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Sven Brehler, Director of Engineering at TR Fastenings, is selected to judge prestigious Formula Student competition



Formula Student, Europe's most established educational engineering competition, returns to the home of British motorsport, Silverstone, from 21st – 25th July 2021.

TR Fastenings is proud to announce that Sven Brehler, Director of Engineering, has been selected as one of the competition judges.

Organised by the [Institution of Mechanical Engineers](#) (IMechE), this year's competition sees more than 140 teams from around the world come together to take part in a live event that encompasses two classes, with the focus on the design, build and running of a single-seater car.

Class 1 is the construction of a moving vehicle, designed to compete in dynamic events, while Concept Class involves bringing ideas together in preparation for Class 1. The competition aims to encourage more young people to take up a career in engineering, and is viewed by the motorsport industry as the benchmark for excellence. Celebrating its 23rd anniversary this year (2021), organisers are working closely with Silverstone and Motorsport UK to ensure the event complies with current Covid-19 safety guidelines.

Students are judged across six categories within the two classes in the event. IMechE actively encourages engineering professionals from all sectors of the industry to apply to be part of a judging team. Sven, TR Fastenings' Director of Engineering specialising in automotive, applied to be a judge within the Cost and Manufacturing section

(Class 1) and was selected, his Design for Manufacture (DfM) knowledge standing him in good stead.

"I'm delighted to be involved this year" says Sven. "Being part of the judging panel is an excellent opportunity to support the best next-generation engineers. This is a prestigious motorsport engineering contest and with an impressive line-up of judges I've no doubt we'll be sharing expertise and insights with one another too! It'll be a fantastic experience given the tough times we've all had and I'm looking forward to being part of it."

Expectation of judges

The requirement for four judges per category ensures a wide range of expertise across each specialism. A solid background in mechanical, electrical and civil engineering is deemed essential for judging the Cost and Manufacturing category, to which Sven brings his expertise. Those with backgrounds in cost and process, procurement, managing supply chains and tool and machinist experts were also encouraged to apply, as were project managers and accountants.

This is not the first time TR Fastenings has been involved with Formula Student. In 2017, Patrik Ringdahl, a mechanical engineer now based in TR Fastenings' Stockholm office, was part of the Formula Student programme, and joined TR Fastenings following his introduction to the business via the project.

"I gained huge benefits from being part of the scheme," Patrik says. "It's fantastic that Sven is part of the judging panel for the 2021 competition and that TR continues to





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support such an important scheme designed to champion young engineering talent."

Real-world experience

The competition gives entrants a unique perspective of how university life differs to the world of work and helps provide a smooth transition from one to the other. It provides practical real-world engineering experience combined with softer skills, such as project planning, learning to work as a team and understanding business objectives.

The TR Fastenings community

TR Fastenings has a proven track record in supporting the STEM community, and regularly gets involved with local, national and global projects to encourage the next generation of engineers.

It supported [National Apprenticeship Week](#) in the UK in February 2020, and has offered apprenticeship programmes since 2011. TR has also been part of the [Sussex Enterprise Advisor](#) initiative, with senior HR staff supporting local colleges as business volunteers, advising students on career choices and how to develop a skill set that will impress employers.