

Press release
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Umicore Solar Team unveils new “Umicar Imagine”

The Umicore Solar Team unveiled its fourth generation Umicar – “Umicar Imagine” – on Saturday at the iconic Atomium in Brussels, Belgium. The car will be raced at the World Solar Challenge by a team of 15 students and recently-graduated engineers from Group T International University College Leuven.

The World Solar Challenge is the unofficial world championship for solar-powered vehicles involving a gruelling 3,000km trek from Darwin to Adelaide between 16 and 23 October. Some 40 cars developed by universities around the world use the power of the sun to cross the outback as fast as possible. The race is a test of innovation, engineering, skill and stamina.

The Umicar Imagine contains several innovations which the Umicore Solar Team expect will give it an improved performance compared to previous generations. The main innovation is the use of Umicore’s germanium substrates in new concentrator solar panels. These panels provide the most efficient conversion of sunlight into power and enable the 160kg vehicle to reach a top speed of 130km per hour. Other adaptations have also been made including safety enhancements to cope with side-winds and a re-formatted motor.

The race is not only about competition, however. The World Solar Challenge seeks, by its very nature, to draw attention to the imperatives of sustainable transport and promotes research into zero emission transport solutions.

For more information on the Umicore Solar Team please visit: www.solarteam.be

You can follow the team on twitter:
[@solarteam_be](https://twitter.com/solarteam_be)

For information on the race visit:
www.worldsolarchallenge.org



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Umicore profile

Umicore is a global materials technology group. It focuses on application areas where its expertise in materials science, chemistry and metallurgy makes a real difference. Its activities are centred on four business areas: Catalysis, Energy Materials, Performance Materials and Recycling. Each business area is divided into market-focused business units offering materials and solutions that are at the cutting edge of new technological developments and essential to everyday life.

Umicore generates the majority of its revenues and dedicates most of its R&D efforts to clean technologies, such as emission control catalysts, materials for rechargeable batteries and photovoltaics, fuel cells, and recycling. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is based on an ambition to develop, produce and recycle materials in a way that fulfils its mission: materials for a better life.

The Umicore Group has industrial operations on all continents and serves a global customer base; it generated a turnover of € 9.7 billion (€ 2.0 billion excluding metal) in 2010 and currently employs some 14,400 people.