JOIN OUR TEAM

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PANTHER RACING SPONSOR
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BECOME A PANTHER RACING SPONSOR TODAY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, E-MAIL PITT.FSAE@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 412-624-9035.
Dear friends of the University of Pittsburgh,

The Panther Racing Formula SAE team represents what is best about the University of Pittsburgh. The team brings together bright minds and passionate spirits to compete in Formula SAE, a premier international collegiate engineering competition. The Formula SAE competition extends to six continents and over five-hundred teams. The efforts of the Panther Racing team culminate each year at Michigan International Speedway, where the team faces challengers from across the country and around the world.

The challenge the team faces is enormous. Team members participate in a real world engineering exercise where they conceive, construct, and race formula-style racecars. The winning team is not determined solely by speed, but by how well the car performs within predefined engineering and business constraints involving fuel economy, manufacturing costs, and design criteria.

I take great pride in my role as the University of Pittsburgh faculty advisor to the Panther Racing team. I invite you and your organization to become an integral member of the Panther Racing family through our sponsorship program. Sponsorships allow organizations like yours to contribute to the team’s goals through the donation of goods and services.

Your support of the Panther Racing team will allow the bright minds and passionate spirits of our students to continue to expand and excel. As a team sponsor, you and your organization can join me next spring in taking great pride as the Panther Racing team crosses the finish line at Michigan International Speedway.

Thank you in advance for supporting our students.

Dr. William S. Slaughter  
SAE Faculty Advisor, Associate Professor  
University of Pittsburgh, Swanson School of Engineering  
Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science
Panther Racing is the official race team of the University of Pittsburgh. The ingenuity and passion of the team is on display for all to see each year at Michigan International Speedway, where we face challengers from across the country and around the world. Out of the one hundred and twenty teams that compete at Michigan International Speedway, we have consistently finished within the top fifty. This year we are looking to be highly competitive with teams that have much larger budgets than our own, and we need all of the help we can get. Our goal is to place within the top eight in the overall competition, giving us the best finish in the history of our team.

Our mission is to educate Pitt students interested in automotive engineering, business, leadership, and motorsports. The men and women of our team represent a cross-section of undergraduate and graduate disciplines including engineering, business, film, communication, and law. Participation is independent of curricula and course credit; our members are driven only by their passion.

THE PANTHER RACING ORGANIZATION

Leadership Team
Emily Anthony, Executive Director
Michael DeCirce, Technical Director
Anthony Grazioso, Business Director

Technical Leaders
Michael DeCirce, Powertrain
Zolten Glasso, Drivetrain
Nicholas Hills, Electronics
Adam Paul, Aerodynamics
Zak Kernick, Ergonomics
Andy Schlosser, Driver Training

Business Leaders
Anthony Grazioso, Treasurer
Greg Dornseif, Marketing
Grant VanHorn, PR
Emily Anthony, Event Planning & Recruitment

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FORMULA SAE COMPETITION

Formula SAE is Formula One for college students: an international collegiate racing series organized by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). Formula SAE was established as a test of ingenuity and teamwork, providing students with the opportunity to design, build, and race formula-style racecars.

The annual Formula SAE competition takes place near Detroit at the Michigan International Speedway (MIS) and hosts over 120 race teams from all around the world. Teams are evaluated by industry experts in two categories – Static Events and Dynamic Events, each divided into a number of separate challenges. Students are put through a grueling test of their engineering and business skills until one team emerges victorious.

STATIC EVENTS

Design
In the Design Challenge, competitors are judged based on the creativity and quality of the design used to fabricate the racecar. Judges review the team’s test data and analyses to evaluate the efficacy of the team’s design and material decisions.

Cost and Manufacturing
The Cost and Manufacturing Challenge requires teams to balance material and fabrication costs against the associated incremental performance gains. Each team submits a production report which outlines theoretical costs associated with a limited production run based on the car’s design.

Business
In the Business Challenge, a business plan is constructed to convince the executives of a hypothetical corporation that the team’s design is worthy of being mass produced and sold to the public.

DYNAMIC EVENTS

Acceleration
To test power and speed, two drivers make two passes each down a 75-meter straightaway.

Skid-Pad
Two drivers get two opportunities each to steer through a narrow figure-eight course. This handling test evaluates the balance and setup of the suspension.

Autocross
This event challenges two drivers in an all-out sprint of two laps each around a tightly wound course designed to test the car’s suspension and power.

