



**Around Australia Challenge Update
- DAY 15: Thurs 10-Jan-2002 -**

<p align="center">Broome (WA) to Port Hedland (New Speed Record - 111.24 KPH)</p>	<p align="center">626 KM</p>
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High wind and high speed fill the report card for the Aurora-RMIT 101 solar car champions on Day 15. The team has returned to the scheduled timetable and expect that better weather as they head south and east for the remainder of the trip will allow them to arrive in Melbourne late in the afternoon on Saturday 19 January.

High speed indeed! After a late departure from Broome at about 10.00 AM [the delights of Broome being hard to leave behind] the convoy faced partially cloudy conditions and a strong onshore wind which swept across the solar car. Leaving the Roebuck Roadhouse they rejoined the Great Northern Highway and headed south west. They were in the mood to try for another record; this time to be the fastest solar car over 100 KM on a public highway.

This record was held by the Northern Territory University solar car and set in 2000 as they participated in the annual Sunrace event. It stood at 107.78 KPH for the 100 KM between Hay and Balranald in NSW.

The Aurora-RMIT 101 set a new record of 111.24 KPH! Distance measurements were taken from road-signs at 560 KM [at 11.01 hrs.] and 450 KM [at 12.00 hrs] to Port Hedland, a total distance of 110 KM. The time taken was 59 minutes and 20 seconds for an average record speed of 111.24 KPH.



Day 15, Broome (WA) about 7:30 AM. The Broome experience - A world record.. (click for a larger image)



Day 15, Sandfire Roadhouse (WA). The airconditioning works well until the hose falls out of the vent. (click for a larger image)

Tony Vriens said that because of the strong cross winds and the coarse road surface he was concerned that tyre wear would be a problem. An inspection after this burst of speed showed the Michelin tyres to be in excellent condition and the team continued at a more moderate pace to ensure that they reached their nightfall destination Port Hedland with a half full battery.

The team reached Port Hedland at sunset, having travelled about 610 KM. They were hoping for a clear day ahead to face their longest travel day so far in the schedule, a distance of 722 KM.

During the day the Aurora office received confirmation that the Deputy Premier of WA would flag them away from Perth on the morning of Monday 14 January.



Day 15, Not so sunny Broome.
[\(click for a larger image\)](#)