



# insidetrack

the newsletter of the International Federation of Automotive Engineering Societies

## Christoph Huss

is FISITA's 26<sup>th</sup> President



## FISITA 2008

Congress goes from strength to strength



## Child's play

KidEngineer has the formula for making engineering fun



## FISITA's Night at the Museum



### Above, left to right

The Deutsches Museum is home to some of the world's most important and iconic vehicles.

New President, Christoph Huss, presents his predecessor, Dr. Saito, with an engraved silver dish to thank him for his service.

Biofuel? Delegates got to see some amazing old cars including example from the 1940s which is powered by wood and comes equipped with its own stove.

## FISITA Council delegates enjoyed their own 'Night at the Museum' at the end of the FISITA 2008 World Automotive Congress, with a dinner at the historic Deutsches Museum in Munich, organised by host society VDI.

The setting, among beautiful historic vehicles, provided a magnificent backdrop to the conclusion of the Council meetings which followed FISITA's most successful congress ever, with more than 1,800 delegates attending from 42 countries.

The dinner also marked the retirements of Prof. Nick Vaughan and Nobuo Okubo from the

FISITA Executive Board. Both men were presented with gifts by incoming FISITA President, Christoph Huss, as was Dr. Saito, marking the end of his two year term of office as FISITA President. The Deutsches Museum was founded more than 100 years ago by Oskar von Miller, and is one of the largest and most important natural science and technical collections in the world today.



# Christoph Huss is FISITA's 26<sup>th</sup> president

**Dipl.-Ing. Christoph Huss, BMW Group's Vice President Development Abroad, Type Approval and Traffic Management, has taken over as FISITA President for the 2008–10 term.**

"The problems we face are global. The action to solve them must be taken at a global level too."

**Dipl.-Ing. Christoph Huss**  
FISITA President

The official handover from Toyota's Dr. Akihiko Saito took place during the closing ceremony of the 2008 FISITA World Automotive Congress in Munich.

After receiving the FISITA baton from Dr. Saito, Huss told the international audience 'I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the delegates of all 39 member societies for entrusting me with the responsibility to lead our federation over the next two years.'

'I am convinced that FISITA must continue to grow and to continue to do much more in the future, if we want to make a significant contribution to the global efforts the industry is making, especially in the areas of energy, the environment and safety.'

He added that some of the challenges faced by the automotive industry today, including the development of alternative powertrains, are 'pushing at the very limits of current scientific and

engineering knowledge' and could herald 'a re-invention of the automobile.'

'The problems we face are global. The action to solve them must be taken at a global level too.'

## CV: Christoph Huss

- 1979** Graduated from the University of Applied Sciences, Cologne in 1979 with a degree in Vehicle Engineering, before gaining his Dipl.-Ing. in Safety Engineering from the University of Wuppertal.
- 1983** Joined BMW as an engineer specialising in international homologation
- 1985** Became Product Information Manager, Spokesman for Technology for BMW AG
- 1989** Became Spokesman for Technology for BMW of North America
- 1991** Returned to Germany as Manager Traffic/Safety in the company's Traffic and Environment unit
- 1997** Named Representative of the Board for Traffic and Environment at BMW AG
- 2002** Made Senior Vice President Science and Traffic Policy of the BMW Group
- 2008** Named Vice President for Development Abroad, Type Approval and Traffic Management at BMW Group

## Munich Congress is FISITA's most successful ever



**This year's FISITA 2008 World Automotive Congress has been the most successful in the organisation's 60 year history, with 1,800 delegates attending from 42 countries and 95 companies exhibiting.**

FISITA 2008, which took place at the ICM (International Congress Centre) in Munich, Germany, featured more than 400 technical presentations, including keynote speeches from Dr. Klaus Draeger (BMW Group), Dr. Thomas Weber



(Daimler AG) and Dr. Ulrich Hackenberg (Volkswagen).

Dr. Draeger, BMW Board Member responsible for development, talked about the spiralling costs involved in developing the technology needed for new electric vehicles, saying that the sums involved may be beyond what individual automakers can afford.

