

IT and High Performance Computing at Renault F1 Team
Oxford University ICTF Conference - 15TH July 2009



The sport of Formula 1



Global sport platform:

10 teams

20 drivers

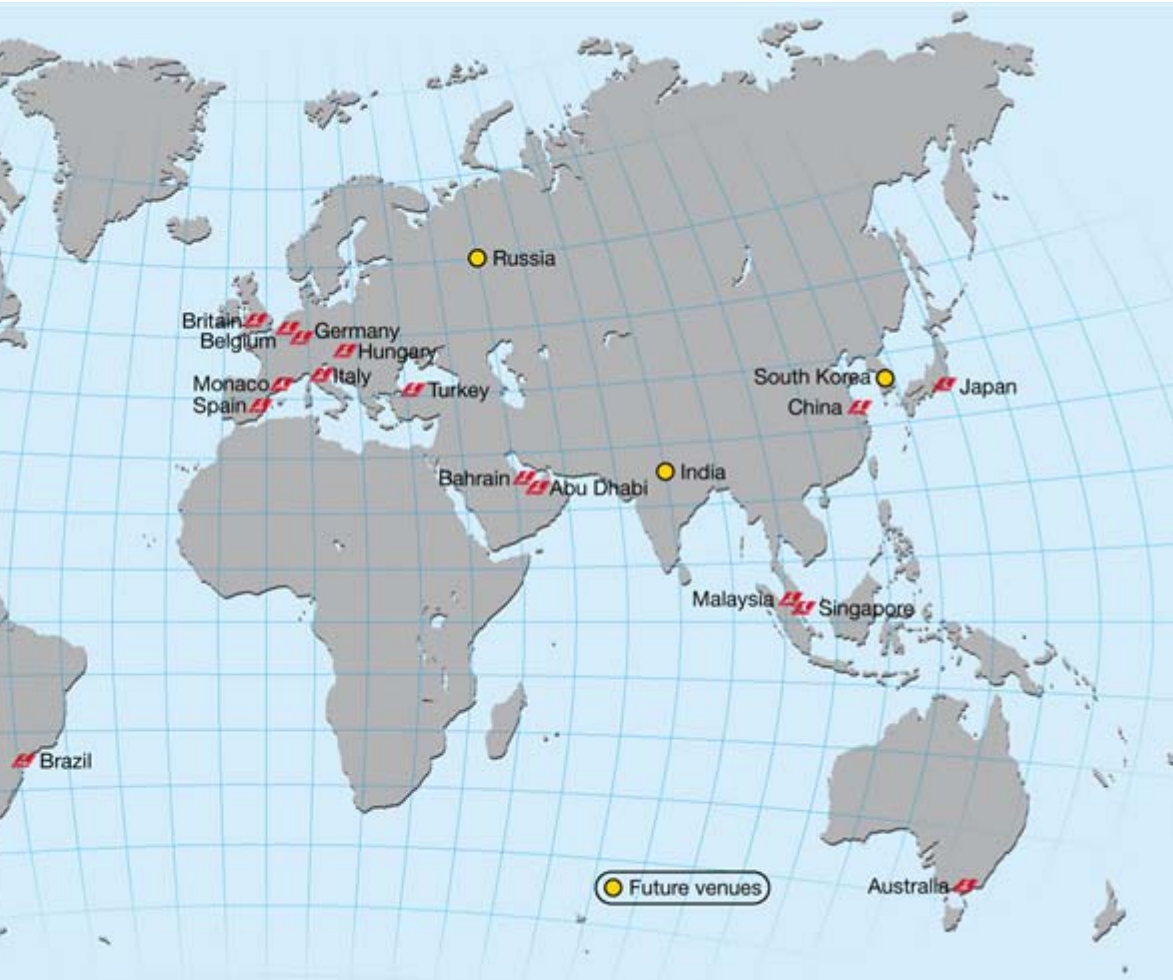
17 grands prix

3 - day events

9 month season

2 million spectators

per season



600 million
live TV audience

2.61 billion
cumulative TV
audience

188
Countries
Broadcasting
Formula 1

300
media corps at
each race

F1 MEDIA IMPACT

THE SPORT OF FORMULA 1

RENAULT **F1** Team

Formula 1 has unparalleled TV visibility and media interest.



