



June 15, 2015

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80 DAY RACE TO START IN PARIS

PARIS, June 15, 2015 - 80 Day Race has announced during a press conference in Hôtel de Ville in Paris that the French capital city will have the honour to host the start and finish event of 80 Day Race, the first around the globe sustainable competition in which teams cover 40,000 kilometres by using land-based vehicles that do not consume fossil fuel and do not contain a combustion engine.

80 Day Race is inspired by Jules Verne's famous book '*Around the world in 80 days*', betting that new means of transportation make it possible to achieve this challenge. Starting from Paris in front of the Eiffel Tower in April, 2017, teams are free to choose their own route to circumnavigate the globe between eight major cities in which events will take place, such as qualifying events, an educational programme and tradeshows.

The news was made public in front of selected guests and media in the City Hall of Paris. Anne Hidalgo, mayor of Paris, emphasised the importance of the race: "I am very proud to host 80 Day Race in Paris. This race around the world in sustainable vehicles fully corresponds with the values we pursue. The development of e-mobility is one of the major challenges of our century and I'm sure 80 Day Race will accelerate the development of new means of transport. Because, beyond the incredible human adventure that represents this event, it is a real technological challenge that is offered to the teams. And, I admit, I can not wait to see the result!"

Reflecting on the announcement, Frank Manders, co-founder and general director of 80 Day Race, said: "With 80 Day Race we start a great new adventure and what better place to start this adventure than Paris? Paris is associated with great adventures, be it the first Peking to Paris race in 1907, or the New York to Paris Atlantic flight by Charles Lindbergh. Now with all the challenges of the modern day, Paris has its sights on the future. 80 Day Race is a modern day adventure, pioneering new possibilities created by new technology. Great adventures have always inspired people and that is exactly what we aim to do. When we inspire the future generation, the future can be bright and clean!"

Hubert Auriol, three-time Dakar Rally winner and organiser of the China Grand Rally, has joined 80 Day Race. He said: "When I first heard about 80 Day Race, I had the same feeling as 30 years ago when Thierry Sabine announced he would organise a new race between Paris and Dakar. A crazy thought at first, but it happened and it's still alive! At that time, I knew I had to participate and I did. It changed my life. 80 Day Race represents the same adventurous challenge, but it's updated to what concerns us all today and that's the climate change. The event will be a great race with the aim to accelerate clean technology. The winner, who first arrives back in Paris, will leave an ever lasting legacy by proving that e-mobility holds the future of transportation, the future for our and the next generations."

Other speakers were Albert Bosch (ESP), Eric Vigouroux (FRA/USA), Mate Rimac (Rimac Automobili) (HRV) and Texas van Leeuwenstein (STORM Eindhoven) (NED) expressing their interest in the race and preparing their participation. The Dutch entry already assembles world's first battery-electric touring motorcycle with the aim to win the first edition.

80 Day Race will continue its preparation to secure seven other major cities and, in cooperation with the city of Paris, a pre-event will be organised in spring 2016. This event will include a presentation of the participating teams and vehicles, but also a first taste of what to expect of the education programme.

WHY A RACE?

80 Day Race is inspired by Jules Verne's book 'AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS', betting that new means of transportation make it possible to achieve this challenge. At that time, in 1873, horses were about to be replaced by steam powered vehicles.

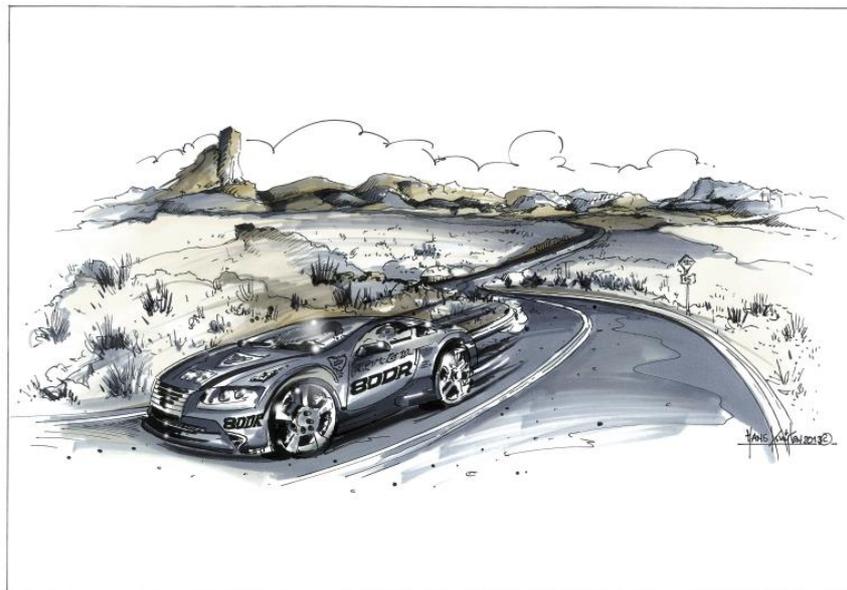
"Anything one man can imagine, other men can make real."

