

Performance Engineer Challenge with Nico Hülkenberg

As part of the INFINITI Engineering Academy placement, the Academy Engineers (IAE's) have been set a series of challenges to undertake. The first two challenges, the Simulator and Hybrid challenges saw European winner Riccardo Manfredini and Asia-Oceania winner Jaden Partridge excel and progress to the third and final test.

The final challenge for the two IAE's was to act as Performance Engineers for the Renault Sport Formula One Team during pre-season testing at Barcelona, with the support of Chris Dyer, Head of Vehicle Performance Group at the team. The challenge for the two Academy Engineers was to monitor the Shakedown of the Team's brand-new car and to compile a report on Nico Hulkenberg's feedback, as he drove the RS.17 for the first time.

At the close of the test, both Riccardo and Jaden had time to debrief with Nico Hülkenberg and gain insight and opinion from Nico, in order to compile their reports. The final task for the engineers was to present their findings from the all-important test back to Chris Dyer and INFINITI's Andy Todd.

Both Academy Engineers produced strong reports based on their findings during the test, and both performed admirably in this high-pressure role. At the end of the event, there could only be one winner and Jaden was the Engineer who impressed judges Nico and Andy Todd the most.

Jaden will now attend his home race, the Australian Grand Prix, as part of the Renault Sport Formula One Team for the duration of the race weekend. All the best to Jaden and a huge well done to all the INFINITI Academy Engineers.