Renault in Formula One





- A history of engineering innovation in Formula 1 since 1977
- Full integration in own Formula 1 team in 2002
- 15 Drivers' and Manufacturers' World Championship titles





- 115 wins in 426 races, 306 podiums, 154 pole positions
- 6 consecutive Constructors' titles between 1992 and 1997
- Fernando Alonso World Champion in 2005 and 2006
- Flavio Briatore led the team to 7 world championships



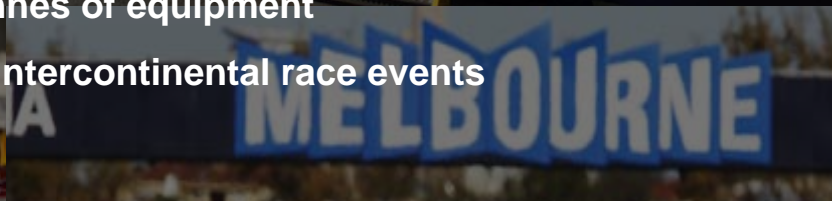
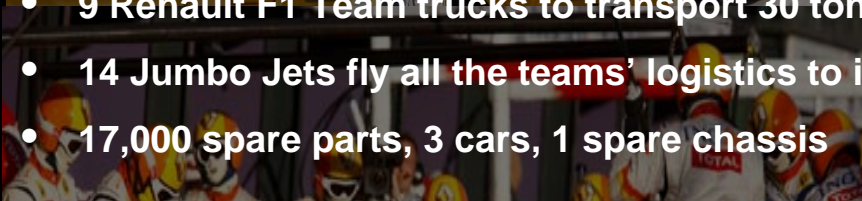


A challenging sport



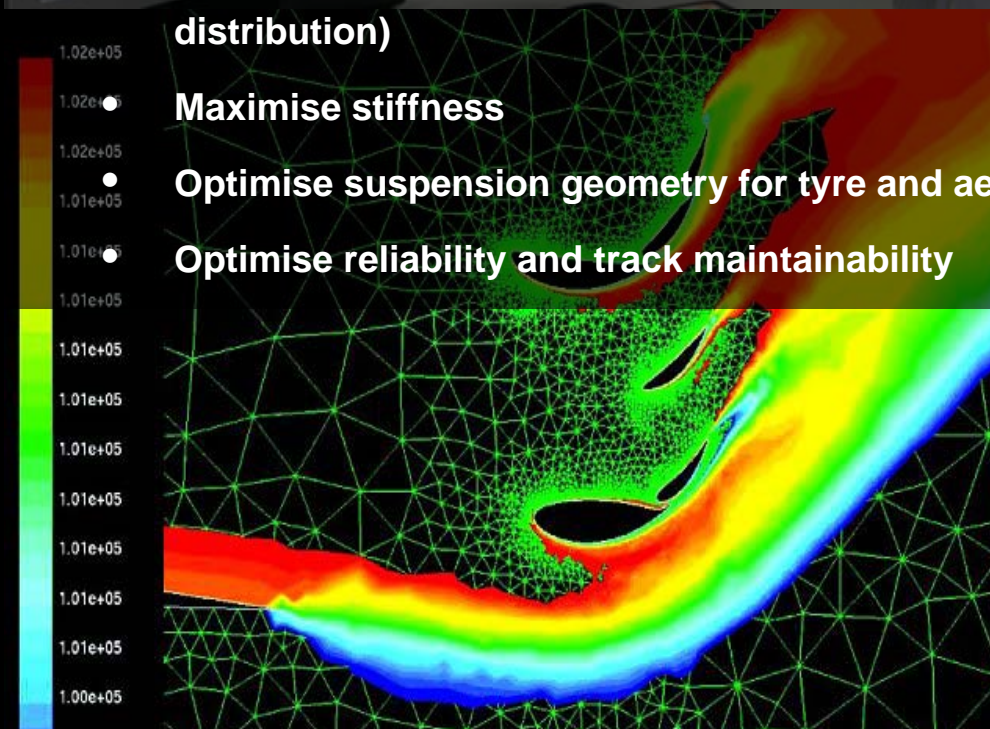


- 90 people travel to each race
- 9 Renault F1 Team trucks to transport 30 tonnes of equipment
- 14 Jumbo Jets fly all the teams' logistics to intercontinental race events
- 17,000 spare parts, 3 cars, 1 spare chassis





- **Maximum downforce and minimum drag**
- **Minimise weight (maximum ballast to optimize centre of gravity and weight distribution)**



Maximise stiffness

- **Optimise suspension geometry for tyre and aerodynamic performance**
- **Optimise reliability and track maintainability**



DESIGN STRATEGY

A CHALLENGING SPORT

RENAULT F1 Team



DESIGN



PRODUCTION



RACING



TESTING

48 teraflop super computer

500 terabytes of factory storage

4.5 terabytes of trackside storage

15 megabytes of race data per lap (10 yrs ago a race could be saved on a floppy disc!)

