

SAE-A

Monash University wins Formula SAE-A

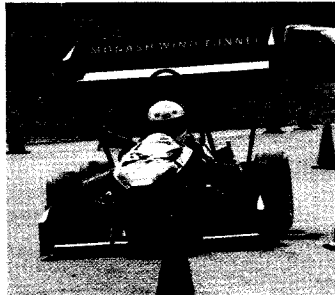
Melbourne – The 2009 international Formula SAE-A competition – the automotive engineering education program in a race car – was won by the winged machine from Monash University.

Hosted annually in Australia by the Society of Automotive Engineers – Australasia (SAE-A) since 2000, Formula SAE-A is an international event offering university engineering students the opportunity to work on a meaningful, complex engineering project, in a dedicated team environment, in real time. In one academic year, the students form multi-skilled teams to design, build and test small race cars – all while completing normal studies.

This is the first Formula SAE-A win for Monash University, which scored fourth place in 2008 and third place in 2007 and has entered every Formula SAE-A competition. The team included 50 students representing a cross section of study areas ranging from Mechanical Engineering to Business.

The 2009 Monash University car is powered by a four cylinder Honda CBR 600RR engine producing 80HP transferring torque to the wheels via a single reduction driveline. To save weight, the new intake and muffler have been constructed out of carbon fibre. Furthermore, to increase the fuel economy, higher compression pistons have been installed and tested on the dynamometer; preliminary tests showing a 14% increase on overall fuel economy.

Second place was taken by University of Western Australia, a previous winner of Australasian and United States of America events.



In second place was University of WA pictured in hard cornering on the skid pan. Photo: SAE-A

Victoria

Jacinta Allan takes on industry and trade



Jacinta Allan, Victoria's new Minister for Regional and Rural Development, Industry and Trade.

Photo: Ministerial Office

Melbourne – Regional and Rural Development Minister Jacinta Allan took over the industry and trade portfolio after former Industry and Trade Minister Martin Pakula was announced new public transport minister after the shock resignation of Lynne Kosky on 19 January 2010. Mr Pakula keeps his existing job of Industrial Relations Minister.

Ms Allan said the economic development super-portfolio would make it easier to attract more investment to regional Victoria as well as ensuring continued investment in metropolitan Victoria. "With both portfolios allocated to one Minister, investors will be more aware than ever before of the incredible opportunities in regional and rural Victoria," she said. "This will mean more jobs, stronger investment, and secured lifestyles for regional and rural cities and towns."

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