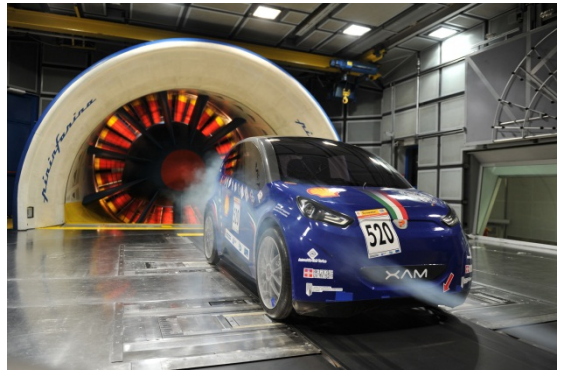




The H2politO team at the Pininfarina Wind Tunnel

Aerodynamic tests at Pininfarina's Grugliasco centre for the ecological city vehicle prototype developed by students from Turin Politecnico

Turin, 12 July 2012 – The ongoing cooperation between **Pininfarina** and the academic world has continued with **aerodynamic tests** in the **Pininfarina Wind Tunnel** at Grugliasco on the project developed by the students of the **H2politO Team of Turin Politecnico**. The vehicle is the **XAM** (eXtreme Automotive Mobility), a low consumption city vehicle prototype wholly designed, engineered and developed by the students.



Fitted with an innovative hybrid powertrain consisting of a small bioethanol-driven engine and an electric motor, the vehicle has been designed to comply fully with the severe regulations imposed by Shell on those taking part in its competitions. The XAM, however, also allows for the needs of a car market that is in the throes of profound, constant change. Apart from its participation in the Shell Eco-marathon, the XAM represents a vehicle-workshop in which it has been and will be possible to develop in-depth studies on materials and technologies in the search for efficient, innovative responses to the sustainable mobility needs of today and above all of tomorrow.

In its ongoing effort to improve results and develop vehicles in view of the prestigious competitions in which it plans to take part in the immediate future, the Team took advantage of the support offered by the **Pininfarina Wind Tunnel**, where it was possible to test the XAM experimentally in various aerodynamic configurations and establish the most appropriate modifications to apply to the next vehicle. Since 1972, the **Pininfarina Wind Tunnel** has been a centre of excellence for aerodynamics and aeroacoustics research and development. Modern systems and advanced measuring technologies are available to support research work. The Tunnel mainly operates on 1:1 scale vehicles in the aerodynamic and aeroacoustic sectors but an equally important field of activity is Wind Engineering (aerodynamic studies on buildings, industrial plants, bridges, sun shades...) and aerodynamic research for sport.

In the two years it has taken part in the European edition of the Shell eco-marathon with the XAM, the H2politO Team has won prestigious prizes like the "SKF Design Award" in 2011 and the "Communication Award" in 2012. The XAM has also managed to cover 107 km with the energy equivalent of one litre of petrol.

For more information on the Pininfarina Wind Tunnel:
http://www.pininfarina.it/en/services/wind_tunnel/

You can also follow Pininfarina on Facebook and Youtube:
www.facebook.com/PininfarinaSpA
www.youtube.com/pininfarinaofficial

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