Challenge Day 7: Judgement Day

This day is just as important as the past 6 days as it determines 50% of our final score! Today the team will present the car, her interior and features to a professional jury with representatives from industry such as Tesla and Lightyear.

This morning we found out we were first in line, no easy task but the team was totally ready for it. Just before our pitch time the beautiful banner was presented, showing Stella Era’s mean features. After that Stella Era was pushed into the tent where the judges and the audience was ready for us. It all felt so real, so professional as if we were presenting our business plans to the Lion’s Den (do you know that program?) which in a way it is of course. Are our features like the autonomous solar parking, being able to share energy and the well-designed interior with Wi-Fi and intuitive controls.

Each time had 3 minutes time for their pitch (strictly timed) and 5 minutes to show the interior to the judges. All Cruiser Class teams presented their cars which was really nice to see.
After that all we can do is wait. Well, apart from cleaning absolutely everything; the rental cars of the convoy – we already returned the camper yesterday after spending 1,5h getting the stickers off it – the camping gear, distribute all the food, wash clothes, pack all the technical gear and loads more. Pack it so it could either go into storage until the next challenge or be shipped back home along with Stella Era. There was also lots of social media sharing to do, talk to partners, sponsors and family and maybe get some rest. This afternoon there was also the Smart Grid event where we also presented our story on how to contribute to a more sustainable world.

Tonight it is time for a lovely pizza and salad dinner with the whole Solar Team and their family and supporters. Afterwards it is on to drinks with the other Dutch teams and the Belgian team so that should be really fun!

Tomorrow the big wait really starts as we only find out who has won the World Solar Challenge in the evening. Will of course keep you posted!

Watch this space!