About the Project

The University of Minnesota Solar Vehicle Project has produced 13 cars since its inception in 1990, and is currently building its 14th car! The team spent the summer of 2018 racing Eos II at the Formula Sun Grand Prix, where we were the first of the Multi Occupant Vehicles to finish scrutineering and finish the race. This qualified us for ASC 2018, where UMNSVP battled 30+ mile mountain climbs and hailstorms in order to come second! For a more detailed story on the FSGP and ASC 2018, feel free to visit our website, umnsvp.org!

UMNSVP has the benefits of a 501(c)(3) organization and consists of more than 70 University undergraduate students with a wide array of majors and interests. Working together, these students are designing and building a highly efficient prototype solar-electric vehicle. In its 27 years of existence, the team has completed more than thirty races across three continents and five countries; USA, Canada, Australia, Japan, and Taiwan. The Solar Vehicle Project has finished in the top two positions sixteen times in our thirty-two races.

Our organization is proud to work on the leading edge of technology and to inspire the next generation of engineers. We invite you to be part of our team. Without our sponsors, this project could not exist, let alone uphold its tradition of excellence. We love recognizing our sponsors and our sponsors love getting to work with the most committed and inspired engineering students at any university, anywhere.

Your sponsorship will support developing project space for the team’s building and storage needs, vehicle transportation for competition in the American Solar Challenge and the World Solar Challenge in Australia, and supplies and equipment to construct the solar vehicle.
Building a Solar Vehicle

A solar car begins as a collection of ideas and goals. Our engineers spend a year researching and testing those ideas to determine how we should best accomplish the goals. While the research is occurring, business students and a race team race our car around the world, where we are able to get tactile feedback from our previous designs. By the time we have raced in both the World Solar Challenge and the American Solar Challenge, our engineers are designing the final components that will make up our newer, smarter, car. Our whole team then spends the next year building a car, learning from our successes and failures, and preparing for the upcoming World Solar Challenge, shipping the vehicle two summers after we started our ideation.

The Solar Vehicle Project is a nonprofit, student-run Campus Life Program at the University of Minnesota. Contributions to this organization directly impact our ability to learn and grow as students, engineers, managers, and people.

World Solar Challenge

The World Solar Challenge occurs every two years in Australia, traversing the continent from Darwin, on the north coast, to Adelaide, on the south coast, a 3,000 km journey. The University of Minnesota Solar Vehicle is the most experienced American contender in the Cruiser Class category, promoting practicality and efficiency against the best teams in the world.

American Solar Challenge

The American Solar Challenge pits solar car teams against the great American landscape, with new routes every competition. In 2016, the University of Minnesota Solar Vehicle Project competed as the only Cruiser Class car to qualify. In celebration of the centennial of the National Park System, the stops along the way for the race occurred at National Parks, where the solar arrays were complemented by gorgeous scenery.
Sponsor Benefits

Platinum Sponsor
$30,000+ Donation
• Large logo on vehicle, sponsor board, and team uniforms
• Large logo and company description on website and social media
• All Gold level benefits

Gold Sponsor
$15,000-30,000 Donation
• Medium logo on sponsor board, website, and team uniforms
• Small logo on vehicle
• Technical presentation from students about the newest vehicle
• All Silver level benefits

Silver Sponsor
$5,000-15,000 Donation
• Small logo on sponsor board and team uniforms
• Medium logo on website
• Opportunity to visit team and present your company on campus
• All Bronze level benefits

Bronze Sponsor
$1,000-5,000 Donation
• Name on sponsor board and team uniforms
• Small logo on website
• Permission to use UMNSVP photos in company promotional materials
• Resume packet
• All Friends level benefits

Friend of the team
• Name on website
• Receive newsletters
• Invitation to unveiling events

Cash donors may receive additional benefits at the team’s discretion
Benefit Details

Company Presentation
Your company has the opportunity to present to our members information about what you do and the types of engineering or business challenges they could address as an intern or full-time employee. This is a good opportunity to network with students deeply interested in their respective fields and involved in the community.

Vehicle Presentation
If your place of business is located near the Twin Cities, you have the opportunity for us to bring our completed vehicle to show your colleagues what your company has supported.

Resume Packet
Our Resume Packet consists of our involved members, allowing your recruiting team direct access to students with real experience on a long-term, interdisciplinary engineering challenge.

Unveiling
Every two years, our organization hosts an unveiling event to celebrate the completion of our latest vehicle. Attending this event allows you to be one of the first members of the public to see what we have developed.

Team Newsletter
Periodically, our organization sends out a newsletter with an update on our racing, outreach, and other endeavors. It will be sent out through email, and can also be found on our website.
Contact Us
Website
umnsvp.org

Email
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