

Rallye solaire 2006



Girona, Spain to Toulouse, France
1st - 4th June 2006

Day 7

After a good nights sleep, and some time spent rearranging our trailer, we drove straight from the hotel to the first stop of the day: the Place du Capitole, in Toulouse. Here the vehicles were put on display, along with displays of photovoltaic panels, solar thermal systems and electric bicycles and scooters.



The Place du Capitole



Solar popcorn

Early in the afternoon, the Rallye results were announced. The winning solar car was the Joachim Kamm car. With its smaller solar array and powerful motor, it was ideally suited to this style of event. What was more impressive was the fact that Joachim had completed the entire event with a support crew of one---Detlef drove his truck, and Jochiam did the rest.



And the winner of the solar class is...



Kamm!



Jochiam Kamm and Dennis discuss French coffee



Stephan Astier from Solelhada takes a young solar car enthusiast for a ride



The Aurora team, with honorary members Melissa and Aud

Aurora was given a special mention for our participation in the event, our record in previous events, and our spirit.

Following the presentations, Aurora headed down the street to find an Internet cafe so that we could send of our reports and collect any messages from home.



A street in Toulouse

Then it was time to move on to our final destination, the Cite de l'espace. Once again, the cars were put on display.



Alternative transport at the Cite de l'espace

Across the road, students were participating in a model solar car challenge. Unlike the Australian model solar cars, which are like slot cars, these cars have remote controlled steering and drive power. The cars also have a small battery, and so, just like the World Solar Challenge cars, battery management is an important part of the strategy.



Model solar cars being controlled around a winding track



Fixing a problem

Finally, it was time to say goodbye. We left Toulouse, and headed to St Emillion, near Bordeaux, where we will be spending three nights with Lucien Giol of the 1996 Heliotrope World Solar Challenge team. Lucien is currently building a new solar car from his old Heliotrope. This car will be smaller, and have four wheels, and is well advanced.



Signing posters for the organising team



Looking for our lodgings



Home for the next three nights

Next week: Challenge Bibendum.

