

The first day of competition is always a busy one, and today did not fail to disappoint. The day started at 6:30 when we arrived at the Auto Club Speedway to secure a prime paddock location. After the paddock was set up, the team registered and continued on to sign up for technical inspection.

We ended up being third team to register and then 8th in tech. This got us in with the first batch of cars that were judged after much preparing and checking over of the car. We made it through tech on the first try without too much humming and hawing from the judges. This may actually be the first our team has ever passed inspection on the first try!

We then headed to the fuel station and were the first team in line for fuel. Unfortunately, the fuel had not been delivered today as it was supposed to. As a result we were unable to proceed on to the tilt table and weight stations as we were prepared to do. On top of this, it turns out that Sunoco is no longer providing the formula specific 93 octane fuel. Instead, it will be supplying a lower grade 91 octane fuel. Luckily this is not a major issue for our team although it may affect others.

Not having completed the tilt and weight stations leaves us having to rush tomorrow morning to be first in line again so that we can quickly get these minor tasks out of the way. That way we can get to the brake and noise test before we have to go to our design presentation at 10:30am. The plus side is that all the other teams are in the same boat as us so we aren't at any sort of disadvantage.

On another note, we put the 09 car on our scales today and measured a total vehicle weight of 453lbs. This was very pleasing news although we have our reservations as the only weight that matters to the judges is what gets put on the sticker when we go to the official weigh station tomorrow.

Tomorrow should be an action packed day. With the brake and noise test and our design, cost and business presentations, everyone on the team will be getting their fair bit of exercise. Stay tuned for more updates and enjoy the pictures below!



Josh during driver egress at the tech inspection booth



09 during the tech inspection



Yan sits in the car during a preliminary suspension setup