

University at Buffalo

# SOLEX

Sponsorship Packet  
2003-2004



## **UB SOLEX**

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Website: [www.eng.buffalo.edu/students/organizations/ubsolex](http://www.eng.buffalo.edu/students/organizations/ubsolex)

The University at Buffalo Solex Club (UB SOLEX) is an organization of engineering students dedicated to the design and modification of the Solex motorbike for entry in international competition.

Our club consists of mechanical and aerospace engineering students who all have interest in the experience and opportunity to compete in an international arena. Clearly, our success in an international engineering competition is crucial for today's engineering student. The purpose of the enclosed packet is to encourage companies to invest in the future of American engineering by contributing to UB SOLEX.

Solex motorbikes are a hybrid of an early motorcycle and a standard bicycle. It consists of a motor attached to the front wheel to provide additional power to the bike. The Solex motorbike is capable of fuel efficiencies as high as 200 miles per gallon and speeds of 25mph. Additional information can be found in the enclosed packet.

UB SOLEX is a new and exciting club, recently formed by mechanical and aerospace engineering students. The students who are members of our club have joined for a variety of reasons. Some are interested in the mechanical aspects of the Solex, while others are attracted to the environmental benefits. But all of us are committed to engaging in friendly engineering competition on an international level.

This coming May, there will be a worldwide Solex competition in Troyes, France. These competitions are widely attended and receive international press. Our goal is to have a working Solex motorbike that has been tested and modified for performance to compete in these races. We feel that working hands-on with the design, fabrication and repairs, will give us more insight to the engineering of the bike and its drive system. UB SOLEX will be the first American team to take part in these competitions. There are 5 divisions in the competition ranging from Unmodified to Modified IV. We plan to compete in the Modified II division.

UB SOLEX is requesting help from interested partners to achieve our goals of developing our members and representing the University at Buffalo, your company and the United States in these competitions. We are asking you to supplement our fundraising efforts with a sponsorship donation of money or materials. Time donations, such as facility usage and design advice, are also greatly appreciated. In return for your generous support, there are benefits such as tax deductions and advertisements, which are discussed in full in the enclosed packet.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions feel free to contact me via the phone at (716) 830-7594 or by email at [jstanley@buffalo.edu](mailto:jstanley@buffalo.edu).

UB SOLEX would like to thank you for taking the time to read our proposal.

Sincerely,

James Stanley, Sponsorship Coordinator

The goal of this packet is to encourage your support for our club in the completion and racing of our Solex. We are asking for donations of supplies, money, or time; any donation would be greatly appreciated.

### **The Benefits of Sponsorship**

Our parts supplier has contacted Newsweek magazine and The French media and additional media sources. There will be great opportunities to have your company receive free and international advertisement. Additional benefits are listed below:

- All donations are tax deductible with the enclosed form
- Your company name will be added to all literature and exhibits in which sponsorship names are included
- As the sole US competitor in this international competition, opportunity for publicity both here and abroad
- Your company logo and a link to your website will be added to our website
- Most importantly you will contribute to preparation of US engineering students to compete internationally

### **Types of donations**

Sponsorship is welcome in any form; monetary donations, time donations, and donations of supplies are all equally valuable. The majority of our expenses go towards the design and repair of parts to be used on the Solex.

Monetary donations are always appreciated, and are often the easiest form of sponsorship. Both direct funds and discounts are included under monetary donations.

Time donations are of great value and could consist of facilities usage or advice on various design issues. This form of sponsorship is of great value to us. We would not have access to these resources without your sponsorship. If you have any subsidiaries or partners in France, we greatly appreciate any support they may be able to provide while we compete far from home.

Donations of various supplies are an integral part of keeping this project running as we design and research the Solex. These donations could be as simple as nuts and bolts or as complex as you wish to get. Please keep in mind that something you consider waste may be of great use to us. Please contact us if you have any scrap material which UB SOLEX may be able to use.

If you would like to discuss specific sponsorship benefits, we are open to your suggestions, as we appreciate your support.

Thank you again for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions feel free to contact me via the phone at (716) 830-7594 or by email at [jstanley@buffalo.edu](mailto:jstanley@buffalo.edu).

**Appendix A: Estimated Budget**

<b>Solex Costs</b>	
Bike	\$208.50
Shipping	\$55.00
Solex Parts	\$550.00
Tools	\$150.00
Rider accessories	\$150.00
Equipment	\$200.00
Race Registration	\$442.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1755.54</b>
<b>Travel Costs (per participant)</b>	
Airfare	\$500.00
Lodging (6 race days)	\$120.00
Lodging (13 non-race days)	\$260.00
Dining (6 race days)	\$90.00
Dining (13 non-race days)	\$130.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1120.00</b>

*Detailed breakdown of costs begin on following page.*

**Solex Costs Defined:**

**Bike:** Bought off of [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com) (figure below)



**Tools:** Necessary tools needed to assemble and restore a gas powered engine, and to modify the frame and remaining components of the Solex bike. (i.e. wrenches, screwdrivers, ratchets and sockets, paint for bike).

**Rider Accessories:** Required helmets, padding, and clothing for riders of the bike. We will be need four sets (two per race), so the alternate rider is suitably dressed and “ready to go” when the switch is made.

**Equipment:** Kickstands, aerodynamic shape spokes and handle bars, braking system, new gears, chains, pedals, upgrades for engine not included in Velosolex America donations, engine oil, gasoline.

**Race Registration:** Registration fees for two races (Solex Cup at UTT and the 24 Hours of Chaumont), two bikes entered into each race.

**Travel Costs Defined:**

**Airfare:** Approximate cost from Buffalo International or any NYC airports (gas and tolls included) to Charles de Gaulle International Airport.

**Lodging and Dining:** Cost of lodging is for the *race days* only. Estimation for lodging in France is about \$20 (US) per night and food cost is \$15 (US) per day. There are 6 days where we are there for races and 13 days in between races where we will be “experiencing” French culture.