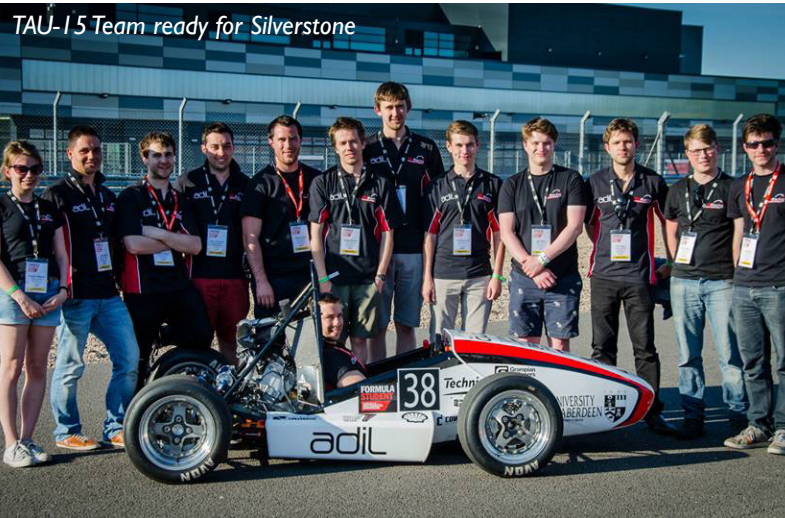


An intense 10 months of design, refinement, manufacture and testing by TAU Racing team members from a variety of years and disciplines were conducted in preparation for the 2015 Formula Student Competition. On Wednesday the 8th of July, the TAU Racing team travelled to the Silverstone race circuit for the international competition, ran by the IMechE, to compete against teams from as far as Turkey, Romania and India.



TAU-15 Team ready for Silverstone



The Formula Student Competition is a four day event held annually, the weekend after the British Grand Prix in July. TAU-15 was TAU Racing's seventh entry to the competition and the team held high expectations of their performance. The cars are pushed to their limits on track in the Dynamic Events which test for speed, acceleration, handling and endurance. The team must also compete in Static Events, which are judged by industry professionals from companies such as Ford Motor Company and Mercedes-Benz High Performance Engines. The team dedicated large amount of time preparing for these events with the aim of maximising our points.

From the beginning of the year during the early stages of design, great consideration is given to the Formula Student Rules. These rules dictate constraints and safety features which our car must comply with. Examples include the thickness of the chassis pipes, lockwiring of critical components and the safety standards of the race suits and helmets. Many teams are unable to complete scrutineering so TAU Racing were pleased to have passed on Friday, with only a few minor modifications to the car needed. This enabled us to head straight to the Skid Pad and Acceleration Events on Saturday and place some competitive times.



TAU-15 on the way to scrutineering



Chris Chalmers driving the Endurance event

The Formula Student Competition pits combustion cars directly against electric vehicles, many of which are four wheel drive and extremely quick off the mark. In the Acceleration Event, TAU-15 produced a competitive time of 4.710 seconds and placed 21st out of 97 cars. To give you an idea of the competition, earlier this month the University of Stuttgart broke the World Record and accelerated from 0–62 mph in an impressive 1.779 seconds! TAU Racing completed the Sprint Event on Sunday and qualified for the Endurance, unfortunately due to overheating problems TAU-15 had to retire after 11 of the 22 laps. The laps completed produced competitive times and the team are confident we can return to the next year and secure a high placing in the Endurance.





Team members Chris, Omeed, Simon and Tom entered the 2015 Formula Student Diesel Eco Drive Challenge with a strong reputation to maintain as this event has been won by TAU Racing for the past two years. The Challenge is run by Formula Student Partner; Robert Bosch UK and involves a series of handling tests, eco driving and a diesel quiz. Much to TAU Racing's delight, the Eco Challenge Team won the event and claimed the trophy for the third year in a row. The trophy is now property of TAU Racing to save on postage costs! The winners enjoyed a hot lap around the Silverstone circuit in the Honda Yuasa Racing British touring car.



*Eco challenge team enjoying their Silverstone hot lap*



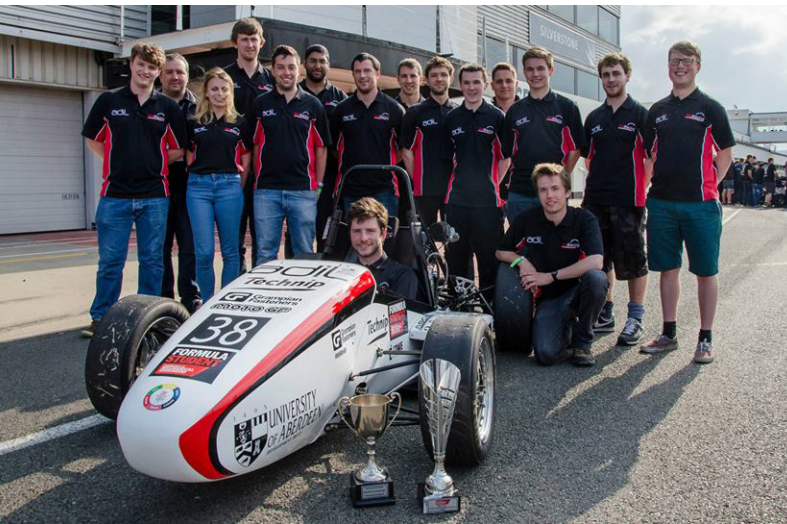
*George explaining the cost trade-offs made when designing the car*

TAU Racing were determined to maintain their first place in the Business Presentation and worked hard throughout the year to create a convincing business case. The team came a very close second place to Delft University of Technology who presented a charismatic business proposal. Shortly before the Business Presentation final, the team competed in the Cost, Manufacturing and Sustainability Event final. The Cost Event involves judging of the Cost Report produced by the team. This was a 225 page long Excel Document which calculated the cost to manufacture TAU-I5, forcing the team to make trade-offs between price and performance. The team were thrilled to achieve first place in the Cost Event and are eager to maintain this top spot at FSUK 2016.

The final awards ceremony took place on Sunday night, with Dutch team Delft University of Technology claiming first place with their electric car for a second consecutive year. TAU Racing placed 32nd out of the 97 teams in the competition, a result we are proud of and was a great reward for a year of hard work. After the awards ceremony the campsite hosted many parties, providing the teams with an opportunity to socialise, with even a few TAU Racing members accomplishing the mission of swapping shirts with other teams from across the world!



*The team celebrating after winning the Cost Event*



Lessons learnt from the 2015 Formula Student Competition will form the basis of the early designs of TAU-I5, which have already commenced this summer. The team have generated a testing and judging plan to ensure we are fully prepared for the events at the 2016 Competition. TAU Racing would like to thank our sponsors for offering their support, generous donation of their time and wealth of expertise. We would also like to thank our Faculty Adviser, Dr Neilson, our workshop staff and all parties involved with TAU Racing. We greatly appreciate your help and truly could not have done it without you.