A DATA DRIVEN SPORT

A CHALLENGING SPORT

RENAULT  Team

Engine Video Here

- Configuration: 90 degree V8
- Displacement: 2,398 cc
- RPM: up to 18,000 (limited by regulations)
- Weight: 95 kg
- Piston acceleration: up to 10,500 Gs
- Exhaust temperature: 900° C
- BHP: more than 700



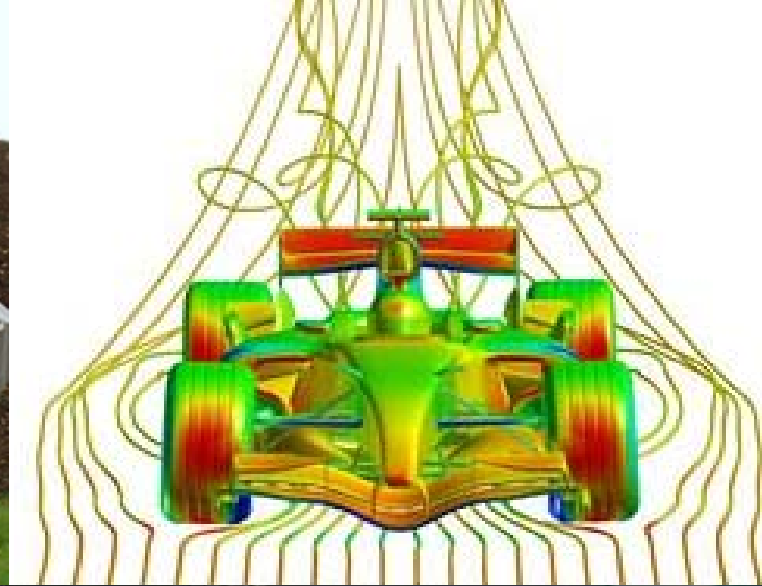
TYRES

A CHALLENGING SPORT

RENAULT  Team

- More than 150 components
- Dry tyres can exceed operating temperature of 100° C and rotate 20-50 times/sec.
- Rain tyres can disperse up to 50 litres of water per second
- 1.2 - 1.3 bar
- Lateral and longitudinal forces up to 5 Gs





Wind tunnel operates 24/7

More than 50,000 components evaluated in 2008

More than 2,000 kg downforce at 200 mph/320 km/h

48 Teraflops CFD calculating power and 270 Terabytes of storage

Within 5 most powerful supercomputers in UK

Powered by renewable energy and below ground level to minimise environmental impact



