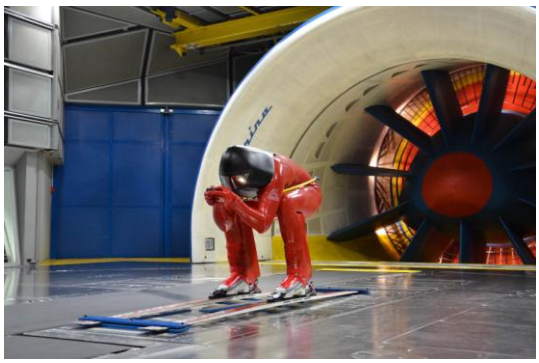
Origone at the Pininfarina Wind Tunnel to break a new record

The world champion of speed skiing Simone Origone is training to challenge himself trying to break a new world record



Turin, January 15 2014 - **Simone Origone**, the **fastest man in the world**, is back in the **Pininfarina Wind Tunnel** to submit its new sports equipment to aerodynamic tests in preparation of a new challenge, this time with himself: next February the **world champion of speed skiing** will try to break the world record for the speed skiing (251.40 kmh)**,** brought back to Italy in 2006 by himself.

In the ski, as in many other sports, the air behaviour is a very important factor. That's why Origone often comes to the Pininfarina Wind Tunnel to test the air resistance of the suit, of the helmets, of the poles, of the boots. And not only. In the Wind Tunnel, Origone tests the positions of the body, of the arms, of the hands, attaching the skis to a special scale. When the wind increases until 110 km/h and the propeller is fully operational, Origone is able to see on a display, in real time, the drag expressed in kilograms. At this point, the champion looks for the position which allows him to obtain the minor drag. Moreover, through the visualization with smoke, it is possible to double-check the type of aerodynamic flow on the skier's shoulders, on his back and on the helmet, always trying to find the best position minimizing the drag.

At **Pininfarina**, the combination of technology and aesthetics has always been pursued with great passion. Along the years many aerodynamic tests have been carried out in the Pininfarina Wind Tunnel: for the Formula 1, for motorcycling and for the sports equipment of world-class athletes. In the Grugliasco Research Centre, the cyclist **Francesco Moser** prepared the world hour record, the climber **Reinhold Messner** tested his high-altitude tent, the ski champion **Isolde Kostner** tested the suit she was wearing when she got on the podium for the first time, **Daniela Ceccarelli** prepared herself for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games of Salt Lake City (where she was awarded with the gold medal in the Supergiant), the French skier **Antoine Dénériaz** carried out aerodynamic tests on his suit Anzi Besson which he was wearing in the men's downhill at the 2006 Turin Winter Olympic Games.

Also sports equipment designed by **Pininfarina Extra**, as the **golf clubs Mizuno** and the **ski boots Lange** have undergone tests in the Wind Tunnel. And it is worth mentioning the great success of the **2006 Turin Winter Olympic Games**, for which Pininfarina designed and developed the **Torch**, also tested in the Wind Tunnel, and the **Cauldron**.

The Pininfarina Wind Tunnel is since 1972 a center of excellence for the research and development in the aerodynamic and aero-acoustic sector. To support the research activities, up-to-date devices and advanced measuring techniques are available. The Wind Tunnel mainly operates on 1:1 scale vehicles, in the aerodynamic and aero-acoustic sectors, but another important activity field is the one of the Wind Engineering (aerodynamic studies on buildings, industrial equipment, bridges, sunshades, …) and of the aerodynamic research in sports.

Simone Origone, born in Aosta (Italy) in 1979, entered the speed skiing Italian national team 7 years ago, obtaining great results which allowed him to be the most successful athlete in the speed skiing history or: in less than six seconds they go from 0 to 200 km/h). He holds the world's KL record with 251.40 kmh. He won 7 World's Cups (2004-2005-2006-2007-2009-2010-2011), 4 World's Fis (2005-2007-2009- 2011), 4 World's Pro (2004-2006-2008-2009) and 2 Speed Master- former world's pro (2010-2011).

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