



Challenge X News:

Challenge x Thrust Leaders are ready to Serve you

Welcome back from the Christmas break. I hope you all had an excellent break and were able to find plenty of time to rest and rejuvenate yourself to prepare for the spring semester.

We are off to a fast start with Challenge X this semester. We just got back from the winter workshop in Austin TX. We feel good for where we are, but we are going to have to get busy fast or we are going to fall behind. We have Reports 3, 4 & 5 coming up before May. Then, we have a pre-hardware inspection coming up in May. When they come for the inspection, we will have to demonstrate that we can assemble and run our powertrain (engine, electric motor, and transmission). This is a big deliverable and is going to involve a lot of work for us, so we are starting as early as possible to guarantee we will be able to deliver what Challenge X expects.

While at the Winter workshop, we talked about what is the most important product of the Challenge X competition? That product is each and every one of you who are involved in the competition. General Motors has development and research engineers who can work on developing a hybrid powertrain without our help. What they are interested in are young engineers who know how hybrid vehicle powertrains work. This is a recruiting activity for general motors and they are looking for you. Each of the Challenge X Mentors has been instructed to be on the lookout for the top-engineering students involved with the competition from each school. This is just another advantage you will gain from participating in the Challenge X competition when you graduate.

Upcoming Events:

- 1-20-05 – Challenge X Team Meeting in CAVS seminar room from 5-6 PM
- 1-14-05 – Report #2 graded by this date
- 1-31-05 – Challenge X safety procedures due
- 3-18-04 – Report # 3 due
- 4-14-05 – Report #4 due (subject to change slightly)

Website Updates:

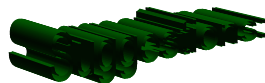
Brent Lape has been working hard over the break to redesign our Challenge X website. I have seen what he has done and soon, we will be unveiling the new Challenge X site. He has done a remarkable job!

Atta-DAWGS:

Thanks to Neil Littell for his tireless efforts on the CAD data!

Thanks to Kiran Solanki, Brian Christian, Kennabec Walp, and Justin Crapps for attending the Challenge X winter workshop in Austin, TX

Thanks to David Oglesby, Christopher Whitt and Kennabec Walp for driving to Columbus Nissan to examine a Murano CVT.



We are always concerned about what we can do to improve your experience with Challenge X. If you have any suggestions for how we could improve the competition experience for you, please email Justin Crapps at jcrapps@cavs.msstate.edu