AERODYNAMICS

A CHALLENGING SPORT

RENAULT  Team

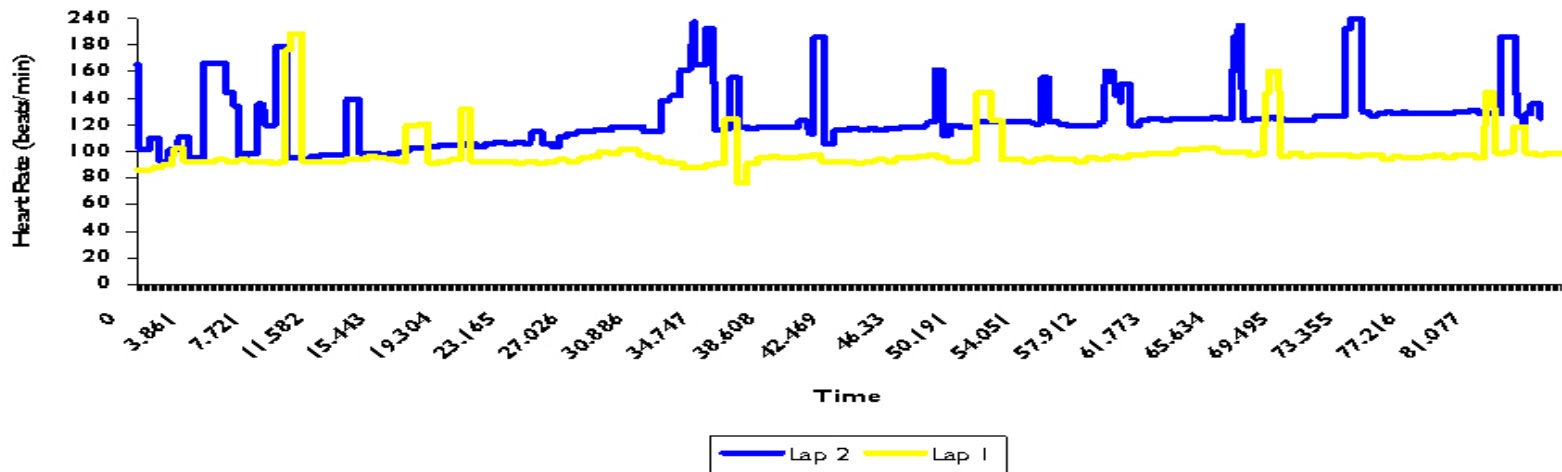


THE DRIVER

A CHALLENGING SPORT

- Heart rate 80 bpm - 220 bpm
- Cockpit temperature 60° C - 80° C
- Dehydration up to 4 kg weight loss
- Lateral and longitudinal forces up to 5 Gs

Heart rate comparison between 2 test laps (varlation 4/10th of a second)





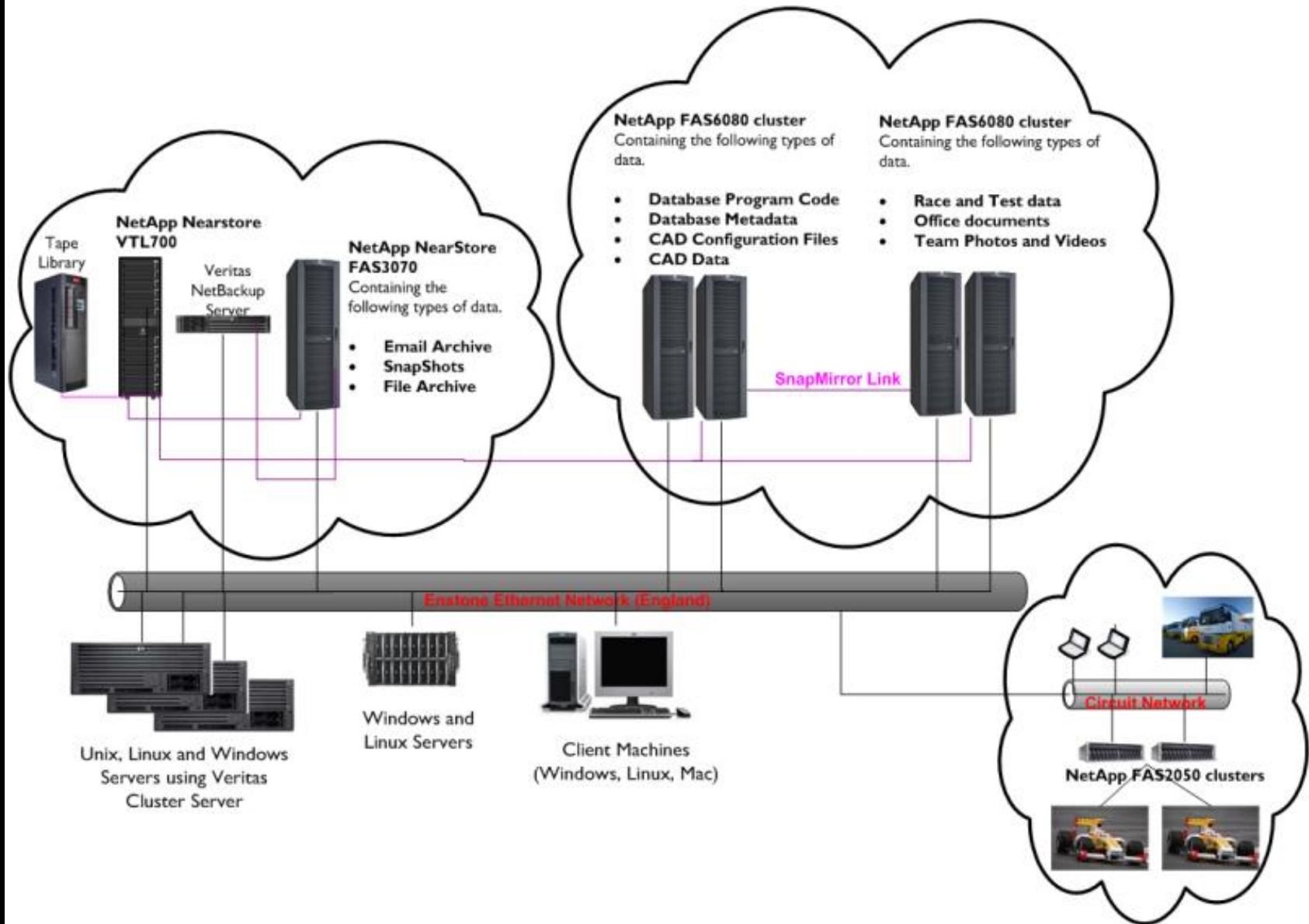
The typical qualifying performance gap over a single lap between the fastest and slowest drivers is about 3 seconds.

