

# 1,000mph Rocket Car Fans Challenge for World Record with Giant K'NEX Replica

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Supporters of The BLOODHOUND Project, the UK's 1,000mph World Land Speed Record challengers, have set their sights on a world record of their own. Work begins today on the construction of a life-sized replica of the BLOODHOUND Supersonic Car made entirely of K'NEX toy construction pieces. Construction is being carried out by a Royal British Legion Industries team including ex-servicemen and women and is scheduled for completion in September. The resulting creation is set to be the world's largest K'NEX structure, with an estimated 300,000 parts required to build the 13.5 metre long vehicle.

The giant build was commissioned by the 1K Club to promote The BLOODHOUND Project, which aims to inspire children about science and engineering by developing a 1,000mph Land Speed Record Car. The project is headed up by former and current land speed record holders Richard Noble and Andy Green, and is being used in over 5600 UK schools. With K'NEX construction pieces often playing a key role during schools' activities, the project's official supporters club was inspired to take things to another level.

Ian Glover, 1K Club President, who is heading up the BLOODHOUND K'NEX model build, explains; "This will not simply celebrate the work going into the 1,000mph World Land Speed Record attempt. It will be an engineering feat in itself. Fortunately we have over 6,500 1K Club members keen to lend a hand!"

To enable as many people as possible to participate in the BLOODHOUND K'NEX Car build, a series of open days are scheduled offering visitors the chance to add pieces to the record attempt construction and learn more about the BLOODHOUND engineering project. A list of dates and further details of these are available at [www.bloodhoundssc.com/knex](http://www.bloodhoundssc.com/knex) (<http://www.bloodhoundssc.com/knex>).

The BLOODHOUND K'NEX Car is being built in Aylesford, Kent, by RBLI, Royal British Legion Industries. The charity provides employment, support and care to the Armed Forces community and those affected by disability, health conditions or social welfare needs. The dimensions of the finished structure will mirror the impressive stats of the real 13.5m long, 4m high jet and rocket powered vehicle and exceed those of the current Guinness World Record holder for the world's Largest K'NEX Structure – a T-Rex, which is located in the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama.  
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About The BLOODHOUND Project

- The world land speed record of 763 mph is held by Thrust SSC, a UK team lead by BLOODHOUND's Project Director Richard Noble and driven by Andy Green.
- The BLOODHOUND team scoured the globe to find the perfect desert to run the car on, it needed to be at least 12 miles long, two miles wide and perfectly flat. The Hakskeen Pan, Northern Cape, South Africa was selected.
- At full speed BLOODHOUND SSC will cover a mile in 3.6 seconds, that's 4.5 football pitches laid end to end per second.
- BLOODHOUND has three power plants, a Rolls-Royce EJ200 jet from a Eurofighter Typhoon, a cluster of NAMMO hybrid rockets and a racing car engine that drives the rocket oxidiser pump. Between them they generate equivalent 135,000 thrust hp, equal to 180 F1 cars.
- BLOODHOUND SSC is currently being assembled at the BLOODHOUND Technical Centre in Bristol. It is on schedule for roll out summer 2015 where it will undergo UK runway testing up to 200 mph (321 kmh) at the Aerohub, Newquay. The Team will then deploy to South Africa to begin high speed testing with the target of reaching 800 mph (1,287 kmh). The Team will return to the UK to review the data and return to South Africa in 2016 with the aim of reaching 1,000 mph (1,609 kmh)
- Over 250 UK companies, 180 of them SMEs, are involved in the Project, which has become a showcase for science and engineering capability.
- Over 5,500 UK primary and secondary schools have signed up to use the free BLOODHOUND Education resources in their classrooms
- The educational outreach programme also runs in South Africa with more than 200 schools already participating and more than 100 BLOODHOUND Ambassadors signed up to help use the project to inspire young people about studying maths and science. The programme reaches out to schools across the country, but particularly in the Northern Cape Province, home to the track where the BLOODHOUND SSC will run.

#### About K'NEX

Founded in 1992, K'NEX Brands, the world's most innovative construction toy company, was established to make and sell what has become one of the world's leading integrated construction systems for children. Winner of over 250 international awards and recognitions, K'NEX is focused on Building Worlds Kids Love and encourages children to "imagine, build and play." From the living room to the classroom, K'NEX has building toys specially designed for every age group and skill level. For more information, please visit [www.knex.co.uk](http://www.knex.co.uk) (<http://www.knex.co.uk>) or [www.rodongroup.com](http://www.rodongroup.com).

#### About Royal British Legion Industries

RBLI is a registered UK charity that provides employment, support and care to the Armed Forces community and those affected by disability, health conditions or social welfare needs. Their Social Enterprise based in Kent and Surrey employs over 130 veterans and people with disabilities.