

Speedi

Wings & Wheels

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February / March 2015

Issue No: 18

News

Events

Features

Show Reports

Reviews



LIGHT SPORT EXPO



THE 2015 ROLEX 24



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THIS MONTH:

Daytona Kart Week

Light Sport Expo

The 2015 Rolex 24

and Much More

Forty-Four Years Ago This Month: Apollo 14 Touches Down on the Moon

On Feb. 5, 1971, the Apollo 14 crew module landed on the moon. The crew members were Captain Alan Bartlett Shepard, Jr. (USN), commander; Major Stuart Allen Roosa (USAF), command module pilot; and Commander Edgar Dean Mitchell (USN), lunar module pilot. In this photo, Shepard stands by the Modular Equipment Transporter (MET). The MET was a cart for carrying around tools, cameras and sample cases on the lunar surface. Shepard can be identified by the vertical stripe on his helmet. After Apollo 13, the commander's spacesuit had red stripes on the helmet, arms, and one leg, to help identify them in photographs.

Image Credit: NASA



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Editorial Team: North America Editor – Steve Wood West Coast Contributor - Jim (Flybum) Pratt Canada - Jim Swan Cruisin' & Hot Rod's - Gary Rosier UK Team - The Gremlins at Kew

Editorial

Welcome to the February / March 2015 issue of *Speedi Wings & Wheels*.

Take a look at our 'Content's page to find out more about what's in this issue. The magazine is published bi-monthly during the last week of February, April, June, August, October and December. Follow *SpeediTV* on Twitter to keep up to date when future issues are published.

In this issue we are featuring Daytona Kart Week - Plus much more . . .

Take a look at the next page - the magazine index - for more details

Blue Sky's and Safe Flying.

The Speedi Team





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Speedi

Wings & Wheels

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Burt Rutan Returning to Oshkosh in 2015

All Rutan designs and canard aircraft invited to Oshkosh for VariEze's 40th

February 19, 2015 - Oshkosh, WI

Burt Rutan, the visionary aircraft designer whose innovations made history and changed the aviation world, will be back at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh in 2015 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of his iconic VariEze aircraft. Rutan's designs have been groundbreaking for more than 40 years, beginning with the VariViggen in the early 1970s through the concepts that became the SpaceShipOne and SpaceShipTwo vehicles that are launching the era of space tourism.

His use of canard wings and composite materials changed the look and efficiency of homebuilt aircraft, with more than 1,000 airplanes based on his designs now flying in the United States alone.



"There are few individuals in the history of aviation who can match Burt Rutan's imagination and accomplishments," said Jack Pelton, EAA chairman of the board. "His presentations are eagerly anticipated whenever he is in Oshkosh. Although he officially 'retired' several years ago, his innovative mind continues to push forward with new concepts and ideas that he'll share at EAA AirVenture in 2015."

Rutan is perhaps publicly known best for his SpaceShipOne design, which in 2004 won the \$10 million Ansari XPRIZE as the first successful private spacecraft. He also designed the Voyager, which

in 1986 became the first aircraft to fly around the world nonstop on a single tank of fuel. That accomplishment earned him, along with pilots Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, the Presidential Citizen's Medal. Burt Rutan was also named to the National Aviation Hall of Fame in 1995 and EAA Homebuilders Hall of Fame in 1998.

His VariEze aircraft first flew in May 1975, with the prototype causing a sensation at that year's EAA Oshkosh fly-in. That canard design evolved into other Rutan aircraft innovations, such as the Long-EZ, that are still being built today. Rutan's multitude of interests has also led him into successfully exploring space flight and into electric flight.

In honor of the VariEze anniversary, EAA is inviting all Rutan and canard aircraft owners to come to Oshkosh and participate in the festivities. More details on specific dates and events will be released as they are finalized. The 63rd annual Experimental Aircraft Association fly-in convention will be held July 20-26 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh.



Airbus selects the 100 teams for Round Two of the Fly Your Ideas global student challenge

19 February, 2015

After a thorough evaluation process by over 50 Airbus experts and innovators judging more than 500 ideas, Airbus has selected the 100 teams that have made it into Round Two of the fourth edition of the global student competition Fly Your Ideas organised in partnership with UNESCO.

The competition is dominated by teams registered in India (17 teams), UK (10), USA (8), France (7), as well as China and Hong Kong (6) and Australia (5). The 100 teams comprise of 413 students representing 48 different nationalities. Thanks to a strong drive from Airbus to encourage more diversity, 71% of teams are made up of a mix of students from different countries, studying different subjects, or male and female, all of

which Airbus sees as essential ingredients for innovation.