Jules Verne

We are facing another tipping point in history with the first mass market electric vehicles being available to substitute traditional means of transportation. 80 Day Race challenges mankind to push boundaries of technology by creating the pinnacle of sustainable global racing. Teams will race around the world in 80 days in land-based vehicles that do not run on fossil fuel and do not contain a combustion engine.

80 Day Race will be the most exciting race around the world of this era: to contribute to a future in which mobility is solely reliant on renewable resources. The four pillars on which the race is based, are:

- Mobility is changing rapidly and will have to develop even faster with the diminishing supply of conventional fuel
- The best way to push and stimulate development is through worldwide competition
- Introducing new technology and products to the bigger audience gain the most positive results when presented in association with an exciting or fun experience
- People have their personal dreams and ambitions. They idolize the people that 'live the dream' and embrace the brands and tools that have created that opportunity



JULES VERNE

In 1873 Jules Verne published the novel “Le tour du monde en quatre-vingt jours” betting that new means of transportation make it possible to travel around the world in 80 days. At the time this seemed science fiction using power steamers and ‘high-speed’ trains. Today, with modern technology this is no longer a challenge but the novel still inspires adventurers all over the world. Now our world of mobility is facing new challenges and solutions seems science fiction; hydrogen powered cars, battery electric vehicles, solar boats and planes. A great start for a new adventure.

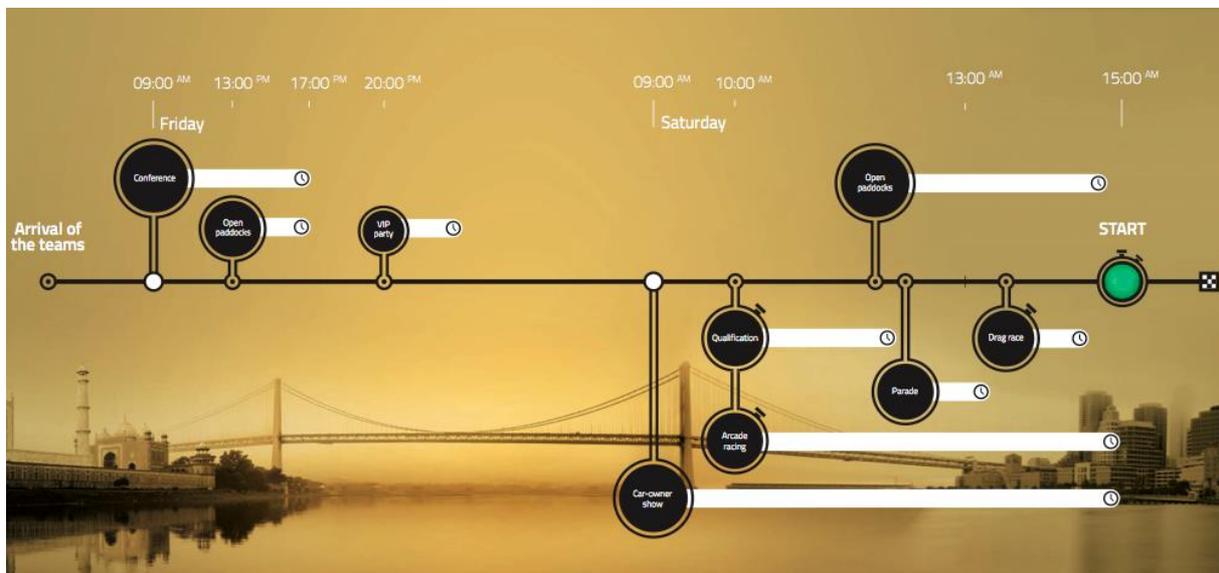
“Anything one man can imagine, other men can make real.”
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We are facing another tipping point in history with the first mass market electric vehicles being available to substitute traditional means of transportation. 80 Day Race challenges mankind to push boundaries of technology by creating the pinnacle of sustainable global racing. Teams will race around the world in 80 days in land-based vehicles without using a single drop of fossil fuel.

