



Subaru Advanced Driving Course 2005

Practice Makes Perfect

Next time when you see a Subaru WRX overtake you around Newton circus, please do not immediately think the driver is behaving badly or that he's bullying other road users. Chances are he's putting into practice his newly acquired skills from the recent Subaru Advanced Driving Course 2005 (ADC).

What's in this ADC that makes the participants feel 'super human'? The answer lies in knowing one's limit and that of the car. Many a time when we drive hard and lose control of the car, we tend to blame everyone and everything except ourselves. We fail to realise, intentional or otherwise, that it is the driver who is responsible for driving the car into the ditch most of the time.

Most accidents happen when drivers drive over the limits of the car. It is easy to be the hooligan by just putting your foot down and yanking the wheel. However, it is

most satisfying to drive round a corner knowing you have judiciously made full use of the engine, chassis, tyres and brakes. You are in control of the situation instead of the other way round.

This is exactly what the Subaru ADC is all about. Instead of preaching mere theories, the programme relies on a hands-on approach.

The entire Sepang F1 circuit was used for this driving course, which attracted a turn-out of more than 50 cars. The multiple driving stations were spread out over the course with drivers divided into groups of 8 to 10 cars. These driving stations were designed to simulate every day driving conditions where accidents can happen suddenly.

The stations ranged from sudden high-speed lane change, threshold braking without activating ABS, slalom and high-speed avoidance test.

At the end of these tests came the most interesting part of the driving course – the hot laps. The drivers were given track time to put their newly taught skills to the test. The possibility that some of the drivers might just ‘over-drive’ themselves was there but good sense prevailed. The driving was fun and well paced with chief instructor Sean Khoo doing a splendid job of showing the drivers where their



Track attack: Participants given free track time to put their newly acquired skill to use.

driving limits were and that of the car.

For the participants, it was not often that they get to have fun driving at the limit on a world-class circuit while keeping their licence intact.

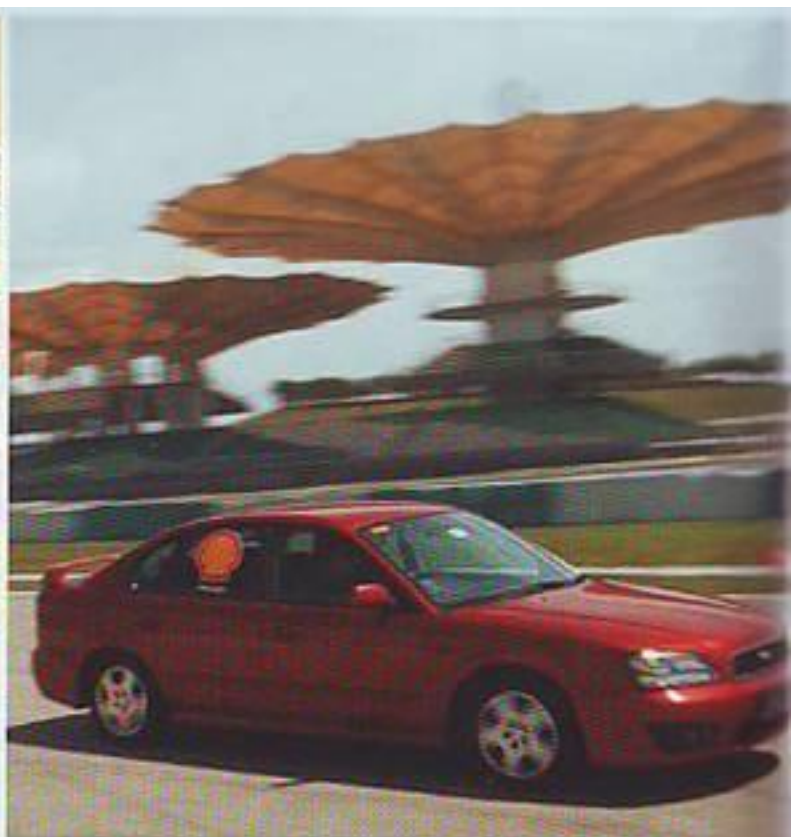
Amid all the serious fun, the Motorimage team was on hand to keep all the iced cold drinks flowing. It was one big family atmosphere and a once-in-a-lifetime experience for most of the participants. The only ‘setback’ was that this ADC was targeted at new Subaru owners and only held once a year. Invaluable experiences like this ADC definitely deserve an encore. ●



High speed lane change



Glenn Tan, the man at Motorimage, presenting the certificates to the participants



Chief Instructor, Sean Khoo, giving pointers

