

What I have learned is key to thriving in the Solar Car Challenge since 1997

**Presented by Chris Jones, Chief Judge and Foundation Board Member
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Who I am



- **I raced in 1997, 1998, and 1999**
- **I have a Mechanical Engineering Degree from Cal Poly**
- **I worked at JPL in an advanced technologies lab**
- **I was a Director at Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems**
- **I am Currently a senior manager at Northrop Grumman**
- **I have multiple satellites in orbit right now**

One of the things I'm Proud of

- This is the NASA blue Marble 2012
- Taken by the Raytheon VIIRS instrument
- [NASA Article](#)



This is what took the Picture



What is most important for success?



- **Rules for building your car**
 - **The Number One Rule**
 - It has to work
 - **The Number Two Rule**
 - If you do your very best it just might work...
 - **The Number Three Rule**
 - Cheat whenever possible.
 - No, don't actually cheat – be smart in what you do and how you approach it
- **Reliability**
 - **Failing Fast Before you get to the event**
- **Driving your car before the event**
 - **Total Miles Driven**
 - **Driver Training**
- **Read The rules**
 - **Understand the rules and ask questions**
 - **Practice Scrutineering**

What are the most common things that cause a team to fail



- 1. The car was still being built at scrutineering**
- 2. Lack of testing**
- 3. Failure to Read or understand the rules**

Please Listen



- You have already heard speakers touch on these things
- You will hear more the rest of today and tomorrow
 - Please listen when someone says “This is important”

Questions?

