Rolling into auto show

Jan. 11, 2016

MSU rolls into 2016 Detroit auto show

Two cars designed and built by Michigan State University engineering students will be on display at this year’s North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

A car built by the MSU Solar Car Team will make its second appearance at the NAIAS, while the MSU Formula Racing Team will have an exhibit for the ninth year in a row.

The annual auto show is Jan. 11-24 at Detroit’s Cobo Hall.

The Formula Racing Team will display the SR15, an innovative racer it designed and built in 2014. This year’s model will have a few upgrades, including a new chassis design, new engine, smaller wheels and tires, and a more advanced electrical system.

“Formula SAE is a great opportunity for students to experience real-world engineering applications,” said team leader Jonathan Bianchi, a senior from Sterling Heights. “With that, members have a chance to better understand the automotive industry and help determine which areas they are most passionate about.”

Jesse Ouellette, team leader for the Michigan State Solar Car team, said the solar car is a collaboration of electrical and mechanical engineers working together to impact the world through clean energy.

“The technology developed and utilized by this program gives students a real-world opportunity to generate the designs of the future and challenge themselves by experimenting with new ideas,” said the mechanical engineering senior from Saline, Mich. “Solar Car team members learn to overcome design challenges, improve their idea development proficiency, develop relationships with corporate sponsors and strive everyday to change the world with the mindset of Spartans Will.”

Both the racing team and the solar team are composed of about 25 primarily undergraduate students from across the university. Participating gives the students hands-on multidisciplinary experiences in the fields of engineering, business and management.

Related Website: Story courtesy of MSU Today

MSU Formula SAE Team
MSU Solar Car Team
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Source URL: https://www.egr.msu.edu/news/2016/01/11/rolling-auto-show