



## Press release

**AT THE START LINE ON JULY 11<sup>TH</sup>, THE XIV EDITION OF FORMULA SAE ITALY, FORMULA ELECTRIC ITALY & FORMULA DRIVERLESS 2018: UP TO 15<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY, OVER 2,600 STUDENTS ON THE TRACK IN VARANO DE 'MELEGARI FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL-SPORTING COMPETITION ORGANIZED IN ITALY BY ANFIA**

**A new feature in the 2018 edition is the introduction of the driverless vehicle category**

*Turin, July 5, 2018* - From July 11<sup>th</sup> commences the XIV edition of Formula SAE Italy, Formula Electric Italy & Formula Driverless, the international technical-sporting competition open to the participation of engineering students from universities worldwide, organized by ANFIA, which from 2017 took charge of the event from ATA - Associazione Tecnica dell'Automobile (*Automobile Technical Association*).

The numbers are growing: over 2,600 students from 26 countries worldwide (there were 23 last year) and 82 different universities representing 87 university teams - of which 67 are from the European Union (14 are Italian, coming from 13 different universities) and 20 Non-EU. Formula SAE 2018 will take place at the "R. Paletti" racetrack in Varano de 'Melegari (Parma) - partner of the initiative together with SAE International - with the main sponsorship of Dallara and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, which will take part with the Abarth brand, and with the media partnership of Lifegate, Motor1.com and Motorsport.com.

In addition to the participating classes already seen in previous years - Class 1C: internal combustion vehicles; Class 1E: electric cars; Class 3: teams presenting their designs only, without a prototype - a new feature of the 2018 edition is the introduction of the Driverless category (DV), in the wake of the Formula Student Germany, which first launched it in 2017, and of which the Italian DV event will now follow its regulations with a few exceptions. The cars of this class (Class 1D), focused on the development of a self-driving system, they will participate in dynamic events which are always in an unmanned manner.

The event is supported by the patronage of the Emilia Romagna Region, the Province of Parma and the Municipality of Varano de 'Melegari, as well as the support of 24 influential sponsors, leading companies in the automotive supply chain who are represented by ANFIA - among which the two main sponsors - in addition to consultancy and recruitment companies: Altair, Altran, Aptiv, Automobili Lamborghini, Bosch, Brembo, Dayco, Duerre Tubi Style Group, Federal-Mogul, Hypertec Solution, Oerlikon Graziano, Pirelli, PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory, Schaeffler, Synergie as HR partner, Teoresi, Vimi Fasteners and ZF. The 4 technical partners of the initiative are Acer, Flag, Polimatica and STS-Acoustics.

Formula SAE was founded in 1981 as an initiative of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) and expect students in the competition to both design and build a one-seat prototype racing car which can be marketed as a potential production item; they must follow technical and economic constraints, as if it were being commissioned by an automotive company for non-professional

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users. During the event, students face statistical tests - based on their design, business and cost presentations and dynamic track testing (acceleration, skid pad, autocross and endurance). Cars will compete with both combustion engines and electric traction, while a third group is solely dedicated to design evaluation without the presentation of a prototype.

The aim of the competition is to emphasize the skills and maturity of the teams in relation to their engineering knowledge, commitment, organisational skills and their understanding of timings, plus the coordination of design and the presentation of the product more than the competitiveness of the race. This is a constructive experience where students can learn dynamics of teamwork, with precise rules and deadlines that should be respected and to be put to the test on actual build and design phases of the prototype with all the difficulties that this entails.

The "five days" will begin with the opening ceremony at 9.00 pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July on the strait of the track. After welcoming the teams, the ceremony will host an **Autonomous Remote Parking demo by FCA** on the track. The continuation of the ceremony will be attended by the **Vice President of ANFIA Giuseppe Barile, Giampaolo Dallara**, founder of the namesake racing car manufacturer and the driver **Gianmaria Gabbiani**.

The event will end on the evening of Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup> with a closing ceremony on the final strait of the circuit, which will be attended by all the youngsters and during which the winners will be announced. Awards are presented in several categories, divided into classes (Combustion, Electric, Driverless or projects without car) and by type of test.

Among the special prizes awarded by the sponsors, is that for the best concept from an HMI point of view (human-machine interface) offered by **Lamborghini**, and one for the best car made with cost efficiency, offered by **Dallara**. Two prizes will be awarded by the **Abarth brand** for the Endurance & Efficiency race (one between the combustion engine cars and the other for the electric cars), in addition to a third given to the winner of the Trackdrive test reserved for driverless cars. The three winning teams will take part in a stage of the Abarth Selenia 2018 Trophy. Finally, **Teoresi Group** will award a prize to the most efficient and reliable technology for the optimization of control systems in electric and driverless vehicles and **ZF** to the most performing project in terms of safety.

The event will also include a series of side events: from workshops organized by sponsors and partners (see the program: <https://www.formula-ata.it/parallel-events/>), to **test drives organized by Abarth** for the whole duration of the event, at the **Track show** on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> at 2.00 pm, with FCA-Abarth and Dallara cars on display at the racetrack.

Some leisure time for the youngsters is also included in these events, such as the **Welcome "Pasta Party"** on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>, in the Varano de 'Melegari Party Area of the Pro loco, with the participation of **Barilla, Red Bull and Sammontana**.

For further information please visit the event website (<https://www.formula-ata.it/>), where you can find the full program (<https://www.formula-ata.it/official-schedule/>), the list of participants (<https://www.formula-ata.it/registered-teams/>) and all details related to the event.

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**ANFIA** - Italian Association of the Automotive Industry - is one of the leading Italian Trade Associations, members of CONFINDUSTRIA.

Born in March 1912, over these one hundred years, ANFIA mission has always been to represent the interests of its associate members and ensure effective communication between the Italian motor vehicle industries on the one hand, and the Public Administration and Italian political bodies on the other, with regard to all technical, economic, fiscal, legal, statistical and quality-related issues referred to the automotive sector.

The Association is structured in three product-based Groups, each one chaired by a President.

Components: motor vehicle parts and components manufacturers; Car Coachbuilders and Designers: companies working in the sector of design, engineering and style of motor vehicles and/or parts and components for the automotive sector; Motor vehicles: motor vehicles manufacturers in general, including trucks, trailers, camper vans, special means of transport.

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