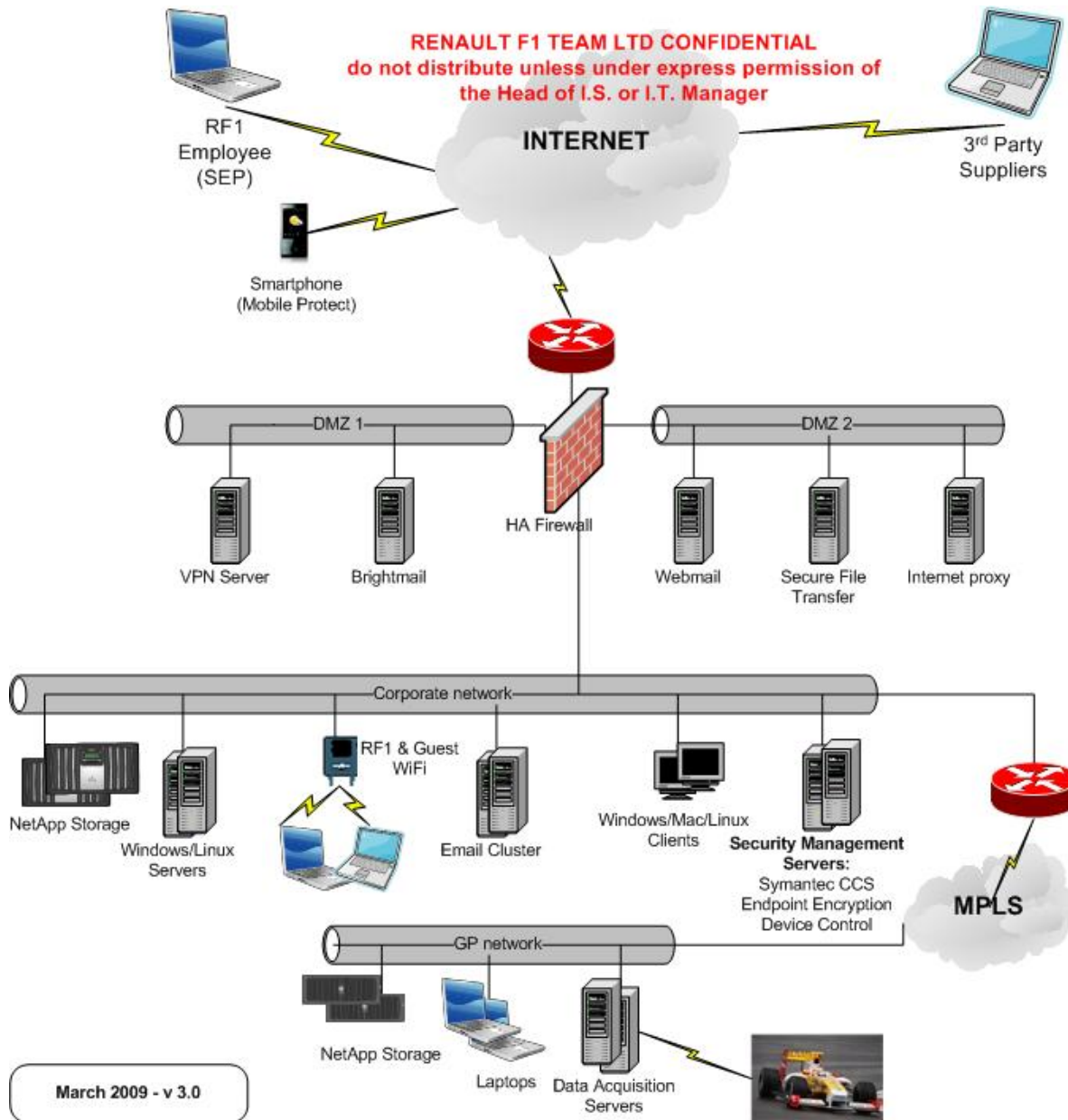
The gap separating the top 6 drivers is about 0.6 seconds.




