Spring 2001

Racecar Driver Cooling Suit

Project: Racecar Driver's Cooling Suit Utilizing Thermoelectric Cooler, Liquid-Pump Loop, and Phase Change Material

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Project Motivation

Racecar drivers exposed to some of the harshest environments in sports: ambient temperatures of 140°F, races up to 4 hours long, and no cooling air flow through safety suit

Objective

Design a cooling system for driver to increase their comfort during the race, thus increasing their performance and safety. Cooling system should satisfy the following requirements: (a) remove 150 W, (b) weigh less than 15 lbs, (c) pull less than 18 amps from car, (d) maintain driver comfort, and (e) uphold racing regulations (safety, etc.)

- The cooling system is comprised of three main components:
- Pump which circulates water throughout suit
- Thermoelectric cooler which cools water as it circulates inside tubing embedded in suit
- Phase Change Material (PCM) which absorbs heat by changing phase (melting) to maintain a constant temperature





Thermal Image of Test Driver with Cooling Suit Open



TEC Assembly and Water Pump