"I am impressed by the diversity of the teams that have made it through to Round Two this year," said [Charles Champion](#), Airbus Executive Vice President

nationality and discipline. This reflects Airbus' ambition to work with greater agility across the company, and I hear our Airbus mentors and experts are very excited about the fresh way of thinking they are getting during these 100 days before the next round." He adds: "Now the race has started – best of luck to all!"

Each of the teams has been attributed an Airbus mentor and an Airbus expert to help take their ideas further and share their insights of real-life aviation constraints over a 100 day period. Just the top five teams will make it to the final and present their ideas at a live event at Airbus facilities in May 2015. The winning team will receive a €30,000 prize, the runner up team €15,000.

What sets Fly Your Ideas apart from other global student competitions is the deep and company-wide engagement of the Airbus teams.

The mentors and experts are drawn from right across the business, and include non-technical professionals as well as engineers and aviation experts.



Engineering. "It is very telling of a generation who no longer thinks in silos but instead aspires to collaborate across traditional boundaries such as gender,

GULFSTREAM G650ER DEMONSTRATES ITS LONG-RANGE CAPABILITY, TRAVELING 8,000 NAUTICAL MILES NONSTOP

SAVANNAH, Georgia,

February 10, 2015 - Gulfstream Aerospace Corp. announced today that the Gulfstream G650ER has once again demonstrated its ability to go the distance by completing the farthest flight in its history.

On January 22, a G650ER, owned by Steve Wynn, CEO of Wynn Resorts Limited, flew 8,010 nautical miles/14,835 kilometers nonstop, traveling from Singapore Changi Airport to McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas with four passengers, including Wynn, and three crew members on board. The trip took 14 hours and 32 minutes at an average speed of Mach 0.85, with tail winds of 76 knots. The G650ER landed with fuel in excess

of the National Business Aviation Association instrument flight rules reserves.

"This flight demonstrates how powerful an aircraft the G650ER is," said Larry Flynn, president, Gulfstream. "To be able to travel distances like this is remarkable and truly captures the essence of this aircraft. Its range and speed are just two of the many reasons for its

success and will continue to be the driving forces behind the demand for this aircraft."

At Mach 0.90, the G650ER can travel 6,400 nm/11,853 km. Its max speed is Mach 0.925. The G650ER is powered by twin Rolls-Royce BR725 engines.

"The G650ER is a game-changer," said Wynn. "It's a vital business tool that gives me peace of mind thanks to its superior range, speed, cabin comfort and enhanced safety features. I fly around the world for my business, and this aircraft takes me there. Gulfstream continuously goes above and beyond; the proof is in the performance."

Wynn was one of the first G650 customers to receive a G650 when the aircraft entered service in 2012. He was also one of the first to upgrade to the extended range G650 when Gulfstream began offering the option last year. The aircraft has accumulated more than 1,115 flight hours



Maiden Flight of the Diamond DA50-JP7 with turbine

targeting training and private customers requiring high performance. The DA50-JP7 is



January 21, 2015:

A DA50 powered by a turbine engine made its first flight on 19 January 2015 in Wiener Neustadt, Austria with Christian Dries, CEO Diamond Aircraft, as test pilot, along with Ingmar Mayerbuch, Head of Flight Test. This concept was first introduced at general aviation show AERO Friedrichshafen in April 2013.

After the flight Christian Dries says: "This aircraft with this turbine engine almost flies like a rocket."

The single turboprop with room for up to seven passengers bears the name "DA50-JP7" (JP for Jet Prop). The airplane will be manufactured in two different versions. The Tundra variant with big wheels and rugged landing gear is perfect for uneven strips and rough terrain. The second version is

perfectly suited for operations in harsh climates with temperatures ranging from minus 50°C to plus 50°C.

The 465 hp AI-450S turbine engine is built by Ukrainian company

Motor Sich JSC in collaboration with Ivchenko Progress. It has been newly designed especially for fixed-winged aircraft. The AI-450S has a 20% lower fuel burn than similar turbine engines. It is particularly fuel-efficient at medium altitudes. With dual electronic controls and a mechanical back-up system (Dual FADEC) it is very easy to operate. The engine starts at the push of a button.

After certification (expected mid to end of 2016) the DA50-JP7 will be built at Diamond Aircraft headquarters in Wiener Neustadt, Austria. Austro Engine is as well involved in certification work, maintenance and overhaul of the turbine engines.

More information will be provided at AERO Friedrichshafen in April 2015. Visit us in hall A4.

Click [HERE](#) to watch the DA50-JP7 maiden flight video.



**Prescott Business
Students Tour Sea-Tac
Airport, Alaska, Boeing**

Tue Feb 17, 2015 at 03:31 PM

The trip began with an all-day tour of SEA, including a Q&A session from airport administrators and a bomb-sniffing dog demonstration from the Sea-Tac Airport Police Department. The Sea-Tac Airport

an up-close view of the 747, 777 and 787 assembly lines. The weekend ended with a networking lunch with Embry-Riddle alumni who are now Boeing employees.



