

FAST FORWARD: ATLANTA MOTORSPORTS PARK

(Cold Open) **VO:** Today on Fast Forward, we will be visiting...a country club-- For racecars!

[TITLE SEQUENCE]

VO: Welcome to another episode of Fast Forward, the show that moves at the speed of...well, about 140 miles per hour right now, going around a 2 mile track in Dawsonville, Georgia. But let's back things up a little.

VO: Cute. But you know that's not what I meant.

VO: We're visiting Dawsonville—widely recognized as the birthplace of NASCAR, largely due to it's most popular resident—Awesome Bill from Dawsonville, Bill Elliott. So it's natural that Dawsonville is the home of the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame.

But the real reason we're here is to visit the Atlanta Motorsports Park, the only country club in Georgia for car lovers. And this place is brand spanking new. In fact, the only permanent structures here so far are the garages and the track itself. Apparently, that's all you really need to get started. But I'll let the folks here tell you about it.

JEREMY: I'm Jeremy and I'm the CEO of Atlanta Motorsports Park and basically I direct the team and just look over the facilities and try to orchestrate this chaotic mess.

BECKY: I'm Becky Powell, COO for Atlanta Motorsports Park, I do everything except run cars on the track.

JEREMY: Basically we're a motorsports country club, similar to that of a golf country club, but instead of golf course, you have a road course where you can drive your sports car fast and legal.

JEREMY: The coolest thing about this job is being able to drive all sorts of different cars everyday - day in, day out — From Ferraris, to Lamborghini's, to Porsche. There's just so many different cars that I have an opportunity to drive that most people will never have an opportunity to drive, let alone see in a lot of cases.

VO: Got it. And it sounds incredible. But before we get into the specifics of driving on this track, we should probably have one of our teachable moments about...

JEREMY: Newton's Second law of motion.

[GRAPHIC SEQUENCE] **VO:** We already know from Newton's First Law of Motion that force is needed to change the motion of an object. To figure out how much force, Newton's second law of motion gives us a formula.

VO: Not that kind of formula.

The formula is F , force, equals mass times acceleration ($F=ma$). In this case, acceleration doesn't necessarily mean going faster. It could also mean slowing down or changing direction.

So when a car is approaching a curve at 140 miles per hour, this law can help make sure you get through that turn as quickly as possible...in one piece. And...how do we do that again?

MUSTANG DRIVER: You're not just going to go real fast and turn left.

JEREMY: Be able to go around a corner as fast as possible

KATHY: What we try to do is break it down into a turn in point, the apex of a turn, and the track out point.

DRIVER: You definitely want to be looking ahead.

MUSTANG DRIVER: We will actually decelerate and hit the breaks really, really hard when we're coming into a corner.

JEREMY: And then look for your apex, and then turn in.

DRIVER: Start your turn in.

KATHY: Get back on the accelerator...carry as much speed as you can...

JEREMY: ...and apply throttle with rotating the steering out...

KATHY: ...and then let the car gently track out...

MUSTANG DRIVER: ...so that right when you're pointed straight, you're all the way hammered back in it and going up to the next corner.

VO: Okay, there's some science I want to apply! Now you might've noticed that some of the cars on the track can get a little loud...

[LOUD SFX AS CARS GO BY]

VO: but the people at Atlanta Motorsports Park have got that covered too.

JEREMY: We wanted to be good neighbor to Dawsonville.

[LOUD SFX AS CARS GO BY]

JEREMY: We want to make a minimal impact to local residents.

[LOUD SFX AS CARS GO BY]

JEREMY: There's no reason we should be loud.

[LOUD SFX AS CARS GO BY]

JEREMY: Basically, what I am holding is a sound meter. This is one of our property line sound meters. This is an outdoor microphone...this is to keep the birds off of it...this is mounted at the property line. This is powered by a solar panel, which is one of our green and sustainability initiatives. It actually relays the information wirelessly back to a computer screen.

[LOUD SFX AS CARS GO BY]

JEREMY: We've really set the standard, compared to a lot of race tracks in America, by monitoring sound...

VO: Yep, SOUNDS like we're heading for another one of those...Teachable Moments. So let's start with some basics about sound, and then let Jeremy bring it home.

VO: Sound is basically vibration, and its relative intensity is measured in decibels. A standard whisper is about 30 decibels. A normal conversation is usually about 60 decibels. And a rock concert is often about 115 decibels, depending on who's playing of course. So to measure how loud a car would be as you get further from it...Jeremy?

JEREMY: Every time you double the distance of measure of sound, it's a 3-decibel reduction in sound. For example, a hundred feet is a hundred decibels. At 200 feet, it's 97 decibels, at 400 feet; it's 3 decibels less than that. So, by the time it reaches the nearest neighbor, it should be below 60 degree decibels, which ANSI, OSHA, and World Health Organization standards says is a nuisance.

VO: Sounds like your employees can use technical knowledge and skills? What kind of jobs do you have here?

JEREMY: We have operational people, sales people, corner workers, grid stewards, and fire and rescue EMT paramedics. We will probably have upwards of 50 to 75 employees.

VO: Cool! I'll fill out an application before I leave. Is there anything else I should know?

BECKY: This project will be something that this community will be proud of. It will save lives, because of what we plan to do with teen driving programs.

JEREMY: It's really an opportunity to try and launch green technology, because we need to be green and sustainable.

BECKY: We don't want to be known for the racetrack. We want to be known as somebody who contributes to the community, provides a safe environment for families, and people to come out and do what they love.

VO: And I'm doing what I love—finding the best jobs in Georgia and telling you about them. And I'll do that again, on the next episode of Fast Forward!

[End Sequence]