ROUTE

The teams will start in Paris and will be heading east in the direction of China. Each team is free to choose its own route, to make the adventure even greater. From Asia, the teams will cross the North Pacific Ocean to arrive at the west coast of North America where the half way mark will be celebrated. Teams race through a variety of landscapes towards South America, before heading to Africa and back to Europe for the final sprint to the finish in Paris.

All 8 legs of the 80 Day Race will finish and start in a major city in the world. These cities will host significant events; a combination of competitive challenges for the teams and entertaining elements in a two-day programme focussed on various target audiences.



RULES AND REGULATIONS

The basic rules and regulations that teams have to meet are designed to stimulate creativity, innovation and inventiveness. For example all teams will start simultaneously to race from one of the 8 stopover cities to the next; the route they take between these locations however is for the team to decide.

TEAMS AND VEHICLES

Teams will consist of at least two persons, the Team Captain will travel the entire distance of the race and the Vice Captain can be changed during the stopovers. A media team member, selected by 80 Day Race, will travel along with the crew to supply the world with the latest photos, video diaries and stories.

All vehicles have to be propelled by renewable resources and are not allowed to have a combustion engine. Teams may change vehicles at the stopovers, but all vehicles need to be approved by 80 Day Race before the start of the race.

The race vehicles are allowed to cross water sections via publicly available ferries and/or trains, up to a maximum distance of 200 kilometres per crossing. Moving the vehicles more than 50 meters by other means, like towing or pushing, result in disqualification for the leg in which the vehicle has moved.

Teams are required to take one consecutive rest period of a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 8 hours during every 24-hour period. The rest periods are not counted as race time. During a rest period, a race team is allowed to do recharging, maintenance, media tasks and other related duties.

And of course, teams will have to respect the local legislation and cultural habits at all times.

OCEAN CROSSINGS

Certain ocean crossings are facilitated by 80 Day Race. This includes the Pacific and Atlantic crossing and additional crossings may be facilitated. For these crossings each team will receive the same amount of time added to their race time.

QUALIFICATION

A challenging qualification event is held prior to each leg. In order to discourage purpose built qualification race vehicles, these vehicles also have to be used in one or more legs. A time penalty will be given when a team fails to complete the qualification event.

WHO WILL WIN?

Teams will be ranked by the amount of time travelled during the race, which includes the qualification events. Thus, the team with the least amount of race time earns the title '80 Day Race winner' and will be awarded during the prize giving ceremony.

TEAMS

The following candidate teams are preparing their entry in 80 Day Race.

Texas van Leeuwenstein (NED) - Initiator of STORM Eindhoven

"As students of the Eindhoven University of Technology, we belong to a new breed of engineers that has the means, ideas and ambition to conquer the world. We believe the key to change mentality towards sustainable mobility, is to let people experience it. In September 2014 we set out with our multidisciplinary team of 30 students to develop, what is in our vision, the perfect vehicle to win the 80 Day Race and show everyone around the world the advantages that sustainable mobility has to offer. We ended up with what will be the first electric touring motorcycle in the world. The 80 Day Race is a perfect opportunity to showcase our vision, motorcycle and the experience. We are confident that the out-of-the-box approach of our generation can make the difference for sustainable mobility in the future."

Mate Rimac (HRV) - CEO and founder of Rimac Automobili

"For Rimac, pushing boundaries and exploring the unknown is an integral part of our business philosophy. From building the first electric BMW to creating the latest 1.1MW Pikes Peak race car, we always try to amaze. When building Concept_One I think we delivered on all accounts! 80 Day Race is also about pushing boundaries and exploring the unknown, and with Rimac's racing heritage it seems an obvious fit to enter in this race. We are here to show that an electric mobility future is exciting and that Rimac has what it takes to deliver the technology to achieve that."

