University of Calgary Team Completes North American Solar Challenge

Supported by NovAtel Technology

(Calgary, Alberta, Canada, August 3, 2005) – NovAtel Inc. (NASDAQ: NGPS), a precise positioning technology company, sponsored and provided technology for the University of Calgary’s first attempt in the North American Solar Challenge international road race. Soleon, a solar-powered car designed, built and driven by a team from the University of Calgary, crossed the finish line on July 27 in Calgary in 13th place, culminating a 4,000 kilometre journey that began on July 17 in Austin, Texas.

Soleon crosses the finish line in Calgary

The North American Solar Challenge is an intercollegiate competition involving student teams from around the world. The challenge is to design, build and race solar-powered vehicles across the U.S. and Canada in the shortest elapsed time. The 10-day race mainly followed U.S. Highway 75 and the Trans Canada Highway.

NovAtel donated a FlexPak-G2L receiver and a GPS-702 antenna to the University of Calgary team, who integrated the components with additional equipment in order to survey the route prior to the race.

According to Jared Bancroft, the geomatics specialist on Soleon's race engineering team, "Having NovAtel technology to survey an elevation profile of the race route was a tremendous benefit to our

Sean Hum, Soleon’s Race Engineering Manager
team. We used NovAtel’s FlexPak-G2L and antenna to create the elevation database, which helped predict our energy consumption and plan our strategy. In addition, the road data we collected when we surveyed the route in February prepared the drivers as we were able to record stop signs, lights, even pot holes and bumps."

Farlin Halsey, NovAtel’s Vice President, Marketing, added, “NovAtel and the University of Calgary have a long-standing relationship, particularly with the school’s Geomatics program. We have worked with the university on numerous joint research projects, and many of our employees are University of Calgary graduates. NovAtel considers its relationship with the university as a great business asset.”