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Dutch win SA solar car challenge

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TEAMS from across the globe have been awarded for their achievements in the Sasol Solar Challenge, which saw them travel through the country in solar cars in a bid to cover as much distance as possible.

The awards ceremony was held at the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town yesterday. The 10 teams consisting of university students and one school team were recognised for their contribution to the innovation and development of solar technology.

Dutch team Nuon from Delft University in The Netherlands won the competition after covering 4 716.7km over the eight days, setting a new record for the challenge.

Team manager Sjoerd Stevens dedicated the win to their coach who died two years ago.

“A project like this, where all these people come together and drive solar cars... that was his vision,” he said.

Nuon also set a new record for the furthest distance travelled in one day – 707.3km.

The Tokai University Solar Team from Japan came second while the Hungarian team, GAMF, came third.

A South African team from North West University came fourth and were the local team that covered the



FINE EFFORT: The team from North West University came fourth in the competition and were the South African team which covered the furthest distance. Here they celebrate at the V&A in Cape Town. PICTURE: BARRY ALDWORTH

most distance with 3 524.9km – the furthest travelled by any South African team. They also broke the South African record for the most distance covered in one day – 611km.

Lodz Solar from Poland were the first team to compete with a car in the cruiser class, which catered for a passenger and luggage space.

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