

CRIMSON RACING NEWSLETTER

December 2016

Greetings from Crimson Racing!

The end of the fall semester is upon us. The team has been working endlessly to maintain our deadlines. As always, we would like to thank our sponsors for supporting us and helping us achieve our goals. From all of us at Crimson Racing, we would like to wish you all Happy Holidays!

Chassis

Frame & Aero

Most of the tabs have been welded to the frame. It is clear that the weight of the frame will be lighter than last year's model. We are on track to have it completed by Christmas break to have it powder coated. The side pod molds are nearing completion. The carbon fiber for the side pods should be laid shortly.

Ergonomics

The seat mold is nearly complete and we will lay the carbon fiber shortly. The team is now working on a complex steering wheel that is much more ergonomic. The design is intricate and designed to fit a driver's hand. We are working on perfecting the lay out process of the carbon fiber.

Powertrain

Shifting

The team has been testing a pneumatic shifting system this year instead of a manual shifter. We have had great success with the system and have recently started practicing with an auto-shifting process during acceleration. We will continue trying to perfect the design!

Electrical

In previous years, the team has covered all wire harnesses with a plastic wire loom. Unfortunately, this plastic could sometimes melt and was heavy. The team will be moving towards using all heat shrink this year. It will also benefit in making the harnesses easier to take in and out of the car. We would like to thank Brown and Miller Racing Solutions for helping us secure this heat shrink.

Outreach

Kart Project

New members are working on designing and building a kart to teach them several skills that will carry over to the formula car. The kart team had a design review in front of our faculty advisor. It was quite successful. Our advisor offered plenty of advice and ideas for the kart team to continue to improve. We are excited to have all these new members working so hard. The FSAE team will be in good hands for many years to come.

Media & Fundraisers

Members of the team went on the radio on WVUA which is 90.7 The Capstone. It is the student operated radio station that plays throughout Tuscaloosa. The team participated in a segment called Houndstooth and Hardhats. We answered questions and explained the team dynamic and what it is like to be a member. The team also had a fundraiser at Mugshots Grill and Bar in downtown Tuscaloosa. The team earned a percentage of the profits made on a particular night.

Other

Kennesaw State University's Formula SAE team hosted an event similar to the design portion of the Michigan competition. They invited teams and design judges from the Southeast region. Some of the judges are current FSAE judges, while others were industry specialists. Some members of our team went and got a lot of useful feedback to help prepare for competition this year!

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