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July 2010 - Newsletter

Hi to all our Sponsors, Supporters, Crew, LSR Enthusiasts and friends, welcome to our July newsletter.

Boy have we been under the pump this month with completing house and workshop repairs after our Perth's biggest storm in 100 years. My wife Cheryl and I have been confined to caravan living for 3 months now and it's starting to wear thin. I would never have believed life could be so disruptive, unorganised and outright stressful. Anyway we are on a downhill run now and life should be back to normal within 2 weeks, so the tradespeople promise me. It will be fantastic to be back in our house and living normally again.

Despite all this, progress on our car has been very positive with Pete Taylor, Chris Demunck and Alex Mesics putting in a mammoth effort on several important areas, including front suspension, the canopy and the body panels.

Progress this month



The top-hat section with some of the angled fixings in place

Our friends at Rowe and Sons completed the rolling of our top-hat section T3 sheets and the 150 or so specially rolled angles pieces that attach the sheets to our car. The craftsmanship in making these is first class and they all fitted like a glove. The attaching angles were all individually drilled by Chris Demunck. Precision & accuracy were the main requirements to complete this work, thanks guys.





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The guys at Rowe and Sons rolling our T3 sheets for our top-hat section



Chris Demunck and I preparing to offer up the new panels



New panels positioned, but a lot of work still to do

The plan has always been to bond these panels onto the car with Sikaflex® adhesives. One of our team members is Daniel "Gags" Gallagher an ex RAAF guy who has been responsible for major structural airframe repairs on Australia's fighter aircraft fleet. Daniel paid us a visit a few





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<http://www.sika.com.au/>

weeks ago to oversee our fixing requirements and attachment ideas and he suggested we touch base with Sika's Technical Department. This was to double check that our ideas were on the same page as their ideal usage protocols as we would not want these sheets delaminating at high speed. Jason Bates from Sika's Perth office and Richard Buist from Sika Brisbane were very helpful with product knowledge and application methods, not to mention the donation of their great product, thank you guys.



Rosco with Jason Bates of Sika, offering technical advice and product

The CFD

Dan McKeon our teams CFD man has assembled a crack team of Mechanical Engineers from Curtin Universities Fluid Dynamics Research Group (FDRG) and iVec to assist us with some of the major hotspot areas on our racer that need some serious design and CFD calculations.

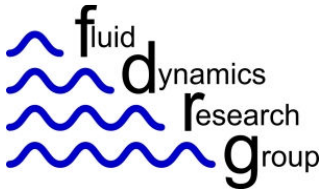
Certain features of our car have been set in concrete from the time of her inception, for example, centre of gravity, centre of area, front area profile, windscreen angle and location for rocket motor hardware and plumbing.





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The areas that are now being seriously investigated include nose and front wheel fairing, fin and tailplane angle, section and surface area, reflected shock wave from tailplane and "V" underbelly, variable pitch and down force adjustment front and rear, tailplane adjustment, canards (wings) for the front of the car and rear axle fairing options, just to mention a few. These unknowns all present engineering opportunities our new found friends to study and make recommendations on.



<http://fdrg.curtin.edu.au>

<http://www.ivec.org>



Pictured L to R - Dan McKeon (Aussie Invader), Dr Daniel Grimwood (iVec), Dr Andrew King (FDRG), Dr James Jewkes (FDRG) and Dr Ben Mullins (FDRG) and me.

Thank to the assembled team and your kind offer to help us achieve our goal, Dr Andrew King, Dr Ben Mullins, Dr James Jewkes and Dr Daniel Grimwood from iVec, welcome aboard guys.



<http://www.spoilerfactory.com.au>

The crew at the Spoiler Factory have completed our drivers' windshield canopy and are allowing a curing time of 2 weeks before separating the mould from the plug. It has been very cold here in Western Australia and we want to be assured that our mould stays in shape. Thank you Ferenc and crew for your great support and for the brilliant work you do.





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The canopy mould curing before separation

In The Media

ABC's Catalyst goes to air



The project received great exposure on ABC's Catalyst. The story went into my Drag Racing days, past LSR achievements and Donald Campbell, my inspiration for a 45 year quest to be the fastest man on the planet.

The ABC's broadcast lasted for over 7 minutes on national television and has really created a lot of interest in the project. The ABC's website has a full transcript of the interview with me and Dr Graham Phillips, with files you can download of the broadcast.

ABC's website:

<http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/2917531.htm>

YouTube: Watch the interview:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtSAyFM8R8A>





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The day after the Catalyst story aired, the phone did not stop ringing with several media organisations wanting radio interviews and to write other pieces on the project. The story even made it on to the front page of **news.com.au** and our website doubled the most visitors it has ever had in a day.

As the project progresses and there is more to see I expect this sort of interest to increase and hopefully so will the sponsorship.

News story in the UK magazine "How it Works"

The UK magazine *How it Works* has published a 4 page article on the race to 1000 mph. Aussie Invader is featured on page 3. This is the introduction to that article on the *How it Works* website:

"Three teams of world-class engineers from different corners of the globe – Great Britain, the United States and Australia – are all trying to smash the 1,000mph barrier and break the land speed record with their superfast rocket cars. We get under the hood of each vehicle and discover exactly how they will achieve their high-speed dreams."



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The full sized imagines are available to download, if you click on the page links below.

Page 1 - http://www.aussieinvader.com/attachments/Image/Latest_News/054_HIW_009.jpg

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The Aussie Invader Website

Our Project Manager and webmaster extraordinaire, Mark Read has handled loads of media inquiries this month and arranged for meetings, interviews and film shoots in our workshop, he





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has also received several sponsor enquiries from around Australia and handballed them onto our Marketing Manager Chris Osborne, fingers crossed we will be surging ahead very soon with a much needed cash injection into our project.

A new section on the <http://www.aussieinvader.com> websites' home page as been added that allows visitors to see what has been recently updated on the website, as so much is going on.

Before ending another newsletter, I must say a very special thank you to these companies' who have helped us out tremendously this month:

- **Rowe and Sons** for their first class work, based in Maddington WA.
- **Advanced Electrical Supplies** for supplying the T3 sheeting for our car.
- **Di Candilo's Steel City** for their great product and engineering assistance this month with our front suspension (*more about that next month*).
- **Sika Australia** for the donation of their great product and expert application advice.
- **Westrac** for their donation of some super heavy duty rose joints for our front suspension.

Until next month, be your very best...

Rosco McGlashan OAM
Fastest Aussie on Earth

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