

Wednesday 14 September 2016

## **Teams on the Grid for F1 in Schools Championships**

Teams from Ulverstone, Queechy, Kings Meadows and Clarence High Schools will battle it out in the F1 in Schools Championships this Thursday 15 September at the Tailrace Centre, Riverside.

Teams of between three to five students from Years 7-12 will use real world Three Dimensional CAD/CAM technologies to design, test, manufacture and race miniature CO<sub>2</sub>-powered balsa wood F1 cars.

Students use the same technology as currently used by the real F1 teams and vehicle manufacturers to design, make, market and test and race their miniature F1 style cars. The gas-powered cars are capable of speeds exceeding 80 kilometres per hour and can cover the track in less than 1.5 seconds.

Teams will be assessed by independent judges against set criteria including engineering and manufacturing, car speed, portfolio design, branding, industry collaboration and verbal presentations.

The competition is not just about the cars ... but rather the opportunity to create and test ideas. It is an opportunity for boys and girls to find out each others strengths while solving the issues associated with achieving the best performance with a limited amount of energy. The underlying learning is about communication, collaboration, teamwork and innovation ... and it's all done in a fun learning environment.

Attracting more girls or boys to STEM careers will happen when students can learn for themselves just how exciting careers in these areas can be.

Bell Bay Aluminium, in partnership with Re-Engineering Australia, established the innovative program in Northern Tasmania in 2008 as a way of introducing students to the world of STEM and to provide them with engaging STEM opportunities as early as possible.

The competition is the largest secondary school technology program in the world, involving more than 9,000,000 students from 17,000 schools in 31 countries. Tasmanian schools have a strong history of success in the program at a national and international level.

Winners will be announced by Bell Bay Aluminium and Re-Engineering Australia from 3pm on Thursday 15 September following the completion of the competition. The winning teams will represent Tasmania at the National Championships to be held in early 2017.

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES**

**Thursday 15 September, 2016, Tailrace Centre, Riverside**

Racing and judging will commence from 9.10am and concluding at 3pm with presentations.

Media are invited to attend at any time during the day. Judging schedule is attached.

**Ends**

For further information, please contact:

Lou Clark

**Bell Bay Aluminium**

Community Relations Specialist

**Mobile: +61 (0) 419 326 023**

**[www.bellbayaluminium.com.au](http://www.bellbayaluminium.com.au)**