Albert Bosch (ESP) - successful Spanish adventurer and entrepreneur

"As an adventurer I've always admired big personal challenges, but I also never forgot the purpose it must serve for the rest of society. The adventures should show the world what is possible if you are determined and have a will to achieve something. For example, I've made all my adventures CO2 neutral by trying to avoid emissions in the first place, but then compensating the CO2 output if there is really no other way. One of my adventures was entering the famous Dakar rally in a 100% electric vehicle in 2015. Now, since I've raced fully electric, I don't want to return to combustion engines in any of my adventures, so a race like 80 Day Race is a welcome opportunity to enter the next big adventure and show case the future of mobility."

Eric Vigouroux (FRA/USA) - successful off-road racing driver and team manager

"80 Day Race is the only global competition promoting important values such as adventure and clean mobility and want to be part of it. I think it has the potential to become the next big sports challenge in the world and I really enjoy that! There is even a more personal reason to join. As I'll turn 50 this year, my wife and I have four kids and I want to demonstrate that it is never too late to start doing things a better way. I want to make a difference in this world and to give my career a new direction for the years to come by promoting renewable energies. I feel like 80 Day Race is the perfect platform for that. I believe that attending the first edition will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to make history!"

EDUCATION

Both 80 Day Race and Greenpower Education Trust aim to inspire engineers in the development of sustainable mobility. A partnership accelerates Greenpower's expansion worldwide and helps 80 Day Race to increase the excitement about the race.

The highly successful Greenpower Challenge allows young people to design, build and race a single seat electric car, providing them with a unique hands-on opportunity to engage in engineering. This proven project in the United Kingdom uses the excitement of motorsport to inspire students from primary school through to university to excel in science, technology, engineering and mathematical studies.

"80 Day Race is a very creative worldwide project. The children can follow the race, understand the technology on which it rests, and may well be inspired to invent the next vehicles of tomorrow. We are delighted to be involved in this fabulous adventure," said Jeremy Way, CEO of Greenpower.

MEDIA PRODUCTION

While teams are travelling through different city centres, landscapes and continents, cameras will capture their great adventures. A media crew member, selected by 80 Day Race, will travel along with the teams to ensure that every detail will be recorded. Not only in text and photos, but also video production will be essential for spreading daily updates.

The 80 Day Race media production partners assist the teams in producing the best possible moving pictures and will ensure that everything will be well documented in order to compile an extraordinary broadcast for television.

New Earth Films is a Dutch based, but British rooted production company which produces content for international broadcasters from Discovery Channel to National Geographic. Its focus is on genres from Adventure, Culture, Travel and Wildlife. Having worked in over 130 countries and has the field experience and expertise to deliver story of the unfolding expedition.

New Earth Films has delivered to International broadcasters various observational documentaries from locations from Greenland to Mt Everest.

Von Planta Productions is based in London and is owned by the Swiss filmmaker Claudio Von Planta. Claudio is probably best known for filming and directing Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman in the highly successful TV series called 'Long Way Round' and 'Long Way Down' where Claudio directed and filmed most of the adventures from the back of his BMW motorbike.

Von Planta Productions also delivered to BBC World a series following the journey along the Pan-American Highway of a team of student engineers from Imperial College London as they drove their fully electric race car the SRZero.

MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What started as an idea being tweeted mid-November 2010, developed in an organisation powered by passionate and experienced professionals to organise 80 Day Race: a race around the world in which participants push the technological boundaries to complete 40,000 kilometres sustainably. No combustion engines are allowed to circumnavigate the globe while racing between eight iconic cities starting in 2017.

HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH THE IDEA OF ORGANISING THIS EVENT?

“In November 2010, Jenny and I watched the Jacky Chan movie ‘Around the World in 80 Days’, a modern day version of the Jules Verne classic. We already organised sustainable rallies and a race around the world in 80 days would take it to the next level. The next day we looked back on the idea and we thought we should take that forward to actually do something with it rather than leaving it on the table. We decided it would be the best if we would make it into a competition. We developed the basic idea into a business plan and participated in the largest business plan contest in the Netherlands hosted by McKinsey and the Ministry of Economic Affairs. With over 200 entries we entered the top twenty with our three-page business plan. That was the feedback we needed and from that point we started on further developing the concept of 80 Day Race.”

HAVE YOU ORGANISED EVENTS BEFORE?

