpacking our air crate box. Thank you, Virgin Atlantic!

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Thanks to our sponsors for their continued support:



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Anglian Fasteners
Coffee Club, Mitchell St
ETRTO
Global Gossip

Hamlin
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Labute
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Mouser Electronics

Plastic Products Ltd
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Renold
RS Components
SIGA (Electronics)
Weldtite

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