

As the Solar Car Challenge quickly approaches, our team has been practicing and preparing for the long awaited race. In the month of June, our team has been conducting practice scrutineering stations as well as simulated race days.



After completing the wiring on our Advanced Division car, we were then faced with the difficulties of debugging our system. Our solar car uses the motor, motor controller, and battery from the Zero motorcycle, since they are configured to work in sync. For safety precautions, the motor controller must go through a series of checks before it allows the motor to operate, and our team vigorously worked to debug the problems that were causing the safety checks to light up. After a great length of time and effort in fixing the mistakes, our solar car is finally running. With only the solar power and other small aspects to complete, our solar car is almost ready to race at the Texas Motor Speedway.



While our Advanced Division car is nearing completion, our Electric-Solar Division Car has been speeding up and down the street in front of our warehouse, collecting data for our telemetry team as our drivers familiarize themselves with driving the car. Our team simulates the way we will be running at the Solar Car Challenge with delegated members as a part of the safety crew, pit crew, and telemetry team. Using radios as communication, the drivers are told to run at various speeds according to what the telemetry team sees as most efficient.



As a new part of scrutineering at the Solar Car Challenge this year, each team is required to complete a presentation on the cars they have built. If the presentation is well executed, each team can be awarded up to four extra laps during the race. Our team is determined to earn as many extra laps as possible, so we have delegated time each week up until the upcoming race to practice our presentation.