“We already organised sustainable rallies for charity. The most successful was Rotterdam to Rome on used cooking oil. We organised it for four years and we raised over 100,000 Euro for charity. But we found that it didn’t have the impact we had in mind. We wanted to reach a bigger audience and convince more people of the opportunities that new and sustainable technology brings. In comparison with five years ago, the time is right to organise the 80 Day Race event because of new technologies that enable participants to succeed in this challenge.”

ORGANISING A WORLD WIDE EVENT SOUNDS AMBITIOUS. WHERE DO YOU START?

“An event like 80 Day Race can’t be organised without proper support and key partners. The organisation is focussed on identifying and connecting the correct partners to setup and develop the race. For example you have to think about media, logistics, politics, planning, teams and technology. Everything needs to come together as one big jigsaw puzzle. One of our pillars is having a strong list of ambassadors. They are all key players in their particular fields and are well respected by the community. They help to voice the excitement of 80 Day Race.”

WHO’S BEHIND 80 DAY RACE?

“The original team members of the 80 Day Race include Jenny Berlo, Rob Boerekamps and me. We each have a different role in the team. I am the general director and do most of the external communication, Jenny facilitates the day-to-day management of the organisation and Rob is mainly responsible for the marketing and sales activities. We are accompanied by a group of experts in communication, media and sales. Of course the team has grown considerably, and with Hubert Auriol joining the 80 Day Race organisation, we also expanded our expertise even further.”

IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE TO RACE AROUND THE WORLD SUSTAINABLY IN 80 DAYS?

“Sustainable technology has developed rapidly over the last years. And we are now at the tipping point where this challenge can be realised. There are vehicles and charging facilities available for both fuel cell as well as battery electric and that allows us to drive more than 500 kilometres per day. It is still a challenge to go around the world with any vehicle in 80 days because it is the adventure of crossing the globe through dozens of countries, being exposed to all those different cultures, people and climates. It’s a challenge. But now for the first time new technology allows us to do it fully sustainable rather than with a combustion engine. If you take 40,000 kilometres and divide it by 80: that’s 500 kilometres per day. As Phileas Fogg in the book of Jules Verne said: ‘it is possible in theory because I calculated it’.”

HOW DO PEOPLE RESPOND WHEN YOU ARE EXPLAINING THE 80 DAY RACE CONCEPT?

“Any new concept that is introduced will receive a fair share of scepticism. The same goes for 80 Day Race. But that’s the whole premise of the book. There was one person who said it can be done and there were hundreds betting against him that it couldn’t be done. So it seems only fitting to the book that 80 Day Race receives some scepticism as well. However, there are plenty of people that actually do get very excited about the challenge and do believe that it can be done. So far we have gathered TV producers, educational institutes, technology companies and entrepreneurs; actually all kinds of people and organisations that embrace the idea of the challenge. At the time of Charles Lindbergh, the first man who has crossed the Atlantic Ocean non-stop by plane, everyone said it couldn’t be done. Until he achieved it in 1927. You need that groundbreaking pioneering attitude to be able to showcase to the world what is possible. If you hold on to that scepticism, we will not innovate as quickly as we need to.”

WHAT HAS BEEN EMPHASISED IN THE RULEBOOK AND HOW SOON CAN WE EXPECT IT TO BE PUBLISHED?

“We developed the concept of 80 Day Race with a clear vision of bringing back adventure, stimulating innovation and embracing the possibilities of new technologies. That also means we have a rulebook that allows for a lot of different approaches to the challenges of the race. Of course that sometimes means you have to focus on the goals and the spirit of the race, which might lead to a few changes of the rules. Currently we are looking at the final version of the rulebook with a team of external experts, when this final review is done the rulebook is finished and can be presented.”

CAN WE COMPARE 80 DAY RACE WITH SOMETHING?

“80 Day Race is a challenge and adventure that goes back to almost the romantic pioneering and exploring times of the Victorian age. Currently there are almost no white spots left on the globe. Every single place has been identified, explored and visited by people. However, that everything is known doesn’t mean that there are no challenges left. It is just that you have to look to different adventures and we can bring back that pioneering spirit by doing something that seems far beyond reach for a lot of people. But it is actually an adventure that everyone could embark on. So in that sense it goes back to the legacy of the explorers of all the previous ages.”

WHAT VEHICLES MAY BE ENTERED IN THE RACE?

