

WINTER NEWSLETTER

2018-2019 Season: Issue 1 Words by Josh Harris

LOOKING BACK ON 2018

The start of the 2018 season saw a brilliant performance from the team with an impressive 10th place finish at Formula Student UK. The car set some great times in the dynamic events enabling the team to finish; 5th in Skidpad, 5th in Acceleration, 10th in Autocross and 8th in Endurance. This was the first time since 2009 LUMotorsport finished inside the top 10, out of 82 teams, at FSUK.

LFS18 then travelled to Europe, first to compete in FS East. Unfortunately, the car suffered an issue that caused it to impact the crash barriers within the test area - thankfully the driver was uninjured. On a positive note the team were able to fix the car and complete 3 Autocross laps before a clutch issue stopped the final run. Overall, the team finished a commendable 24th.

Following FS East, the team travelled to FS Czech. The team spent the majority of the event setup rebuilding the aero package after spare parts were sent out. The team was able to pass scrutineering and compete in all events, unfortunately being stopped in endurance due to an oil leak.

The foundations have been laid for the car to be even more competitive in 2019 and as you will be able to see, the team are pushing hard to make that a reality.



LFS18 competing at FSUK

WHAT IS NEW FOR 2019?

Aerodynamics

For the 2018/19 season the aerodynamics will see concentrated development on the front wing and the floor. The aim is to improve the airflow along the car to provide more downforce with minimal drag penalty. Significant time is also being spent on designing a new brake cooling system to improve endurance results.

Powertrain

The main focus this season is to improve the fuel efficiency of the engine to improve results in the Efficiency event. In addition to this we are also investigating the camshaft timing to further improve engine performance and efficiency. The target this year is to complete a sub 4 second time in the Acceleration event.

Chassis

The 2019 chassis design is now complete and manufacturing has started. The tubes are being laser cut which has allowed more time for chassis design and jig manufacture. If material testing is successful we will be switching to an alternate frame design in a further quest to save chassis mass.



LFS18 showing off at FSUK at Silverstone

LUMOTORSPORT AT THE RAC

This year, LUMotorsport was given the incredible opportunity to display LFS18 at the Royal Automobile Club in London between 1st and 8th October. The car was revealed at an event organised by the University, where Loughborough alumni and senior staff were invited to the evening.

By exhibiting at the Royal Automobile Club, the car joined some of the most iconic vehicles in the world; from winning Formula 1 cars such as the McLaren M23 driven by James Hunt, to famous vintage cars including the Lagonda M35R.

As part of the celebrations, Professor Robert Allison, Vice-Chancellor of the University, hosted a reception on the opening night (Monday 1st October) where the car was unveiled in the Rotunda at Pall Mall.

Guests invited to speak on the night included Rob Smedley, Head of Performance Engineering at Williams Grand Prix Engineering, as well as Monty Jeacock-Fewtrell, Team Leader of the LUMotorsport Team.

IMECHE VISIT DAY

On the 24th October, the IMechE made a visit to Loughborough University to catch up with the team and to hear the plans for LFS19.



LFS18 in the Rotunda before it's unveiling

The team gave the representative a tour of the workshop as well as other facilities within the department. They then sat down with the team to discuss last year's events, the highlights of the season and the improvements the team are making for this year's car.

Pink Power: LUMotorsport surges forward

31 Oct 2018
Formula Student Team



Sporting probably one of the brightest liveries on the grid, Loughborough's LUMotorsport have been a familiar sight at Formula Student competitions in the UK and Europe for well over a decade. Having recently moved into their new work space, it seemed like a good time for a road trip up the M1 corridor to visit and to find out what 2019 has in store for them.

An article has been published on the IMechE website, which is available to read at the following address:

<http://www.imeche.org/news/news-article/pink-power-lumotorsport-surges-forward>



LFS18 in the Rotunda

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