Telemetry Video Here


- Trackside storage capacity: 10 Tb
- High frequency radio used to transmit real-time data
- 200 sensors can create up to 1000 channels
- 10 years ago a floppy disc could contain race data: Now 15Mb/lap

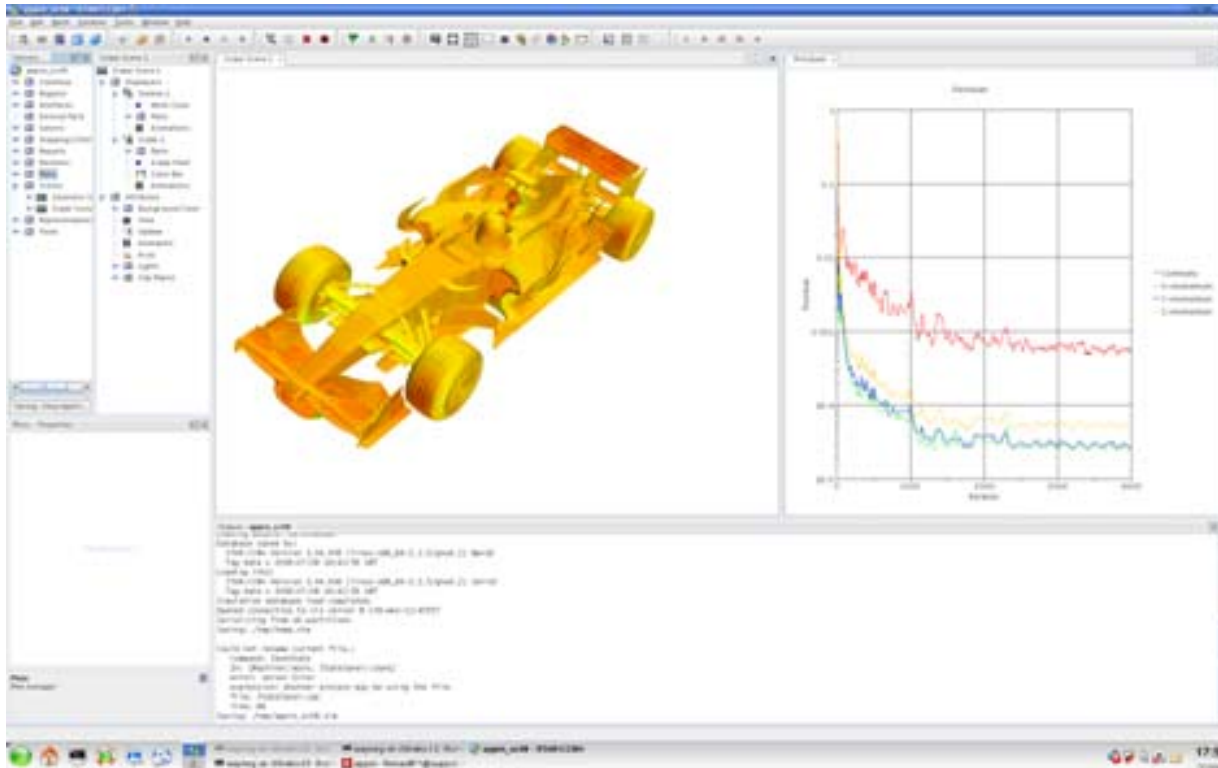




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- The system architecture has been designed and configured to meet the capacity, capability and user requirements of the CFD and Aerodynamic groups
 - The system is used for a variety of internal and external aerodynamic and thermodynamic simulations in parallel to the aerodynamic testing performed in the team's wind tunnel.
 - The Supercomputer is based in an open architecture leveraging commodity parts with the latest technologies providing us with the performance edge while reducing our total cost of ownership.