Dr. Weber, Head of R&D at Daimler and Mercedes Benz echoed this

view, calling on the industry to avoid costly duplication of research and development, saying that 'vehicle programme managers need to agree on common technical standards for electric vehicle platforms and components.'

Congress Chairman, Dr. Michael Paul, who is ZF Friedrichshafen's Chief Technical Officer said, 'FISITA is ideally placed to provide the neutral platform for technical co-operation among the world's



automotive engineers, within the vehicle and supply industries and also in the academic community.'

The Congress was opened by German Transport Minister, Wolfgang Tiefensee.

Video highlights from the congress can be seen at: [www.fisita2008](http://www.fisita2008)

and the proceedings are available from the FISITA bookstore: [www.fisita.com/bookstore](http://www.fisita.com/bookstore)

## Get ready for Budapest

# FISITA 2010

**World Automotive Congress**  
30 May – 4 June, Budapest, Hungary



Andor Paizer, Chairman of FISITA 2010, receives the FISITA flag from Dr. Michael Paul during the closing ceremony of this year's congress in Munich.

Now is the time to start thinking about your paper for the next FISITA World Automotive Congress in Budapest.

Host society GTE have already circulated the Call for Papers and are inviting abstract submissions in the following areas:

- Environmentally friendly vehicles
- Vehicle design and development
- Test, simulation and calculation methods of vehicles and components
- Safety on roads
- Intelligent systems in road traffic
- Buses, trucks and heavy vehicles
- Vehicle standards, regulations, legislation
- Efficient production and operation of vehicles and components

More than 1,200 engineers and scientists submitted abstracts for FISITA 2008 so competition is likely to be strong and potential authors are advised to get in early!

Go on-line to now to submit your abstract and get the latest information on the Congress:

[www.fisita2010.com](http://www.fisita2010.com)

### FISITA 2010: key dates

#### 2009

20 June	Deadline for abstract submission
30 September	Notification to authors
31 October	Publication of the Preliminary Programme

#### 2010

15 March 2010	Deadline for submission of final papers
30 May 2010	FISITA 2010



## FISITA HQ provides web platform for EAEC Congress

“We’re proud that EAEC have chosen to use our system and we’re glad to offer them all the help and support we can.”

**Kelly Williams**  
Executive Officer, FISITA



**FISITA's Kelly Williams travelled to Bratislava to assist in the establishment of the web site for the 12th EAEC European Automotive Congress in Bratislava, organised by SAITS.**

She was joined by FISITA's web designer, Andrew Green, to explain the architecture of FISITA's own congress web system, which SAITS are using to deliver EAEC 2009. The custom-made system allows on-line management of every aspect of the congress, including paper submission and on-line evaluation, grading and selection.

