

Buckeye Bullet 2 Surpasses 200 mph

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Ohio State engineering students [piloted](#) their Buckeye Bullet 2 (BB2) vehicle, a hydrogen fuel cell powered streamliner racer, to more than 200 mph, marking a new milestone for alternative fuel vehicles.

On the final racing run at the 2007 Speed Week at Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, the student-designed and built racer registered 201 mph, at 9,500 rpms in second gear. The Buckeye Bullet 2 team's goals were to verify that the propulsion system works properly, that the vehicle is safe, and to successfully run the vehicle for three miles, reaching 175 mph.

In their final run attempt, the car achieved 201 mph as it exited the three-mile mark on the seven mile racing track.

This achievement sets the stage for the BB2 team to return to Bonneville for the 2007 Racing World Finals in October to test the hydrogen-powered vehicle again, with the goal of breaking 300 mph, as the student team enhances the vehicle's systems.

In addition to the BB2 surpassing the 200 mph mark, Ford Motor Company set their own speed records on Wednesday, racing the Ford Fusion 999 land speed record vehicle, designed by Ford engineers and fabricated and built by Roush, to 207 mph. ([Earlier post.](#))

Ohio State students provided the design for Ford's 770 hp electric motor, with Ballard supplying the hydrogen fuel cells.

The BB2 uses a combination of hydrogen and oxygen as input for the fuel cells that power a 700+ hp motor—as does the Ford Fusion 999. An ice water bath provides the cooling.

BB2 is the successor to the battery-powered Buckeye Bullet 1, which currently holds both national and international landspeed records at 315 mph and 272 mph respectively and was the first electric vehicle to break the 300 mph barrier.

