



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 13 October

Adelaide, Australia Provisional Update

OUR DRIVING FUTURE CRUISES INTO ADELAIDE – FIRST AUSSIES HOME AS DUTCH TEAM EINDHOVEN SHINES

The cars of the future, the Cruiser Class, charged into Adelaide's Victoria Square today within the official time window in the 2017 Bridgestone World Solar Challenge.

Germany's HS Bochum was the first to arrive at the finish line in 'Blue Cruiser' – a stylish four-seater classic coupe designed from the ground up as a mainstream motoring vehicle. Interior finishes feature sustainable materials such as vegan pineapple leather seats.

But these solar cars that embody green to the mainstream have never been about being first across the line. The day belonged to the 2013 and 2015 Dutch Cruiser Class Champions, Team Eindhoven, whose performance has them set for a 'hat-trick' with the 2017 Cruiser Cup firmly in their grasp. Having blitzed the current points table by carrying five people in their solar family car 'Stella Vie' almost all the way from Darwin, they will head into the final judging round tomorrow in an unbeatable position.

Event Director Chris Selwood said the Cruiser Class first aimed to deliver a practical demonstration of what the future of automotive technology might look like.

'That future is now. These incredible solar cars have been designed with the commercial market in mind and have all the features you'd expect in a family, luxury or sporting car,'" Chris said.

'It's about so much more than speed. As this part of the judging, based on criteria such as passenger kilometres and energy efficiency draws to a close, we now turn our attention to the most relevant issue of all – do these cars have what it takes to appeal to the consumer? Tomorrow, our panel of judges will take into account design and practicality, with the final results announced at the award ceremony on Sunday night.

'Team Eindhoven are to be congratulated on their achievement to date – clearly the most energy efficient solar car in the field, capable of generating more power than they consume. This is the future of solar electric vehicles. When your car is parked at home it can be charging and supplying energy back to the grid.' Chris said.

Australia's Clenergy Team Arrow in their luxe, two-seater sports coupe 'Arrow STF' were the only Australian Cruiser to complete the course. Billed as the world's first commercial solar electric vehicle, their racing version has also been built for the mainstream, with specially built solar cells encapsulated in gorilla glass and a 1000-kilometre charge range. The team is now taking orders for customised versions built to individual specifications. Hong Kong's IVE team in 'Sophie VI' continued their



MEDIA RELEASE

consistent performance missing the time window by just minutes. Minnesota's 'EOS II' and Taiwan's KUAS team in 'Apollo VIII' fell short of the final time window.

In the Challenger class, Western Sydney University in 'Unlimited 2.0' was the first Australian team across the line this afternoon in 6th position, followed by Japan's Kogakuin in their distinctive design 'Wing'.

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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Bridgestone World Solar Challenge Media Background

Media background

2017 Bridgestone World Solar Challenge (8-15 October)

Celebrating 30 years this year, the world's biggest solar challenge began in 1987 and is a 3,000-kilometre endurance adventure that occurs once every two years. The BWSC has become the world's foremost innovation challenge with teams from around the world vying to become the first to deliver sustainable solar powered electric vehicles. Teams are striving to make the Darwin start line on Sunday 8 October, in their bid to deliver the world's most efficient solar electric car. Three classes of vehicle, Challenger, Cruiser and Adventure, will take on the Aussie outback in a contest of endurance, strategy and innovation. The elite Challenger Class is conducted in a single stage from Darwin to Adelaide and 2017 will see the third running of the Cruiser Class (the race within the race), created to encourage the green to the mainstream by designing practical electric vehicles where success is judged on a range of design and performance measures. The stage is set for a total eclipse of past events and achievements. For event details go to: www.worldsolarchallenge.org