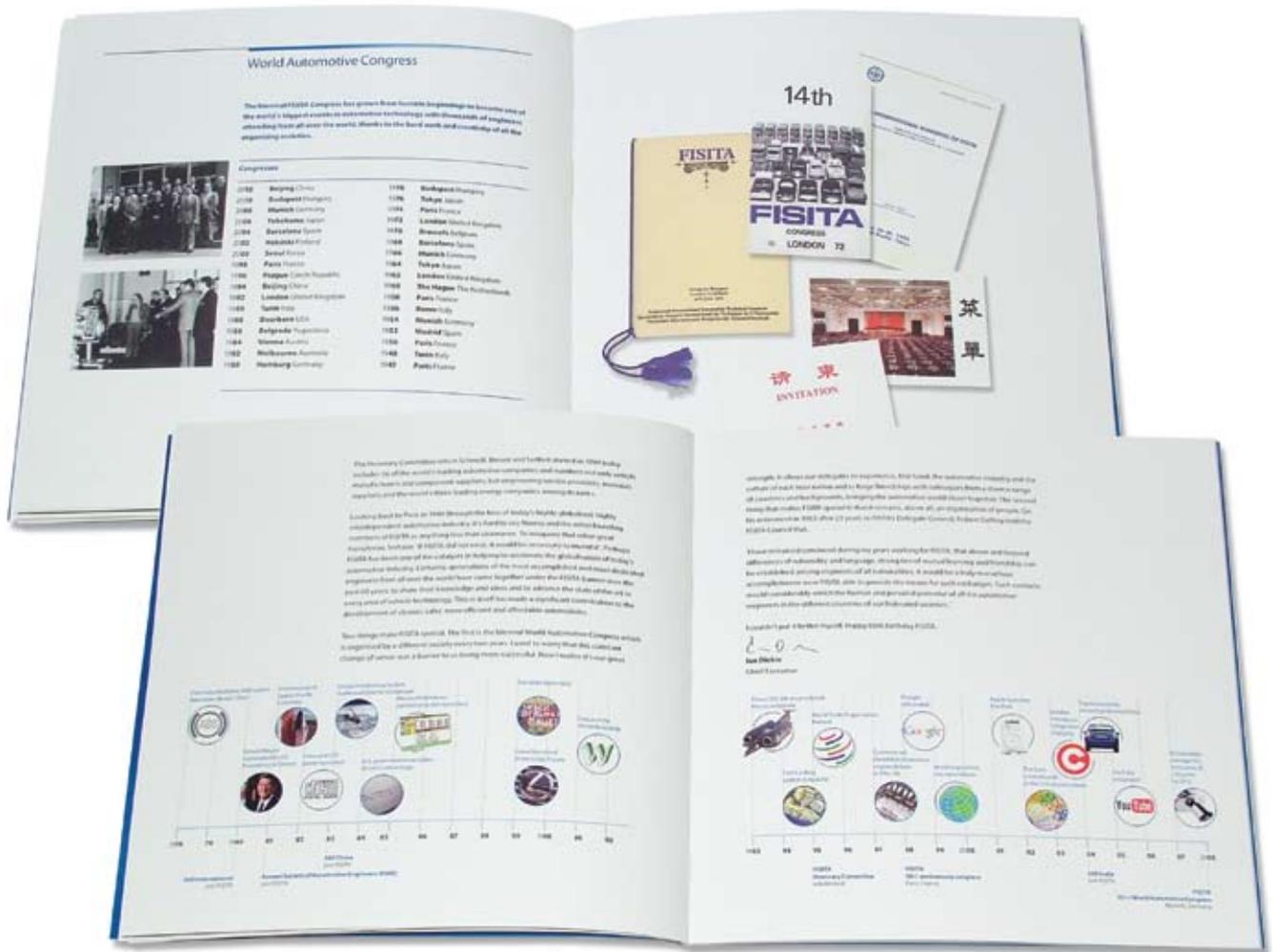
Present to learn about the workings of the web site were EAEC President Günter Hohl and SAITS President Jan Lesinsky, as well as members of the organising team and PCO INTENZIVA.

Kelly said, ‘We have been developing our own specialised web platform since before the FISITA 2004 Congress in Barcelona, and it has evolved into a really effective tool to manage, as well as to promote, an international conference. We’re proud that EAEC have chosen to use our system and we’re glad to offer them all the help and support we can.’

#### Above, left to right

Tibor Budvesel, MD Intenziva Ltd;  
Dr.-Ing. Jan Lesinsky, President SAITS;  
Brig. Prof. Guenter Hohl, President EAEC,  
Andrew Green from Article 7,  
Anna Janoskova from Intenziva Ltd  
and Dr.-Ing. Eduardo Rojko from SAITS.

# FISITA @ 60



**This year marks FISITA's 60th anniversary – and to celebrate the event a special commemorative book has been produced called 'FISITA @ sixty.'**

Presented in full colour throughout, the book features a short history of FISITA from our humble beginnings in Paris in 1948, through to the present day. There is also information about the evolution of

FISITA's membership and the history of the World Congress, as well as a roll-call of all past FISITA presidents. Copies of the book were given to all participants at FISITA 2008 Congress in Munich.

To obtain your free copy, please contact **Charlotte King: c.king@fisita.com**

## SIA throws some light on night driving



**French society SIA set its sights on night driving with its VISION congress which took place in October.**

SIA organises the Vehicle and Infrastructure Safety Improvement in Adverse Conditions and Night Driving (VISION) congress every two years, and this year's event took place at Versailles outside Paris.

