

Power Tool Race in Poland (C5)

At the beginning of October 2022, the Polish school ZSP w Ornontowicach was the host of the **POWER TOOL RACE** event. Partnering schools from Belgium, Greece and Italy sent their delegations of 5 students and 2 teachers to take part in the meeting.

A group of Polish students went to the airport in Katowice-Pyrzowice to greet our guests from Belgium who arrived early on Sunday morning October 9th.

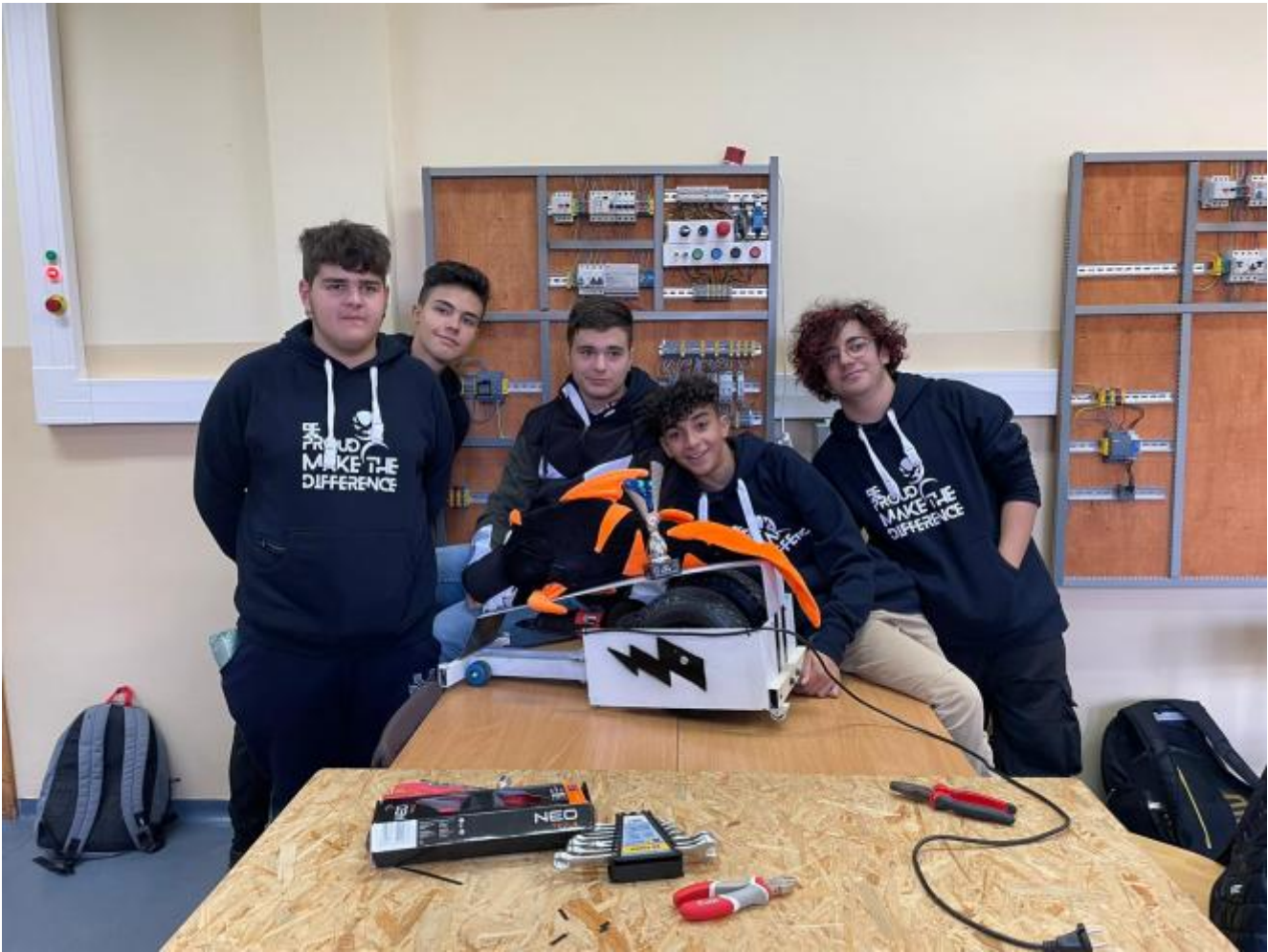


Each team brought their racer built especially for the event to compete in a drag race. The idea was to build a vehicle powered by an electrical hand tool such as a drill, a grinder or a saw and race it on a track for 30metres.

TEAM GREECE



TEAM ITALY



TEAM BELGIUM



TEAM POLAND



DAY ONE

The day started with warm welcome of our guests who arrived early in the morning. There was a guided tour of the school premises with Polish students telling about the courses available at school, showing classrooms and presenting their skills. Visitors had a chance to see our workshops as well as a veterinary classroom and a horse breeding classroom where they were shown some of the equipment used in class or instructed how to measure pulse of their pet. The tour also included hospitality department where our guests were offered some refreshments served by students who are trained to work as waiters and waitresses. There was a moment to sit over a cake with tea, coffee or some soft drink and talk.

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After little break it was time to jint a treasure hunt prepared by the hosting students. Participants were divided into multinational teams, handed a map and invited to walk through the village of Ornontowice and complete the tasks. International cooperation was needed!

Later on that day each team presented their racer, told us the story of their car. Everyone could learn how the power of the tool was transferred to the wheels in each of the cars and what difficulties constructors had come across in the process.







After these presentations each team spent some time on the track to run a few tests and see if all elements of their car were properly fixed and check if the car wasn't damaged in transport.

Some cars needed more attention than others and before we knew it, it was late afternoon...

DAY TWO

The day started early. All teams met shortly after 8 a.m. on the bus that took all the participants on a trip to a mining museum in Zabrze called "Kopalnia Luiza". The museum shows the history of Silesian mining industry and presents machines that have been used in the mining industry through years. Huge mills and harvesters are displayed and a tour guide starts each one to show the group how it works in reality.

