

Minister Ian Hunter

Minister for Sustainability, Environment
and Conservation

Minister Leon Bignell

Minister for Tourism
Minister for Recreation and Sport

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World's biggest solar challenge – record field set to shine

A record breaking 47 teams from 25 countries will take to the start line for the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge in October this year.

Environment Minister Ian Hunter said it was fantastic to be able to announce the largest ever field in the event's history today - World Environment Day.

“Some of the very brightest young minds in the world are now preparing to take on the Australian outback in the 3000 kilometre journey from Darwin to Adelaide,” Mr Hunter said.

“They have to prove they have what it takes to deliver the world's most efficient electric car,” he said.

Tourism Minister Leon Bignell said the event was an unique opportunity to embark on a cross-country adventure.

“From Marla, to Glendambo, to Coober Pedy and the cross roads of Port Augusta, participants get to experience diverse parts of South Australia

This year first-time entrants are from Hungary, Thailand and South Africa. There is also a strong Australian contingent.

From South Australia, the University of Adelaide and TAFE SA are also back for another adventure with Lumen and Solar Spirit.

“With more teams, more countries, more rivalry and more innovation, it's going to be brilliant.”

Event Director Chris Selwood said 2015 would deliver the most competitive field ever – in terms of time, speed, energy efficiency and innovation.

“Every event is different as we change regulations to keep pace with technology. This year's changes include the number of stops, charging rules, and vehicle design to continue to push the teams and the technology closer to every day sustainability in the motoring world.

“Our inaugural cruiser class last year, surpassed all expectations and this year we have 12 teams competing in that category,” Mr Selwood said.

For more information visit www.worldsolarchallenge.org

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