The event concentrated on three broad areas considered crucial for safe driving in the dark:

- factors relating to accidents and human reactions
- lighting systems
- detection systems/human machine interface/ infrastructure.

Delegates had the opportunity to participate in night driving tests and some of the industry's top companies were represented, including PSA Peugeot Citroën, Renault, Hitachi Ltd, Siemens VDO Austria, NEC Electronics Europe, Audi BMW Group and Volkswagen AG.



## The formula for making engineering fun

“It is vitally important that we start to encourage future scientists today, and this event is designed for school children to learn about object creation and science while having fun through real automobile experiences.”

**Masashi Yukawa**  
JSAE



**JSAE has created an imaginative new event in an effort to get young people hooked on automotive engineering at an early age.**

Called KidEngineer 2008, the event was aimed at elementary school children in years one to six (between the ages of 6 to 12) as a way of making engineering fun, and sowing the seeds of an engineering future in young minds. Staged at the Pacifico Yokohama in Japan over the course of two days, admission to KidEngineer 2008 was free – and the event attracted an incredible 5,000 children and parents.

Some of the activities kids could try included riding in a fuel-cell car, learning about seat-belt safety and playing soccer with radio-controlled cars! All the experiments and projects demonstrated at KidEngineer 2008 can be recreated by the students themselves in their own classrooms.



Masashi Yukawa of JSAE explained, ‘A lack of interest in automobiles and science among young people has become a source of concern as the potential cause of a shortage of scientists in the future.’

‘It is vitally important that we start to encourage future scientists today, and this event is designed for school children to learn about object creation and science while having fun through real automobile experiences.’

Mr. Yukawa added that JSAE had received many applications for its Classroom Programme, which provides students with the opportunity to perform experiments and create their own projects at school.

KidEngineer has its own website:  
[www.jsae.or.jp/kidseng](http://www.jsae.or.jp/kidseng)

## KIVI-NIRIA to host FISITA 2014 in Maastricht



Maastricht is famous for its bikes but in 2014 the city will play host to thousands of automotive engineers

**No-one could of accuse FISITA of not planning its congresses well in advance, and at this September's Council Meeting, delegates voted unanimously to award the 2014 Congress to Netherlands society, KIVI-NIRIA, who will host the 35th Congress in Maastricht in September of 2014. The successful bid was presented by Prof. Dr. Jac Wismans, FISITA Council Delegate from KIVI-NIRIA and the head of SAFETEQ, a consulting company in automotive safety.**

Maastricht is a city and a municipality in the Dutch province of Limburg, of which it is the capital. The city is situated on both sides of the Meuse river in the south-eastern part of the Netherlands, near the Belgian and German borders. Maastricht has nearly 120,000 inhabitants and almost as many bicycles.

There is some discussion as to whether Maastricht is the oldest city of the Netherlands: Nijmegen is currently considered the oldest city mainly as it was the first

settlement to receive Roman city rights. Maastricht as a settlement is at least 500 years older but never received Roman city rights.

But there is no questioning Maastricht's status as a centre of tradition, history and culture, and is popularity with tourists and congress visitors alike for its many shopping and recreation opportunities.

The FISITA Congress has been held in the Netherlands just once before, in the Hague in 1960.

### 5 minutes with Takao Kubozuka



**Name:** Takao Kubozuka

**Age:** 56

**Role:** Executive Director, JSAE

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

#### When did you first become interested in automotive engineering?

It started when I joined Nissan in 1976. When noise regulations became stricter in Japan, we worked on reducing the noise produced by the radiator and cooling fan. Through this research work I recognised how steep a mountain the technical side of car development was to climb. I became aware that the development of car technology was the best way of demonstrating this commitment to the world. I found the creative process of developing a car through a new development very exciting – using state-of-the-art technology to find a technical solution.

#### What ambitions do you have for JSAE?

JSAE has grown to become Japan's largest society in the engineering field, with a membership of more than 40,000 achieved through the efforts of many people here. My mission is to improve the presence of JSAE through new services meeting the needs of our members even more than ever before. And because of this, we will continue to grow the membership.