“80 Day Race wants to accelerate innovation in sustainable technology. Therefore we’ve excluded the use of combustion engines which are developed over 140 years. We want to accelerate technologies like battery electric vehicles, fuel cells and solar power. That also means that we are open to any type of vehicle participating in the race. Either motorcycles, tricycles, conventional type cars or lightweight

vehicles, actually anything goes. I hope there are clever engineers out there that can dream up new vehicles that will astonish the world.”

HOW MANY VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED PER TEAM?

“The first thing a lot of people ask is if they have to race with one vehicle for the whole race. ‘Traditional’ racing always prescribes one vehicle for an entire race. In the case of 80 Day Race, we want to accelerate innovation. We believe that there is no ‘one solution fits all’ in the development of sustainable mobility. So in 80 Day Race a team is allowed, not required, to run a different vehicle in each leg. This doesn’t make the racing easy though, as on average a leg is 5,000 kilometres, so equivalent to three times the Mille Miglia!”

ARE AIR AND SEA VEHICLES ALLOWED?

“Although technically it is possible to use air or sea vehicles without combustion engines, but they currently face cost constraints. Think about the very exciting Solar Impulse 2, or a fast sail boat as seen in the America’s Cup or Volvo Ocean Race. They all come at a considerable price. So in the first edition of 80 Day Race, we will only race land based vehicles. In the second and third edition of the race we will open the race for these other modalities as well, thus accelerating the developments in these areas as well.”

A GREAT PART OF THE RACE WILL GO OVER LAND, BUT HOW DO TEAMS CROSS THE OCEANS?

“The winning strategy for crossing the Pacific and Atlantic oceans is currently a high speed sailboat. For example an Americas Cup or a Volvo Ocean Race boat. Sadly these ships are very costly and therefore we have decided that for the first edition of 80 Day Race we will facilitate these ocean crossings. We hope that in the second or third edition technology has developed in such a way that teams can cross the oceans while using their own sustainable vehicles.”

A NORMAL RACE TAKES UP TO TWO HOURS, BUT HOW DO YOU KEEP TRACK OF A COMPETITION THAT LASTS FOR 80 DAYS?

“The purpose of 80 Day Race is to inspire people. And to inspire people, you should be able to give them a view in the development of the race and its teams. In order to achieve that, a director of photography will accompany each team. These cameramen will transmit their footage to the media centre that will distribute and broadcast daily through major communication channels like internet and television. In addition, 80 Day Race will produce in depth TV series of the race and its preparations.”

THE FIRST TEAM HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED RECENTLY. WHY DID THEY CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE AND WHAT TYPE OF VEHICLE ARE THEY ENTERING?

“The team’s board has experience with sustainable technology in events like the Shell Eco-marathon and World Solar Challenge. STORM Eindhoven is mainly made up of young engineers that have no legacy in motorsport or adventure with fossil fuels. They see great opportunities in sustainable mobility and want to contribute to the development of interesting and desirable vehicles. They have chosen to develop their own innovative motorcycle.”

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES FOR TEAMS?

“Anyone who has travelled across borders in different parts of the world knows that there are great challenges in cross country travel. Therefore it’s not just a race with pure speed. It’s more like an endurance race where planning and logistics are important. And new technology hasn’t been tested in this way. To travel 500 kilometres per day doesn’t sound like much as you could easily do that in a country with a well developed infrastructure. However, as soon as you go off the beaten track, optimal planning is required to make sure that you have enough energy in your vehicle.”

THE RACE COUNTS EIGHT LEGS, STARTING AND FINISHING IN MAJOR CITIES AROUND THE WORLD. WHAT HAPPENS DURING THESE EVENTS?

“For people getting really involved in 80 Day Race, it is great that you can follow everything on TV and on the internet. However it really comes to life when you, as a visitor, have the opportunity to come close to the actual adventurers. In each of the host cities we’ll organise events to achieve that. The teams will race on a closed city circuit on Saturday and it will also feature support races like Greenpower Trust, a school series for young engineers. This spectacle for the public is free to attend. Prior to that on Friday, policy makers and professionals will be shown what the current state of technology allows people to do. This means a trade show and a conference for the professionals, policy makers and consultants will be held, focussing on sustainable mobility.”

YOU MENTIONED IT EARLIER: THERE ARE SEVERAL AMBASSADORS SUPPORTING 80 DAY RACE. WHY ARE THEY COMMITTED?

