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SOLAR RACING NEWS

2,300-mile Solar Car Race Coming to St. Louis

What: The American Solar Challenge (ASC), a 2,300-mile solar car race from Chicago to the Los Angeles area along historic Route 66, July 15-25. The American Solar Challenge is an educational event in which university teams, companies and clubs compete to build and race solar-powered cars across the country. About 30 solar-powered cars are participating in the race. The car with the fastest cumulative time will win the competition, which is the longest solar car race in the world.

When: Solar cars are expected to pass through a checkpoint in St. Louis, between July 15-16. Race officials will keep the checkpoint location open from 7:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. The fastest cars could reach the checkpoint as early as 3 p.m. July 15. Cars are required to stop for 30 minutes.

Where: The St. Louis checkpoint is located at EDS, 13736 Riverport Drive in Maryland Heights.

How: Daily race results will be posted on the Internet at www.formulasun.org/asc. Solar cars can be tracked online at www.formulasun.org/asc/tracking/index.html.

The Race: The American Solar Challenge News Center will be operational July 16 - 25. Call Gary Schmitz at 909-869-4863 for information, or email at gary_schmitz@nrel.gov.

Participants: About 30 solar cars are expected to participate. Teams must pass safety,

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electrical and mechanical inspections, and complete 125 miles at an average speed of 25 miles per hour or better to qualify. The following teams, including Principia College, The University of Missouri-Columbia and The University of Missouri-Rolla, completed qualifications as of 6 p.m. July 12. Several others cars continue with qualifying rounds today. A complete list of qualified teams will be available July 14 at www.formulasun.org/asc.

Qualified Teams To Date:

Ecole de Technologie Superieure, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa
Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan.
Los Altos High School/La Puente Valley ROP, Hacienda Heights, Calif.
Messiah College, Grantham, Pa.
Minnesota State University, Mankato &
Winona State University, Mankato, Minn.
North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D.
Principia College, Elsau, Ill.
Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, Ind.
South Bank University, London, United Kingdom
Stanford University, (#16), Stanford, Calif.
Stanford University, (#91), Stanford, Calif.
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.
University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, Mo.
University of Missouri-Rolla, Rolla, Mo.
University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, N.D.

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University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Mich.

The race is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and its National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Golden, Colo.; EDS, Plano, Texas; and Terion, Melbourne, Fla.