#### What is the most important challenge faced by the society?

University students in Japan are showing less interest in engineering than before. It is also said that the science is not popular with schoolchildren. Industry, the Japanese educational system and the government will be working together and make this a top priority. JSAE intends to positively address the challenge of making engineering as fascinating as possible, and stimulate students' minds. In this way we can continue to develop the top-class engineers who will become the future of engineering and science in Japan.

#### What do you like about working in Japan?

I like the corporate culture of Japan where the development of technology leads to the introduction of new products to enrich people's lives. I am proud of Japanese spirit of manufacturing which originated in the great tradition of Japanese craftsmanship (Takumi).

#### What do you do when you are not working at JSAE?

I like to travel around world and experience the heritage of places I've never been to before. For instance, Mont-Saint-Michel in France was wonderful. I would like to go to The Lines and Geoglyphs of Nazca, and the 'city in the air' Machu Picchu in Peru.

#### If you could drive any car in the world, what would it be?

I'm fascinated by cars that introduce us to a new era in motoring; something like an electric vehicle with performance matching or exceeding a conventional petrol engine.



# FISITA / PIARC Session at ITS World Congress



- Shelley Row  
Director, ITS Joint Program Office, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, USA
- J. Martin Rowell  
FISITA Liaison to PIARC, USA
- Richard Harris  
Technical Director, WSP Group, UK
- Hironao Kawashima  
Professor, Science and Technology, Keio University, Japan



**Above:** Mike Noblett of Connexis was Chairman of the successful ITS 2008 World Congress

**This November's ITS World Congress in New York was a major event by any standards, with more than 8,000 participants from the automotive and mobility industries joining delegates from the infrastructure world and public authorities to hear about the latest advances in Intelligent Transportation Systems.**

The congress organisers even closed five blocks of 11th Avenue in Midtown Manhattan so that automakers could exhibit their latest ITS safety applications, including the latest Advanced Driver Assistance Systems and automatic crash avoidance technologies.

The packed programme included a special Executive Session on the PIARC/FISITA Task Force on Intelligent Cooperative Systems. The session, moderated by leading PIARC member, John Miles, was lively and well attended, featuring presentations from:

Throughout the world, vehicle operators want their driving to be made safer, easier, quicker, more productive, and more efficient. The PAIRC/FISITA session reported on the progress so far of the task force on Vehicle Infrastructure Integration/ Cooperative Vehicle Highway Systems/Intelligent Cooperative Systems and hopefully encouraged other stakeholders to become involved.

Discussion focussed on promoting a more active collaboration between automotive engineers (represented by FISITA) and the public sector road infrastructure builders and operators (represented by PIARC) with support from the global ITS Community.

Anyone wishing to know more about the PIARC/FISITA Joint Task Force should contact:  
**Martin Rowell: rowell@t-online.de**

**Top and left:** Delegates were able to experience the latest ITS technologies in action on Manhattan's 11th Avenue

Throughout the world, vehicle operators want their driving to be made safer, easier, quicker, more productive, and more efficient.



## Prof. Anatoliy Karunin celebrates 70th birthday in style

**On October 22, 2008, distinguished guests and colleagues from every major Russian automotive company and university gathered at the Moscow State Technical University 'MAMI' to celebrate the 70th birthday of former Rector, Anatoliy Karunin (right), FISITA Council Delegate of Russian society, AAE.**

In a long and distinguished career starting at MAMI in 1961, Prof. Karunin progressed from a humble assistant lecturer to become Rector of the leading Russian university for engineering education.

As head of MAMI from 1988 to March of 2008, he faced the difficult post-USSR changes and was successful in leading the University through this often turbulent period, protecting and fostering the prestigious institution with its proud history of scientific discovery.

Today MAMI competes with the very best scientific universities in the 21st century.

Prof. Karunin continues to serve as a vice-president of AAE, where he is responsible for engineering education and relations with international organisations.

