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Making New Friends in India

Through a four-day seminar in Pune, OptimumG was able to transfer new knowledge and expertise to an emerging automotive industry and market

Beginning on September 9, 2009, engineers from [OptimumG](#), a vehicle dynamics and data acquisition consulting firm, hosted a four-day seminar in Pune, India to demonstrate vehicle testing and teach vehicle dynamics, testing and data analysis theory. Partnering with Automotive Test System (ATS) New Delhi, OptimumG's seminar drew over 100 participants from top-tier automobile companies in India, automotive regulatory personnel, tire manufacturers, veteran professionals and university students. The specialized seminar was the first of its kind in India and provided participants an opportunity to learn new techniques and put vehicle dynamics knowledge into action to improve vehicle ride, handling and safety.

Held at the [Automotive Research Association of India](#) (ARAI), the first two days of the seminar were spent in the classroom learning about vehicle dynamics and ride. Topics such as automotive safety, road safety, and increased usage of advanced sensors gave participants a more holistic knowledge of vehicle design and development. Vehicle dynamics expert and OptimumG President [Claude Rouelle](#) also focused on suspension design to suit Indian driving conditions.

"Very few technical institutes have specific courses on vehicle dynamics despite dire need," said S Raju, Senior Deputy Director of ARAI. "The seminar maintained a healthy balance between theoretical teaching and practical hands-on exposure."

The third day of the seminar was spent on the test track maintained by the Vehicle Research & Development Establishment (VRDE). With sensor technology from [Oxford Technical Solutions](#), [Integrated Measurement and Control](#), and [CORRSYS-DATRON](#), a company within The Kistler Group, the participants were split into six groups and were given hands-on experience in installing the sensors and running several tests on the vehicle. OptimumG demonstrated to the participants how to install and calibrate the new equipment. They shared their knowledge and experience in data acquisition to ensure that the data collected was accurate and useful. The groups ran four tests: a brake test, a skid pad test to evaluate the steady-state behavior of the vehicle, and the slalom test and double lane change maneuver to evaluate the transient handling of the vehicle.

OptimumG finished the seminar by showing participants how to analyze data from the previous day's tests. Participants acquired increased knowledge and skills on how to extract more information from simple tests. With the ability to analyze data more effectively, the Indian participants will be able to put their newfound knowledge to use in their own testing facilities and improve their companies' standards.

"In our eyes, success in consulting is achieved not only by transferring our knowledge and experience, but also enabling the customer to face their challenges independently," said Rouelle.

The four-day seminar in Pune, India was a successful first step in bringing new technology and know-how to the Indian market while allowing OptimumG to appreciate one of the fastest growing automotive fields in the world.

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An international consortium of engineers, OptimumG is a leading race car consulting firm that has the agility to transfer that knowledge to the automotive industry. With over 30 years of experience in the United States, Europe and Japan, Claude Rouelle and his team of engineers have worked with top-tier race car teams and automotive companies to gain an increased understanding of vehicle dynamics, suspension development and data acquisition through in-house seminars, consulting and software development.