SPEED AND SAFETY:

COMPOSITE MATERIALS IN MOTORSPORT

dellera

Luca Pignacca Chief Designer and EU Racing Business Leader

THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE





TECHNOLOGY: THE CONNECTION BETWEEN SPEED AND SAFETY



Low speed - High risk



High speed - Low risk

"It is all about probabilities. You can never make it safe. F1 is not safe but you can do a lot of work to reduce the probability of somebody getting hurt."

Max Mosley Former FIA President



Safety in F1 from the early days until today

- 1950s : no thoughts for safety : cars, tracks , public , drivers , mechanics , etc
- 1960s : the first safety features : rear roll bar , seat belts , helmets and overalls, fire protections for fuel tanks
- 1970s : the begininnings of modern Formula One. Jackie Stewarts leads the safety crusade : drivers must be extracted in less than 5 secs, safety bladders for fuel tanks, head rest, safety structures around dashboard and pedals, front roll bar
- 1980 : survival cell extended to the front of the drivers' feet
- 1985 : frontal crash test
- 1988 : drivers' s feet behind the front wheel axle, mandatory static homologations tests
- 1991 : more stringent testing of survival cell, including seat belts, fuel tank and roll bar
- 1994 : minimum headrest thickness of 75 mm
- 1995 : longer cockpit opening, rear and side impact test , higher speed in frontal crash
- 1998 : front roll bar test
- 1999 : tethered wheels, higher frontal impact test speed
- 2000 : side panels lay-up specified, higher frontal impact test speed
- 2001 : higher roll bar testing load , higher side impact test speed, side intrusion test
- 2002 : rear crash stucture push-off test
- 2003 : Hans (head and neck safety) system mandatory
- 2005 : side crash structure push-off test , higher side intrusion load
- 2006 : higher rear impact test speed
- 2007 : "softer" front and rear crash stuctures, higher frontal impact test speed,
 - lower rear impact test speed, side zylon panels
- 2009 : higher cockpit rim static test load
- 2010 : second frontal impact test with no nose and full tank
- 2011 : front side and bottom zylon panels, more demanding cockpit rim test, cockpit floor static test

















"We wish to design and manufacture the fastest and the safest racing cars in the world"

Jian Talo Dallara

Gian Paolo Dallara President



DALLARA RACE CARS



IndyCar

GP2

Renault World Series 3.5



Indylight





GP3

Grand-Am



AUTOMOTIVE CONSULTANCIES



KTM X-Bow



Bugatti Veyron 16.4



Alfa 8C



Maserati MC12



COMPANY PRESENTATION

In a world of increasing competition and knowledge distribution, our company strategy is focused on three areas of specialist knowledge:

- 1. Design and manufacturing
- 2. Aerodynamics
- 3. Vehicle Dynamics









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A LONG CFRP CALCULATION HISTORY





COMPOSITE MATERIALS : HIGH PERFORMANCE

FLWB in CFRP:

Displacement in cornering loadcase: 0.168 mm Weight: 1.31 kg

FLWB in Steel: Displacement in cornering loadcase: 0.165mm Weight: 2.29 kg



Crash Cone in CFRP: Energy absorption: 110000 J Weight: 4.6 kg

Crash Cone in Aluminium: Energy absorption: 110000 J Weight: 7.8kg





COMPOSITE MATERIALS : HIGH TECH

- Big experience and knowledge are required
- A lot of data necessary to do the analysis
- Physical phenomena very complex



KEY SYNERGIES WITH :

- The main raw material market suppliers, keeping us constantly informed about CFRP new developments and solutions
- The main software developers to test and improve new calculation and simulation tools
- The most reliable CFRP components suppliers including series manufacturing, allowing us to adapt the component design to the proper manufacturing technology.



TEST CASES



CASE STUDY: GP2 CHASSIS ANALYSIS

dallara





PROVEN METHOD

- Fiber and resin definition (strength, stiffness, resin content)
- Experimental data from tension and compression tests on different directions
- Creation of the FE model
- Definition of the composite material card
- Loadcases definition and analysis performing
- Analysis results validation by testing of complete or partial samples



SAFETY STRUCTURES – NOSE BOX





WHAT HAPPENS IN A DYNAMIC SCENARIO?





DYNAMIC SCENARIO

Material CARD

- 74 parameters
- Different failure theories
- Combination of different criteria

- Importance of the software house support
- Importance of being involved in the development
- Reliability of the software and of the testing laboratories
- Importance of the reasearch&development activities

MATERI	LAL NAME				
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¥	811	E 22	N015	IFLAG	E 33
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*	sig_trac_2	B_27	N_3T	BIGMA_EMAXT	C_27
#	EP5_172	EPS_272	SIGMA_RST2	Wpmaz_trac_2	
#	sig_comp_1	B_1C	N_IC	BIGHA_IMANC	C_1C
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DALLARA AND ALTAIR

CASE STUDY: CRASH BOX STRUCTURE





DALLARA AND ALTAIR

CASE STUDY: CRASH BOX STRUCTURE





THE BEST SATISFACTION



"I've had a long and good relationship with Dallara. I won the world's largest motor race, the Indianapolis 500 in one of their chassis. But performance is not the only thing Dallara think about. They are also extremely safetyconscious. I drove one of their chassis when I had the biggest accident in my career at Texas Motor Speedway, when my car was launched into the barriers at 220 miles per hour while battling for the podium in the latest stages of the race. The g-force of the impact was measured an incredible 214 g's, as the car virtually exploded from the impact. It was highest the highest g-force to be recorded in an impact, ever. But the safety cell was intact. The sheer energy from the impact left me severely injured and hospitalized for 3 months. It's not in the nature of motorsports to be "bulletproof", but I am convinced that it was thanks to Dallara's innovation and safety thinking that I lived to race another day".

KENNY BRACK Former Indianapolis 500 Champion



INFRASTRUCTURE

- 336 core IBM cluster
- PBS Workload Management System
- HyperWorks CAE Suite



OUR NEXT CHALLENGE