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- Blade scalable architecture with Quad-core AMD Opteron processors
 - 38 TFLOP/s Appro Xtreme-X2
 - 10 TFLOP/s HP BladeSystem
 - Dual-rail InfiniBand and gigabit Ethernet management networks
 - Global parallel file system bridged directly to the InfiniBand fabric
 - Heterogeneous processing combining x86, 64-bit multi-core AMD Opteron processors and streaming GPU modes



The commercial (Star-CCM+ supplied by CD-Adapco) and non-commercial CFD solvers typically used by the CFD group are suited to distributed memory or “cluster” architectures employing the standard Message Passing Interface (MPI) for inter-process communication.



FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS:

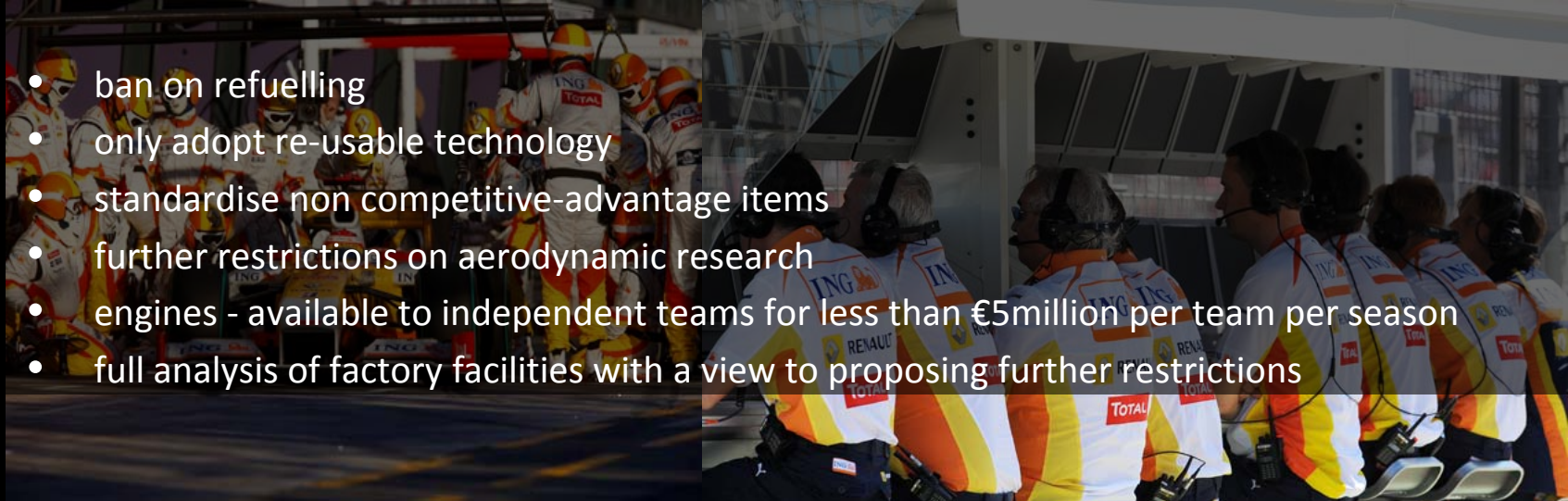
- Data Management/Security
- IT Service Management (which will involve a culture change)
- Trackside software tools
- Numerically Intensive Computing (Track/CFD/Stress/VTG)
- Budget allocation/Value on Investment

FOR THE BUSINESS:

- Reduced Track Testing (Simulation)
- “Green” F1 (Kinetic Energy Recovery Systems)
- Technical restrictions
 - “Diffusergate”
 - Increase Aerodynamic Output within FOTA restrictions
- Budget restrictions



- manpower reduced
- engine life to be doubled, max 20 per team per season
- no in-season testing except during race weekend during scheduled practice
- no wind tunnel exceeding 60% scale and 50 metres/sec
- factory closures for two weeks per year



- ban on refuelling
- only adopt re-usable technology
- standardise non competitive-advantage items
- further restrictions on aerodynamic research
- engines - available to independent teams for less than €5million per team per season
- full analysis of factory facilities with a view to proposing further restrictions

THANK YOU

Graeme K. Hackland MBCS CITP
CTO - IT

