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Cal Poly Formula Hybrid™ Team Makes a Strong Showing at the International Competition

SAN LUIS OBISPO – A four-day engineering competition put Cal Poly's Formula Hybrid™ team to the test in Loudon, N. H., on May 1-4. Despite a budget challenge and lack of experience, the group placed fifth in the Autocross event and seventh overall at the international, inter-collegiate competition sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE).

"Only three of our 22 team members are graduating seniors," noted team lead Gregg Schultz. "Plus we only had \$2,100 for all the parts on the car;" even so, the team beat esteemed universities such as Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, San Jose State and Cal Poly, Pomona.

The Formula Hybrid™ competition challenges students to design, build and race an open-wheel, single-seat racecar. This car must conform to specifications that emphasize drive train innovation and fuel efficiency in a high-performance application.

Cal Poly was the second university out of 21 university competitors to successfully pass all the technical inspections and actually get their car certified to race, a significant achievement for the technically challenging project.



The electrical system designed by Gregg Schultz and Matt Tolman for their senior project received recognition as one of the most advanced systems at the competition.

The year-long design and development project included students from a variety of disciplines including, mechanical, electrical, materials, general and industrial engineering. "The team had to learn how to effectively communicate and collaborate," said Schultz. "And the team has their eyes set on winning next year."

"We're reviewing our strengths, weaknesses, and places to improve. The younger team members look forward to the future with

new-found knowledge and ambition, while the team's more senior members diligently document their designs," Schultz said.

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