## News in brief

### Australia

SAE-Australasia has moved offices, and is now based at: Level 2, Suite B, 70 Dorcas Street, Southbank, Vic 3006, Australia

The telephone number is now +61 3 9696 5190, while all existing e-mail addresses remain the same.

### Japan

JSAE Japan and SAE International have issued call for papers for the Small Engine Technology Conference (SETC) 2009, with a deadline for abstracts of 31 January 2009. The event takes place at the Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hotel Equatorial in Penang from 3–5 November 2009. SETC 2009 also has the support of the Motorcycle and Scooter Assemblers and Distributors Association of Malaysia.

### Hungary

Prof. Günter Hohl, Vice President Europe – FISITA and President of EAEC, has been made an Honorary Member of the Hungarian Scientific Society of Mechanical Engineering (GTE) in recognition of his valued support of last year's EAEC 2007 Congress in Budapest.

## APAC 15 Hanoi

**The Vietnamese Society of Automotive Engineers has announced the deadline for the submission of abstracts for the 15th Asia Pacific Automotive Engineering Conference (APAC 15) is 20 February 2009.**

The conference itself takes place in Hanoi from 26-28 October 2009. APAC 15 will focus on solutions for sustainable mobility for people and goods in all areas of transportation.

The theme will be Safety, Environment and New Technology for Future Automobiles.

Special emphasis will be placed on the development of future powertrain systems, conservation of the environment and energy resources, as well as new vehicle concepts, materials, electronics and essential improvements in vehicle safety.

Time will be devoted to discussing the product creation process, including virtual reality techniques, simulation and testing methods.

Further information:  
[www.apac15.vn](http://www.apac15.vn)



# Young team in charge at Czech society



In collaboration with FISITA HQ, CAS successfully tested the new time schedule of Board, Committee and Council Meeting of FISITA.

**Branko Remek, PhD.**  
CAS – President

## CAS President, Dr. Branko Remek, tells InsideTrack how his society is developing.

The history and tradition of the Czech Automotive Society is not quite as long as that of some FISITA societies. CAS was founded in the year 1966 by a small group of top engineers in the Research Center of the Czech Automotive Industry. At that time the main idea was to maintain contact with other societies of automotive engineers represented in FISITA.

Following the great political changes in 1989, CAS won the right to organise the XXVI FISITA

Congress 1996 in Prague, which was both a great honor and a challenge. To prepare a top quality programme and organisation was very hard work, but the success of the congress was really great and made it all worthwhile.

In the new millennium the main topic for CAS is the generation change and a new organisation structure with working groups in each important region of the Czech Republic. The position of the Czech automotive industry, with the major producers such as Avia, Irisbus, Skoda, Tatra and many other OEMs, is now strong

and stable, and CAS has representatives in most important companies. A FISITA Council meeting was organised by CAS in September last year and was a test of our young team on the CAS Board. In collaboration with FISITA HQ, CAS successfully tested the new time schedule of Board, Committee and Council Meeting of FISITA. And CAS representatives are active in three committees of FISITA, Education, Internal Relations and Technical.

For the future, the CAS Executive Board is considering a bid to hold another FISITA World Congress in the years to come.

## About CAS

### Status

Czech Automotive Society (CAS-SAE) is an NGO and NPO uniting technicians and engineers within the automotive industry.

### Main activities

- To act as platform for information within branch
- To organise seminars, conferences and lectures
- To distribute of topical branch information

### CAS is member of

- SAP-AIA (Automotive Industry Association in Czech Republic)
- CSVTS (Czech Association of scientific and technical societies)
- FISITA
- EAEC
- SAE International

### CAS Executive Board

President & CAS Delegate: Branko Remek, PhD

Vice President & International relations: Miloš Polášek, PhD

Vice President & Treasurer: Zdeněk Novak

Secretary: Ondřej Vaculin, PhD.

### FISITA delegates

FISITA Education Committee: Luděk Hyncik, PhD

FISITA Technical Committee: David Kollhammer, PhD

# IMechE's John Wood and his passion for hillclimbing



## I ♥ MY CAR

I get more fun out of the engineering of the car as it's clear I'm not the next Lewis Hamilton!

