

PRESS RELEASE

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Team ARCAR1 from Switzerland wins the EMEA NXP Cup at Fraunhofer IIS

Erlangen, Germany – The NXP Cup champion for Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA) has been decided. Team ARCAR1 from the Haute Ecole ARC Ingénierie in Le Locle in Switzerland won the EMEA competition for autonomous intelligent car racing on April 30, 2019 at the Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS in Erlangen.

“We are very satisfied to win because we worked a lot for this project – on vacation, at the weekend... It takes a lot of time to work in this project, so it is very impressive that we can win. We are very grateful!”

“I like most at NXP Cup to connect with other people in Europe, to compare with each other – it is cool that so many people are here. This is most important for us because we work on this project all around the year. So that we can talk with each other is important for us”, said the winners of the EMEA NXP Cup 2019, the team ARCAR1 from Switzerland.

With the motto “The winner takes it all” the members of the team ARCAR1 won a trip to one of the biggest NXP-owned trade shows: NXP Connects in Santa Clara (US), June 12 and 13. NXP Semiconductors will fly the NXP Cup EMEA champions out to the show, where they can be part of the industry ecosystem as they enjoy insightful keynote speeches, panels, technical trainings, live demonstrations and networking opportunities. Further prizes were electronic kits donated by this year’s NXP Cup sponsors, Mouser Electronics and Elektor Magazine. They went to Team ARCAR2, also from Switzerland, and Team KAW4Wheels from Krakow in Poland.

New in 2019: obstacle avoidance, speed zone and figure 8

Nineteen teams participated in the finals, from France, Italy, the Czech Republic, Poland, Kosovo, Switzerland, Greece, Romania, Morocco and – for the first time – Lebanon. They transformed the institute into a competition arena for two days. Most of them volunteer to participate in addition to their curriculum.

Head of Corporate Communications

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FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS IIS

New challenges in the training were three small tracks: obstacle avoidance – driving around a cube on the track, speed zone – slowdown at certain points, and figure 8 – driving on 8-track as often as possible in 90 seconds.

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“So it was not only about speed this year but also about precision”, said Flavio Stiffan from Stiffan Consulting, part of the project management team supporting NXP Semiconductors for this EMEA challenge. “The biggest challenge were the lighting conditions. The students were working hard on calibrating the camera vision systems.”

International competition for student teams

Organized by NXP semiconductors, the NXP Cup is an international competition for student teams that build, program and race a smart, fully autonomous model car against each other on a race track. The winner is the team whose vehicle completes the previously unknown course the fastest without getting off the track. The vehicles are controlled by microcontrollers from NXP.

The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is the leading organization for applied research in Europe. Its research activities are conducted by 72 institutes and research units at locations throughout Germany. The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft employs a staff of more than 26,600, who work with an annual research budget totaling more than 2.6 billion euros.

The **Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS** is one of the world’s leading application-oriented research institutions for microelectronic and IT system solutions and services. It is the largest of all Fraunhofer Institutes. Research at Fraunhofer IIS revolves around two guiding topics: In the area of **“Audio and Media Technologies”**, the institute has been shaping the digitalization of media for more than 30 years now. Fraunhofer IIS was instrumental in the development of mp3 and AAC and played a significant role in the digitalization of the cinema. Current developments are opening up whole new sound worlds and are being used in virtual reality, automotive sound systems, mobile telephony, streaming and broadcasting.

In the context of **“cognitive sensor technologies”**, the institute researches technologies for sensor technology, data transmission technology, data analysis methods and the exploitation of data as part of data-driven services and their accompanying business models. This adds a cognitive component to the function of the conventional “smart” sensor.

Nearly 1050 employees conduct contract research for industry, the service sector and public authorities. Founded in 1985 in Erlangen, Fraunhofer IIS now has 15 locations in 11 cities: Erlangen (headquarters), Nuremberg, Fürth, Dresden, as well as in Bamberg, Waischenfeld, Coburg, Würzburg, Ilmenau, Deggendorf and Passau. Its budget of 165 million euros is mainly financed by projects, with 26 percent subsidized by federal and state funds.

Detailed information at: www.iis.fraunhofer.de/en
