The 15th University of Birmingham Racing Car Ready for First Race

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Students from the College of Engineering of Physical Sciences have designed and built the University of Birmingham's 15th racing car, which will be unveiled on Friday 22nd June 2pm in Chancellor's Court.

The race car is produced as part of a project by students studying various degree courses in Engineering. Their task is to assume that a manufacturer has commissioned them to produce a prototype car that will be evaluated and put into full production. The car must have high performance acceleration, braking and handling characteristics while other factors such as aesthetics, driver comfort, safety and reliability must also be taken into account.

After 9 months of hard work on the part of 25 mechanical and electrical engineering students, this year's aim was to create a car that builds on last year's design improving specifically on the vehicle's handling and reliability.

The students have engaged many sponsors to work with them on the project from the motor racing industry including Yamazaki Mazak UK who have worked with the racing team to strengthen the designs of the vehicle's outboard assembly, as well as Perkins Engines and, new to this year, Iscar Tools.

Amy Collin, Team Leader, says: *'We are extremely pleased with the team's progress this year. For the first time in many years, we will have a car ready well in advance of the competitions, allowing us to get the much needed testing time that makes all the difference on the track. This summer we are attending the Formula Student competitions at Silverstone and Hockenheim against university teams from across the world.'*

Birmingham graduates who have taken part in this project have gone on to work for Ford, Jaguar, Red Bull Racing F1, Williams F1, Maclaren F1 and Rolls Royce. Dr Karl Dearn, Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering and Faculty Advisor to the team, said, *'Once again, this year's car clearly demonstrates why mechanical engineering is such an exciting subject to study. Not only has this year's team designed and built the car, but they have also developed many other vital skills that will be absolutely critical in their future careers. UBRacing will once again produce a set of skilled and experienced mechanical engineering graduates that are desired the world over'*

Ends

Notes to Editors
Photocall: The launch of the 2012 Race Car will take place on Friday 22nd June at 2pm in Chancellor's Court, University of Birmingham, when there will be an opportunity to photograph the car and the team. Please call the press office for accreditation.

For further information
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