Embry-Riddle Prescott’s Student Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) spent their President’s Day weekend in the Pacific Northwest. The student group organized the trip, consisting of a VIP tour of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), Alaska Airlines and the Boeing facility in Everett, Wash.

Fire Department welcomed the group with a demonstration of their equipment. An Alaska Airlines ground operations supervisor then escorted the students through the operations facility and hangar, then brought them on a tour of the SEA ramp. The highlight of the trip for many students, however, was walking on a closed runway at SEA. The following day, the students toured Boeing’s facility in Everett, and got

“We did so much, and it wasn’t just about airports,” said Dr. Robin Sobotta, who accompanied the students to Seattle. “Students who may want to work for an airline or aerospace also really enjoyed it. Members of industry are so willing to share their wisdom and expertise with these students who represent the next generation in aviation, aerospace and global management.”

**Recruitment, Alumni
Events Hosted Under
Rare Aircraft**

Center. At Seattle’s Museum of Flight, the only surviving M-21 Blackbird — a CIA-built “drone” that, at nearly 50 years old, is still

Bill Hampton told the crowd. “And it is through the generosity of our alumni and friends that we are able to provide opportunities for



Mon Jan 26, 2015 at 10:00 AM

Photo above - The Los Angeles event was held underneath the Space Shuttle Endeavour, at the California Science Center.

Nearly 400 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University alumni, faculty, staff, and current and prospective students gathered at events held in Los Angeles and Seattle last weekend to party beneath rare aircraft suspended from the ceiling.

In Los Angeles, attendees networked under Space Shuttle Endeavour at the California Science

the fastest and highest-flying air-breathing production aircraft ever built — was the centerpiece.

Alumni Event - LA - AJ Smith Assistant Director of Development A.J. Smith talks to prospective students

“We are especially excited to welcome these newly admitted students and provide an opportunity for them to interact with the Embry-Riddle family,” Senior Vice President for External Relations and Chief Marketing Officer

scholarship support, expansion of our programs and placement of our graduates. I offer a sincere thank you to our alumni and friends for your important role in sustaining the institution.”



Daytona Kart Week 2015































































SPEEDI'S BLOG

WELCOME TO SPEEDI'S Blog.

In this blog I will be talking about the tradition of flying a Missing Man formation to honor a pilot who has died - or 'Gone West' as is the case in a missing man flight.

Regular readers will know that I lead a formation flight known as 'Goofy Flight' so called because of my aircraft's registration N-600FY. Goofy Flight also combines its talent with Lakes Flight, the combined flight being known as Lakes / Goofy Flight.

Sadly one of Goofy Flight's pilots recently passed away after a short illness. His call sign was 'Jabiru Dave'. We have a number of

pilots with the name of Dave in our flights so we add a prefix based on the aircraft they fly. Dave Ford, the pilot in question, flew a Jabiru aircraft - hence the moniker Jabiru Dave.

I mentored Dave through



his formation flying training and eventually he qualified for a FAST wing card which allowed him to fly in formation in waived airspace - ie: at airshows.

Jabiru Dave was a good formation pilot with excellent hand / eye coordination. Perhaps due to his hunting skills

in upper State New York, where he lived in the summer months.

Each winter he would fly his plane down to Spruce Creek Fly-in, near Daytona Beach in Florida so he could enjoy his flying, riding his Harley Davidson, boating and model sail boat racing.

The picture left, courtesy of Bob 'Roofman' Terry, shows Jabiru Dave flying in the #2 slot for the Spruce Creek

Gaggle Flight calendar in 2013. Spruce Creek Fly-in is like an air force base. Over 600 planes are based there. As a result we have seen quite a number of pilots lost in aircraft accidents, and a number who have simply passed away, or 'Gone West'.

The missing man >>

formation is an aerial salute performed as part of a fly-past of aircraft at a funeral or memorial event, typically in memory of a fallen pilot. The formation is often called the "missing man fly-by" or "fly-past."

The first official missing-man formation is rumoured to have occurred during WW I when British fighter pilots flew over the funeral of Manfred 'Red Baron' von Richthofen as a sign of respect.

In 1936, King George V received the first recorded fly-past for a non-RAF funeral. The United States adopted the tradition in 1938 during the funeral for Major General Oscar Westover with over 50 aircraft and one blank. By the end of World War II, the missing man formation had evolved to include the pull-up, usually to the West.

