



# STEM RACING

## *The World's Leading Next-Generation STEM Program Launches in Japan!*

*MoneyGram Haas F1® Team Principal Ayao Komatsu joins as ambassador,  
supporting young talent to soar from Japan to the world.*



### **Next-Generation Education × Motorsports × Global Career Development**

The world's largest STEM education competition, STEM Racing, is now officially launching in Japan. The program will be operated locally by STEM Academy, a general incorporated association established in July 2025. By combining education, motorsports, and international career development, STEM Racing provides Japanese students with opportunities to step out of the classroom and take on real-world challenges.

Targeting students aged 6 to 19, STEM Racing is an international competition supported by Formula 1, in which participants design and build their own miniature F1®-style cars and race them along a 20-meter straight track powered by compressed air cartridges. The program goes beyond speed, allowing students to gain practical experience in engineering, design, marketing, teamwork, and problem-solving.

This competition, in which students around the world use their STEM knowledge and creativity as their tools, has engaged more than 60 countries, approximately 29,000 schools, and over 1.8 million participants to date (about 33% female). STEM Racing is highly regarded not only in motorsports but also as a platform for learning that supports diverse career paths in automotive, aviation, aerospace, manufacturing, and technology industries.

### **Pioneering the Future through Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration**

STEM Racing is more than just a competition. It emphasizes collaboration with a wide range of partners, including companies, universities, and local communities, to build an ecosystem for developing the next generation of talent. By uniting industry, academia, and government, participating students can greatly expand their learning opportunities and the scope of their challenges, cultivating the ability to take on global opportunities from Japan.

Furthermore, STEM Racing Japan actively fosters partnerships not only with students but also with private companies, educational institutions, and local communities. We look forward to working together with everyone to advance this challenge and help shape the future of Japan.



## ***Ayao Komatsu Named Official Ambassador of STEM Racing Japan***

Ayao Komatsu, who currently serves as Team Principal of the MoneyGram Haas F1® Team, has been appointed as the official ambassador of STEM Racing Japan. Starting out as an engineer and rising to the top of an F1® team, his career journey embodies the spirit of “challenging the world through the power of STEM.”

He accepted the role in recognition of his passion for education and his alignment with the mission of STEM Racing Japan. His wealth of experience and dedication are expected to inspire the next generation, offering them hope and powerful encouragement to take on new challenges.

## ***Ayao Komatsu Quote – STEM Racing Japan***

“It’s a real privilege for me to be appointed as a STEM Racing Ambassador in Japan. The opportunity to bring STEM subjects to students and engage with them in a way that’s truly inspiring through a project like STEM Racing is something I’m genuinely passionate about. I really wish there had been an initiative like this that I could have been involved with when I was growing up in Japan.”

“As someone who then moved to Europe and pursued a dream to become an engineer and work in Formula 1, I’m grateful to have an opportunity like this where I can give back to the next generation by sharing my experiences and supporting their own STEM ambitions. I’m thrilled to know there are already three Japanese teams in the STEM Racing World Finals in Singapore in September – I look forward to cheering them on and supporting STEM Racing’s growth in Japan in the future.”





## ***Chasing the World Champions!***

### ***To the World Stage: Three Japanese Teams Challenging the Aramco STEM Racing World Finals***

Three teams from Japan will compete in the Aramco STEM Racing World Finals 2025, held in Sentosa, Singapore, from September 27 to October 2, 2025.



#### ***CHANGE HOLDINGS Hayabusa Racing (Independent)***

Based in Tokyo, each member takes initiative in design, manufacturing, data analysis, and marketing, all while striving to become the best in the world. Learning from past setbacks, they are determined to prove that Japanese students can stand at the top. Guided by their vision, "Ignite The Future," they are also committed to promoting STEM and fostering the next generation of talent. <[Website](#)>



#### ***Team PHOENIX (Fukui Senior High School)***

They are **Japan's only long-standing team** participating in STEM Racing since 2016. In 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2023, they represented Japan at the World Finals, earning high recognition for their skills in car design and manufacturing. At this year's World Finals in 2025, marking their fifth appearance, they will leverage their experience and continue to focus on technical expertise, teamwork, and leadership in their challenge. <[Website](#)>