There was a chance to learn some mechanics and see gigantic constructions that grind a stone wall into grit. After a walk in a coal mine participants were taken on an underground boat trip where they could learn a bit of the history Silesia and some of the legends related to mining industry.





When we left the deep and dark coal mine we went to see the 19th and early 20th century engine room that accommodated a huge engine that was used in a coal mine

to move the workers up and down. We also learnt something about rescuing equipment of that period.

Then we went to the Museum of Military Technology to see some older machines being used by the military. It was interesting to see huge mechanical parts that transfer power into speed!

DAY THREE

On Wednesday we visited the company AIUT in Gliwice that is a leader in organizing production process. Not only do they produce electrical and electromechanical items but also they specialize in planning production process using hi-tech tools and automated guided vehicle. On a guided tour made by AIUT workers students could see how these AGVs are manufactured, what it takes to produce AGV and why they are so useful in production around the world.



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Thanks to the
hospitality of Aitut.

After this educational visit it was time to learn a bit more about the history of Gliwice. A professional tour guide took us to the wooden Radio tower in Gliwice, a landmark that witnessed events leading to the World War 2. Then we walked through the city listening to the stories about scientists and great thinkers that used to live in the city.



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DAY FOUR

In the morning all teams met at school for the race. A training session was allowed before we started the race and then it all began. To maximize fun and excitement each racer had to compete with the rest of the three remaining racers. Each time one point was awarded for winning. The teams with most points competed in the final. Those with the lowest number of points were fighting for the 3rd place.

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After many emotional ups and downs, unexpected mishaps and lucky escapes the winner was team Belgium! Congratulation team Belgium!

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In the evening all teams joined a dinner party before saying Good Bye to Poland.