



News Release

Tuesday 20 October, 2015

1.30 pm Darwin Time Provisional Update

LEADERS CROSS THE BORDER AS 'STELLA LUX' FAMILY CAR TRAVELS 1500 KM ON A SINGLE CHARGE

With just 11 minutes separating the top three teams as they cross the border into South Australia, the stage is set for a scorching finish in one of the closest Challenges ever contested.

At 1.30 pm Darwin time, Team Twente from the Netherlands in 'Red One' were leading their compatriots and 2013 Champions, Nuon Solar Team in 'Nuna 8' by just 11 seconds with University of Michigan in 'Aurum' keeping them in sight.

Team strategists have had near perfect conditions in the Northern Territory with favourable winds and clear skies. They will be watching the weather carefully, balancing stored energy and energy collection against the energy they will need to expend to make the finish line.

There was drama today for both Team Tokai from Japan and Belgian team, Punch Powertrain, both serving penalties in Kulgera. This potentially offers an opportunity for next placed teams, USA team from Stanford University in 'Arctan', GAMF from Hungary in 'MegaLux' and Australia's Clenergy Team Arrow in 'Arrow1-GT' who will all be hoping to close the gap.

In the battle of the solar cars of the future, Japan's Kogakuin University's 'Owl' was the first Cruiser into roost at the mandatory overnight stopping point in Alice Springs. Team Eindhoven in 'Stella Lux' joined them not long after, claiming a record for the first solar family car to drive 1500 kilometres on a single charge at normal speeds. This achievement signifying the age of practical solar cars is here.

Further back are the KGHM Lodz team from Poland in 'Eagle One' around Ti Tree, with HS Bochum in 'SunRiser' approximately 20 kilometres behind, followed by the University of Minnesota team in 'EOS'.

A full update will be available after Day 3 of the Challenge concludes at 5pm Darwin time.

Follow team progress on the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge live team tracker as they make their way towards Adelaide on www.worldsolarchallenge.org/dashboard/map

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