

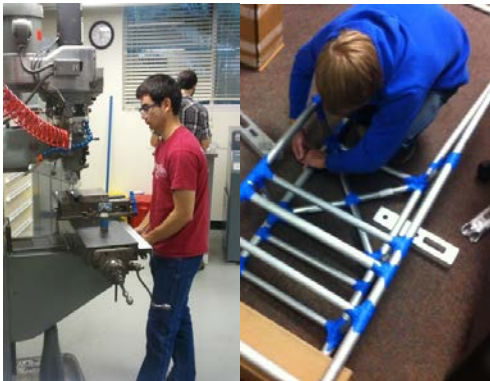


Nov. 15, 2013

This year is going to be an exciting one for the Solar Gators. We like to say it will be *the* year. The team is moving along quickly, and we expect the car to be completed by Summer 2014, where we will compete in the *American Solar Challenge*, an 8-day cross country race from Texas to Minnesota. This is going to be quite the challenge for our debut at the national competition, but we are embracing it with open arms.



Projected race route for the ASC. *Photo courtesy of Google*



Manufacturing and chassis mockup

Having already reached incredible milestones this semester, the team is excited but not complacent—there is a lot of work to be done. Still, we make sure to celebrate our victories. We have completed our structural designs, and thus ordered metal for the chassis. Upon receiving the metal, the team constructed a mockup with painter's tape. Additionally, we are well into the manufacturing process for the suspension systems. On the electrical front, we have ordered solar cells, generated a wiring diagram for the power electronics, and ordered a high-efficiency motor to optimize our performance at the competition.

Looking to the future, we have to finalize the design of the aerodynamic body and select a few other major electrical components. This will lead us into Spring, where we will be full speed ahead (pun intended) into manufacturing, implementing the solar cells, batteries, chassis, and body to create a full-sized solar powered vehicle.

We are looking forward to the updates we have in store for the future and keeping you posted along the way. This will be a journey you will not want to miss.

Have a great day,
The Solar Gators