Endurance
A twenty-two kilometer race split between two drivers, with the car restarted in the middle. Many cars will not make it to the end of this grueling race, and those that do are penalized heavily if their car fails to comply with fuel consumption standards.
PANTHER RACING: 2014 PROTOTYPE SPECS

Powertrain
- Honda CBR600RR engine
- MoTeC electronics suite
- Rapid prototyped air intake
- Custom-fabricated exhaust system
- Dyno-tested and tuned to increase performance

Chassis
- Tubular chromoly steel space frame
- Strength-tested using ANSYS FEA
- Constructed on jigs to ensure accurate suspension points
- TIG welded

Suspension
- 4 wheel independent suspension
- Four-way adjustable shocks
- Custom CNC billet aluminum uprights, hubs, and rockers
- Capable of 2 Gs in cornering

Drivetrain
- Drexler limited-slip differential
- AP Racing calipers and rotors
- Custom pneumatic shifting system
- Capable of 1.5 Gs in braking

Aerodynamics/Bodywork
- Carbon fiber shell with honeycomb reinforcement
- CNC-milled body molds
- Full aerodynamics package
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Beyond the support provided by the Pitt Student Government Board and the Swanson School of Engineering, Panther Racing relies heavily on sponsorships from individuals and businesses. Monetary donations are used to acquire car components, purchase and maintain shop equipment, pay for business expenses, and support competition-related travel expenses. In addition to monetary contributions, sponsorships can also take the form of materials, goods, discounts, and high-end fabrication services. Service donations allow the team to have professional work done on the car beyond the capabilities of our machine shop. By supporting Panther Racing, sponsors help students expand their education and gain priceless, practical experience in the business and engineering world. A portion of your donation is tax-deductible.*

Sponsorship Levels

In appreciation of your support, our team offers a variety of benefit packages at four different levels: Panther Pit Crew, 3rd Place, 2nd Place, and Winner’s Circle.

Panther Pit Crew Level – $500 - $999
- Logo on Panther Racing team website
- Decals on the car 1/4 size of Winner’s Circle logo
- Team member contact information for recruitment purposes
- Logo space on team shirt

3rd Place Level – $1,000 - $2,499
- Panther Pit Crew package, plus
- Decals on the car 1/2 size of Winner’s Circle logo
- Logo on the Panther Racing team shirt 1/2 size of Winner’s Circle logo
- Framed picture of the completed car

2nd Place Level – $2,500 - $4,999
- 3rd Place Package, plus
- Decals on the car 3/4 size of Winner’s Circle logo
- Logo on the Panther Racing team shirt 3/4 size of Winner’s Circle logo
- Monthly mentions on our Facebook and Twitter

Winner’s Circle Level – $5,000 and up
- 2nd Place Package, plus
- Largest logos on the car
- Largest logos on the Panther Racing team shirt
- Appearance at a company function for marketing purposes (local businesses only)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PANTHER RACING FORMULA SAE TEAM, PLEASE E-MAIL PITT.FSAE@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 412-624-9035.

* Please consult with your tax advisor to follow charitable giving laws.
CURRENT TEAM SPONSORS

Alcoa Aluminum  
Alcoa Fastening Systems  
Aristocast  
The Benedict Family  
Burns Stainless  
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Keystone Rustproofing  
KYSCCA  
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Realize  
REM Surface Eng.  
Ricardo  
Rock West Comps.  
STAM  
Starrett  
TechShop PGH  
TCR Composites  
West Penn Laco  
Wiseco  
WM Berg
MAKING A SPONSORSHIP GIFT TO PANTHER RACING

Panther Racing provides students with an exciting and rewarding educational opportunity to apply classroom theory to a dynamic real-world project. Our members graduate school with applied engineering skills, business expertise, and leadership experience. But this is only possible due to the generosity of individuals and local businesses. Every gift does make a difference and is greatly appreciated. Donate to Panther Racing and help form the next generation of technical excellence. Please complete the form below to make your gift to Panther Racing. For more information, e-mail pitt.fsa@pitt.edu or call 412-624-9035. Contact the team to make arrangements for material donations.

Panther Racing Team Sponsorship Form

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PREFERRED PAYMENT OPTIONS

- [ ] Check: Please make payable to University of Pittsburgh   MEMO: FSAE
- [ ] Credit Card:   ☐ Visa   ☐ Mastercard   ☐ Discover

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RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO:
Swanson School of Engineering
104 Benedum Hall
3700 O’Hara Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

A portion of your donation is tax-deductible. Please consult with your tax advisor to follow charitable giving laws.
THE PANTHER RACING TEAM
would like to thank you
for your generous support!

PITT
SWANSON
ENGINEERING

Panther Racing – Formula SAE (FSAE)
636 Benedum Hall
3700 O’Hara Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

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