

Wichita, KS to Pueblo, CO – 07/01/06

Today is Tony's last day in the driver seat of the Phaeton. It has been a great journey both for him and for our team. It is difficult to join a group for the first time in an unfamiliar city and develop the trust relationship needed to work together as a unit. Tony has the personality that made driving and navigation fun and at the same time he has the ability to keep the boys thinking about what is needed to get the job done. What we all lack is the experience to put it all together in a smooth process which produces good scores. That can only come with time.



This day was long and seemingly endless as we made our way across Kansas. We think of Kansas being flat but in reality it is hilly. I have been playing this "you follow me, I'll follow you" game with a team in a red Durango. It seems that it takes us one or two missed instructions before we are on course. Out on the roads of Kansas I saw no other support vehicles for a long time. Suddenly I saw the Durango at a gas station as I drove by. As I drove past I smiled to myself that this is either good or bad. Since we are the only two support crews I have seen, and given our past history, it could be that we are lost - or maybe not! Only time will tell. By the way, this is one of those days I am in the truck by myself having to navigate as well as drive across the state.

Pueblo was a great stop except for the downpour of rain while they were trying to set up the gate. Nonda and Daylan met us here and will be with us until the end. Daylan will be driving the rest of the trip. Our score for the day is acceptable but I know Tony is disappointed in his last day score. I continue to remind all of the team that when you cross the finish gate on your own power it is a good day.

Charleston X-Cup team has been having trouble with their engine. They have been running on three cylinders for most of the race and have had no luck solving the problem. All the typical tests say that the engine is in good shape but still they have trouble. I talked with them in Wichita about the problem and after some thought I offered them our spare engine. They made arrangements with the Model A Club in Pueblo to use a shop and the club offered to do the engine swap for them. This is a great testimony to the fellowship among Model A owners.