



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## WORLD SOLAR CHALLENGE OPEN FOR 2015

Chief Executive of the South Australian Motor Sport Board, Mark Warren, today officially opened and called for entries for the 2015 World Solar Challenge.

Making the announcement on United Nations World Environment Day, Mr Warren confirmed the 3,000km adventure will start in Darwin on 18 October 2015 and conclude in Adelaide on 25 October 2015 and will retain the three classes that took part in the 2013 event.

More than 40 teams from 26 countries are expected to converge on Australia next year to showcase their team's specifically designed and built, technically complex and hugely efficient solar electric vehicle.

"The World Solar Challenge is the world's largest and most famous challenge for efficient electric vehicles," Mr Warren said.

"Today marks the start of the event's engineering challenge and we will be expectantly watching over the next 16 months to see what some of the world's brightest young minds can imagine, design and produce."

"For many participants, being part of an adventure such as this is a once in a lifetime experience, which will allow for a new generation of thinkers to emerge."

Commenting on the new regulations, which were also released today having been completely rewritten for the first time in 10 years, Mr Warren said "the new regulations have a particular focus on the practicality of creating solar electric vehicles that can meet real world demands."

"They will encourage teams to consider new design options, new technology and innovations as well as focusing teams on their approach to energy management."

The 2015 World Solar Challenge classes are:

- **Challenger Class** - for the solar powered elite, whose streamlined vehicles resemble spacecraft. Line honours will go to the first car to reach Adelaide under solar power.
- **Cruiser Class** - encourages innovation through the use of practical existing or near-existing technology. These cars will look more like traditional road vehicles and can carry passengers.
- **Adventure Class** - encourages first-time entrants still developing solar technology.

The 2015 competition will be the 13<sup>th</sup> running of the biennial event since 1987.

For more information on this unique event, contact:  
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