

Attenuator

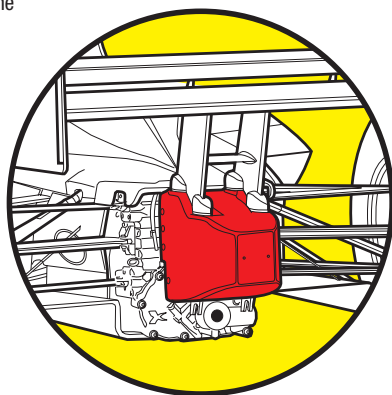
Attenuators are carbon fiber honeycombed structures attached to the rear of the gearbox to absorb impact to the rear of the car.

Attenuators have been on Indy Racing League cars since 1998, but the fully integrated, tested structures have been on the cars since 2003.

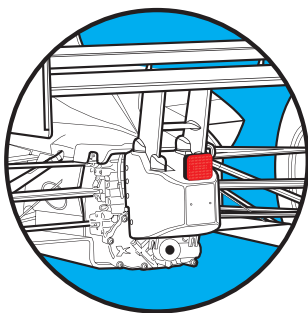
Attenuators must be able to absorb a minimum of 63 kilojoules (4,700 lbs.) of energy when subjected to an impact by a 900 kg (1,980 lbs.) object traveling at 11.850 meters per second or 12.837 yards per second (26.3 mph).

Attenuators must also endure a side load of 40 kilonewtons (8,896 lbs.) for 30 seconds with no failure of the structure or of any attachments to the transmission.

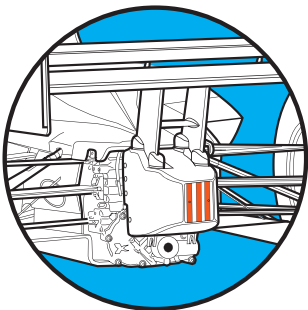
The attenuator also acts as a support device for the rear wing, and therefore must sustain the downward forces of drag created by the wind.



OTHER ELEMENTS



A rain light, which doubles as a safety light, is mounted on the top of the attenuator.



Three orange stripes are placed on the attenuators of cars driven by rookies to signify their rookie status to other drivers.