#### ***Fusion Force (Collaboration Team: ASIJ & Thailand)***

This year, Fusion Force marks its debut in STEM Racing, formed through a collaboration between students from ASIJ (American School in Japan) and Thailand. The team brings together members with experience in various competitions, aiming to prove that distance is no barrier to teamwork. Core members who will lead the future of ASIJ's Engineering Club are taking on the challenge of the World Championship stage. <[Website](#)>



## ***Aramco STEM Racing World Finals 2025***

The Aramco STEM Racing World Finals 2025 will be held from Saturday, September 27 to Thursday, October 2, 2025, in Sentosa, Singapore. This prestigious international competition brings together young STEM talents from around the world to showcase their technical skills and creativity.

This year marks the first World Finals under the refreshed "STEM Racing" brand, formerly known as F1 in Schools, and the 20th edition of the competition. The event will take place alongside the excitement of the Singapore GP, providing an international motorsport atmosphere. Teams that have achieved success in their respective national competitions will compete for the top spot in the world, putting their technical expertise, creativity, and passion to the test.

Note: In 2025, Japanese teams will participate in the World Finals on a voluntary basis, continuing their ongoing activities. In most other countries, top teams from national competitions represent their nations at the World Finals. From 2026 onward, Japan plans to select its representative teams through national competitions. Preparations are underway for the domestic event, scheduled for early June next year.





## Challengers on the Road to Their Next Stage

In 2025, newly joined teams have embarked on their STEM Racing journey. Their efforts not only pave the way for future participation in the World Finals but also represent a significant step toward nurturing the next generation of engineers and innovators in Japan. By supporting their growth, we aim to expand the STEM Racing community nationwide and cultivate the talents who will shape the future.



sakuraracing\_25

### 花-SAKURA-Racing

Composed of students from Yamaguchi Prefectural Yamaguchi High School. The team was initiated when the students identified a challenge themselves and proposed it to their teachers as a project to explore. Beyond competing in the event, they are committed to addressing educational disparities and creating learning opportunities. They are scheduled to participate in the National Finals in Thailand from October 9 to 12, 2025.



### Team IMPAKT

Formed in 2025 by 15- to 16-year-old students from K International School Tokyo. Driven by a strong curiosity to learn about car mechanics, marketing, and finance, the team members share a passion for F1 racing. United by this common ambition, the team is fully committed to competing for the trophy at the STEM Racing World Championship.



mercury\_racing\_jpn

### Mercury Racing

Composed of middle and high school students from Tochigi and Tokyo. With the slogan "The future is promising," the team aims to win at the World Championship and hopes to contribute to Japan's automotive industry and future through STEM Racing.



windbreaker\_japan

### Wind Breaker

An all-girls STEM Racing team based in Tokyo. Facing various challenges, they aim to overcome obstacles as if cutting through the wind, boldly pushing forward and breaking new ground. Through STEM Racing, they will gain knowledge to become global leaders.

## STEM Racing

STEM Racing (Formerly F1 in Schools) is an international STEM education program founded in the United Kingdom in 2000. To date, more than 60 countries have participated, and the program continues to operate actively in around 40 countries worldwide. Students work in diverse fields such as engineering, design, and marketing to design and build model cars inspired by F1®-style cars, with the aim of competing in the World Championship. The program's ultimate goal is to help middle and high school students around the world develop as the next generation of talent through hands-on learning and challenging experiences.

## PRESS CONTACT

### STEM Racing Ltd. UK Headquarters

Rebecca Atkinson  
[ratkinson@stemracing.com](mailto:ratkinson@stemracing.com)  
<https://www.stemracing.com>

### STEM Academy, General Incorporated Association STEM Racing Japan

Junko Mizuno  
[junko@stemracing.jp](mailto:junko@stemracing.jp)  
<https://www.stemracing.jp>