“The 80 Day Race ambassadors share the vision of a sustainable future and mobility. The range of ambassadors is quite diverse. They share the same passion, but are operating in different areas of expertise. From successful entrepreneurs, businessmen, and competitive racers to experts in the fields of adventure, education and the development of sustainable technology. It’s a growing list of passionate personalities.”

80 DAY RACE AMBASSADORS

Hubert Auriol (FRA) - three time Dakar Rally winner and race director

“At that time the Dakar Rally started, we didn’t know much about cross-country racing, as we were the first to do it. Everybody said it was crazy, because nobody knew what it was and it really became a huge event. I think that’s the same with the 80 Day Race; it’s a new adventure, it’s a new way of thinking, but it carries the same spirit. It’s completely the right moment to initiate something new: going around the world with no common way of using an engine. I directly was intrigued by its concept and knew I must support 80 Day Race, first by being an ambassador and now as being part of the organising team.”

Albert Bosch (ESP) - successful Spanish adventurer and entrepreneur

“We have to make our dreams come true. We need big challenges in life. But we also have to be responsible in all our actions, because they always have an impact in our society and our planet. Therefore, we must decide each time if we want to be part of the problem or part of the solution. 80 Day Race is a great dream and a huge challenge to live. The way of doing it and its purpose is part of the solution for the future of our world.”

Eric Vigouroux (FRA/USA) - successful off-road racing driver and team manager

“80 Day Race is the only global competition promoting important values such as adventure and clean mobility. I wish to take part in the first edition, as it will be a once in a lifetime opportunity. In addition and after 20 years of rally-raid racing with gas vehicles, I want to demonstrate that it is never too late to start doing things a better way. I want to give my career a new direction by promoting renewable energies and I feel like 80 Day Race is the perfect platform for that.”

Erik Lindbergh (USA) - founder and CEO at Powering Imagination

“The race is on! 80 Day Race teams are competing to show the world that sustainable transportation is here now. Just like the great aviation races and prizes of the 1920’s, there is no better way to inspire both the public and industry than a great race into the future of transportation.”

Javier de Rocafort (ESP) - successful entrepreneur and strategic advisor

“We, humans, are constantly evolving creatures, from the caves to the skyscrapers, from abacus to supercomputers. 80 Day Race has incarnated itself within this flow in a natural and positive way and we’re excited to join them in sending the world a message of hope and courage to change things for a better, brighter future for the next generations to come.”

Michael, Sebastiaan and Jeroen Bleekemolen (NED) - successful entrepreneurs and international racing drivers

Michael Bleekemolen: “Every race car driver shares a passion for technology: from go-karts, various racing series to Formula 1. But not only your equipment determines if you can battle for the win. You will also need to think ahead and trying to be smarter than anyone else, in order to achieve the best possible result. Motorsport is meant to innovate and to pioneer and that is what I as an entrepreneur do. With Race Planet, for example, I introduced indoor go-karting in Europe. For this reason I support 80 Day Race; it is a great initiative in which they look ahead to the future of mobility.”

Tim Coronel (NED) - Dutch racing driver with electric aspirations

"I want to be the first man who's going to do Le Dakar, the whole 10.000 kilometres, fully, totally, electric. Everybody always says racing is bad for the environment and that sort of stuff, but racing is sustainable, because technical innovations are being implemented in cars all over the world. Sustainability needs to be more sexy. And I think that's the future. So that's why I love the 80 Day Race: It's a big adventure like Jules Verne described."

Jan Lammers (NED) - former F1 driver and Le Mans 24 hours winner

"What I particularly like about the world aspect is that you have an opportunity of involving so many different countries, so many different companies, that all have a similar message. Good competition is great. You not only share your passion, but also your knowledge. I've been polluting all my life with these bad racing cars, so now it's a little bit payback time. The ideal scenario is of course to be a participant, albeit for a multinational company or a car manufacturer who would like to enter. Then I could be a team Captain or Vice Captain."

Robert Llewellyn (GBR) - British actor and e-mobility specialist

"One of the biggest obstacles people who've never driven electric cars is 'range.' While it's obvious a battery can't take you as far as a tank full of fossil fuel. Long experience has shown me that all is required is a slightly different attitude. When people see I have driven 38,000 miles in my car they start to re-consider. When they hear that a group of people have driven around the world in 80 days, I firmly believe they will re-consider a lot more. The 80 Day Race is a wonderful way of communicating to the world that electric cars are here, they are not a fad and they are at present the most rapidly developing sector in the car industry."