If you are in love with a car, please tell us about it: [insidetrack@fisita.com](mailto:insidetrack@fisita.com)

### How did you get started in hillclimbing?

I've enjoyed racing as an amateur since the 1960s, having been inspired as a boy by an uncle who raced at weekends. I rebuilt a damaged hillclimber as a youngster and there was no looking back. My racing ambitions were put on hold in the '70s while stationed in the army in Germany, and as a concession to my wife, I agreed not to return to circuit racing on our return to the UK in the '80s – so I once again turned to hillclimbing.

### Tell us about your cars

The older is an Eric Bachelart/Philippe Adams Ralt RT3. It's led an eventful life. Bachelart, the famous Belgian racing driver, crashed the Formula 3 car at Spa in in the 1980s. At the time, Autosport magazine declared the car to be 'a total write-off.' Well I've got news for them: it wasn't quite a total write-off! We've been together for years now and I'll be sad to part with her, but it's probably time to find her a new home.

I also have a 1997 Dallara which is an F397 Formula 3 car that was originally sold to the Japanese Three Bond team to race in their domestic F3 series. Having achieved very little in terms of results in Japan, the Dallara was flown to the UK where it was converted for hillclimb use.

It's now powered by a two-litre Vauxhall XE motor, which develops 250bhp and has reached speeds of up to 110mph on some of the tight, twisty hillclimb courses.

### What do you love about the Dallara?

I get more fun out of the engineering of the car as it's clear I'm not the next Lewis Hamilton!

The Dallara is my eighth hillclimber, and it's great fun building up a car.

It's so beautifully engineered. With a lot of racing cars you have to manhandle some parts to get them to fit, but it is so easy with this one. It has been built with aerospace precision. I've had to adjust the pedals and transmission so I can function in it (being 6ft 4in tall). And I also removed fifth and reverse gears, so there is no risk of losing fractions of seconds by accidentally moving too far across the gate.

The modern chassis are brilliant. We use very soft sprint tyres and soft-rated springs, and this car is an absolute delight to drive.

I keep detailed notes of the modifications I've made, and how these affect the times. I've managed to shave nearly 3/10ths of a second off my personal record at the Shelsey Walsh Speed Hill Climb (the British Grand Prix of the hillclimb world) this year, from 29.76s to 29.48s. Like everyone who races, I tell myself it's just for fun but the competitive streak's always there!

Photo courtesy of Rhodopsin Photography

## Competition



**Last time we asked you in what year was the SAE World Congress first held in Detroit.**

The answer was 1933.

Congratulations to Tanja Teloy, Assistant at VDI-FVT in Düsseldorf, Germany, who is the lucky winner of a Pure Detroit 'Motor City' T-shirt. This time we're offering the chance to win a highly collectible model of Thrust SSC – the world's first supersonic car. Just answer the following question:

Recently, engineer Richard Noble and driver Andy Green, holders of the current landspeed world record with Thrust SSC, announced a project to create a car capable of reaching 1,000 miles per hour.

What is the name of the new car?

Email your answer to [insidetrack@fisita.com](mailto:insidetrack@fisita.com)

Good luck!

## insidetrack

Published by FISITA – the International Federation of Automotive Engineering Societies

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**Chief Executive**  
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## Contact Update

**Prof. Richard Folkson** is the new Chairman of the IMechE Automobile Division.

**Mr. Yonatan Oron** has taken over as Secretary of ISME-AS.

**Mr. David Ryan** is the new Executive Director of SAE Australasia, taking over from Manny Stamatopoulos.

**Ms. Marissa Mascaro** has joined SAE Australasia as Events Manager.

**Mr. M S Kumar** is the new President of SAE India.

**Dr. Ing. Gunadi Sindhuwinata** is now Exc. VP, IATO

**Ing. Marius Pitigoi** is a new Vice President of SIAR.

## FISITA diary

20–21 April 2009

**Executive Board**  
Detroit – SAE Congress

29 June–1 July 2009

**EAEC**  
Bratislava, Slovak Republic

26–28 October 2009

**APAC**  
Hanoi, Vietnam



[www.fisita.com](http://www.fisita.com)