Louis Palmer (CHE) - sustainability specialist

"Wherever I travelled, wherever I've been, I've seen people talking about environmental issues and about global warming. I know we need solutions here. Everybody is really waiting for renewable energies so we don't need any more petrol. It's always good to add sportive elements to an event. It makes it really exciting, so people want to see it and people want to know who's going to be the winner. There's still so much work to be done. We have to do as much as possible to promote clean cars so that people all over the world know that this is our future – which is already available today!"

Claudio von Planta (CHE) - award winning film director

"I turned into an electric vehicle convert after filming the 2010 RACING GREEN Alaska to Argentina EV World Record for BBC World News TV. It was an eye opener to witness firsthand how a group of engineering graduates from Imperial College London managed to build an electric sports car reliable and tough enough to drive the entire 26,000km long Pan-American Highway. The 80 Day Race will inevitably encourage more engineers to push the boundaries of inspiring new technologies that will be more powerful, more sustainable and less polluting than the old fashioned over 100 year old combustion engine. It's a brilliant idea to promote the latest EV technologies on a regular basis with a global racing event. The 80 Day Race will be the perfect opportunity to capture the attention of mass audiences worldwide and boost the nascent EV revolution."



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Maarten Steinbuch (NED) - Professor at Eindhoven University of Technology

“I became ambassador of 80 Day Race because I strongly support the idea that sustainability can be fun. Racing sustainable cars is the best proof you can get. Sustainability is also a worldwide challenge. Hence, 80 Day Race can really help the automotive industry to push forward the idea of making global sustainability fun.”

ORGANISATION**Frank Manders**

Co-founder and General Director: In this role, Frank oversees all partnerships, relations and drives core strategy efforts related to the organisation's delivery of strategic support across the organisation and participating teams.

Expert in sourcing and has successfully set up several other businesses in various fields. One of which, arising from his passion for adventure, was aimed at organising adventurous charity rallies.

**Rob Boerekamps**

Co-founder and Director of Sales: Rob is responsible for establishing and directing the marketing and sales activities of the organisation including networking and public relations.

Former Officer at Royal Netherlands Air Force, former owner of an electronic entertainment company, former co-owner of the largest commercial training agency in the Benelux (Kenneth Smit Training), currently involved in several enterprises and passionate racer.

**Jenny Berlo**

Co-founder and Chief of Staff: Jenny facilitates day-to-day management and administration of the organisation with senior leadership and actively engages the 80 Day Race Board of Directors.

The feminine influence in the team, creative and skilled as an all-rounder, focused on deadlines and progression.

**Hubert Auriol**

80 Day Race exclusive representative for France – In charge of marketing (France) and Race Director.

Hubert Auriol has a large experience of racing and organization: Three times Paris-Dakar Rally winner and first pilot to win on a bike and with a car, he also has a wide experience managing main events such the Dakar Rally for ten years. Hubert has joined the 80 Day Race to offer his expertise in racing and organisation. Next to that he is involved in the development of sustainable solutions for racing.



Gil Fallet

80 Day Race exclusive representative for France – In charge of press relation (France) and event production in the host city of Paris.

Gil Fallet is an event producer for nearly 20 years. Specialised in the organisation of well-visited sports events and general public events, he has developed skills that are recognised internationally.



Tim Biesbrouck

Communication Manager: Tim is responsible for the communication towards the general audience through various channels like social media, newsletter, website and press releases.

Extensive experience in international motorsport and electric racing.



Kevin Augello

Shooting Director and guide into the world of documentary filmmaking. An experienced adventure and travel documentary filmmaker, with connections to National Geographic, Discovery Channel and the BBC - He is a keen adventurer himself, as well as a passionate environmentalist. His work has taken him to over a 130 countries, in all seven continents. Running his own production company: New Earth Films.



Katie Stover

Production Manager: Katie works on the production team to create media content for 80 Day Race as it develops.

She originally worked for television stations in the United States, such as PBS, but relocated to the Netherlands after graduation for new experiences and perspectives.



June 15, 2015

PRESS CONTACT

For further media information on 80 Day Race, visit www.80dr.com/press/ or contact:

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