I have flown quite a number of missing man

formations over the years. Ever since I fitted a smoke system to my plane I usually fly the missing man 'pull' itself heading west towards the setting sun. One recent missing man flight was flown to honor Col. Hiram Mann, a former Tuskegee Airman. Photo below:



A missing man flight is normally a military tradition. Dave Ford was in the US Army in the late 1960's and as such he was a true 'Veteran'. He was also an honorary

Colonel in the Valiant Air Command, the organization which issued his FAST wing card. As a member of Lakes / Goofy Flight, Dave is well entitled to be honored with a missing man flight.

The flight will take place at our regular Friday night fly-past at The Tree at Spruce Creek Fly-in. It will be too late to include pictures of Dave's missing man flight in this issue, but they will be included in our April / May issue.

In the case of the missing man flight for Jabiru Dave, Lakes / Goofy Flight will be flying a Big Wing formation of around 15 planes, rather than the more traditional 4-ship flight. We specialize in Big Wing flights of up to 18 planes, each a different type - see page 46. Dave often flew the #3 slot in these flights. I will fly the missing man 'pull' from the #3 slot in his honor.



NEW FROM THE Barn is a regular feature about the happenings at the largest (and greatest) fly-in community in the world - Spruce Creek Fly-in. Situated on the Space Coast of Florida, just 7 miles south of the famous Speed City of Daytona Beach, Spruce Creek is a very special place. Our North America editor, Steve Wood, has lived there for since 2001, so he should know. We hope you enjoy this regular feature about a very special aviation community.

Spruce Creek Airport Information - Courtesy of the Spruce Creek POA Website - www.scpoa.com

The Spruce Creek Airport is the heart of the Spruce Creek Fly-In Community. The Airport is a private airport owned and operated by the Spruce Creek Property Owners Association (SCPOA). The Spruce Creek Airport Authority Committee through the SCPOA Board of Directors has the authority and the responsibility to oversee the operation of the Spruce Creek Airport. The SCPOA employs a full time, 24-7 security staff. The Airport runways, taxiways and aircraft parking areas are regularly patrolled and are under continuous video surveillance by the Security staff 24 hour a day.

All flying activities at the Spruce Creek Airport are regulated by the FAA and by the recommended procedures published in the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM). In addition, a limited number of local rules and procedures have been established to promote a safe and enjoyable airport. All resident, tenants and invitees are encouraged to cooperate and abide by these procedures.

SPRUCE CREEK AIRCRAFT ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE PACKAGE - The airport management provides information to assist all pilots operating in and out of the Spruce Creek Air, viewed or printed with Adobe Reader. [Download PDF](#)

AIRPORT SAFETY VIDEO - The airport management recommends that all Spruce Creek Fly-In residents and airport users view this very good airport safety video. Click [Here](#).

Airport Information Quick List

TEL 386/760-5884 or Airport Manager cell see below.

FAX 386/761-7808

AFTER 1700 386/756-6125 (Security)

VORTAC OMN 112.6 MHz 165°R/13.9 DME

VORTAC ORL 112.2 MHz 020°R/35.6 DME

FSS St. Petersburg 122.2 MHz

APCH CNTRL Daytona Beach ... 125.35 MHz (South) 125.8 MHz (North)

INSTR APCH (Rwy 05) GPS (Private, Residence Only)

CTAF..... 122.975 MHz (pilot actuated lights 3-5-7 clicks)

AWOS..... 121.725 MHz

FUEL 100LL & JET A (self serve and truck delivery)

FUEL 386 257-7791 (on field) or 129.7 MHz (forward request to Spruce Creek)

Airport Manager: Dick Cunneen, Cell 386 872-1431

Airport Assistant Manager: John Sponza, Cell 386 872-1430

Airport Committee Chairman: Jim Calhoun, Cell 386 295-8271



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I N OUR 'News from the Barn' section we will be featuring news and photos from Spruce Creek Fly-in, the world's greatest aviation community. With over 1600 homes, and not all of them are hangar homes, and home to over 3000 people, there are over 650 airplanes based at Spruce Creek. But it's not all about aviation at Spruce Creek - there's golf, tennis, motorcycling and much more, as well as a Country Club and the Downwind restaurant right alongside Beech Boulevard - a major taxiway in the center of the airport. EAA Chapter 288 (Daytona Beech) meets at Keith

Phillip's hanger on the other major taxiway - Cessna Boulevard. Then there's the Gaggle Flight, which is quite something in its own right. Every Saturday morning (and sometimes on Wednesday too) members of the Gaggle Flight meet at The Big Tree which sits right in the middle of the airport. Upwards of 30 aircraft depart in flights of 3 or 4 (and sometimes more) flying out to breakfast. The arrivals back are usually spectacular, with overhead breaks the norm. Our North America editor, Steve Wood, is part of Goofy Flight - named after his GlaStar which has the

special registration N-600FY. Steve even has 'goofy' smoke on his airplane which can 'puff' or be continuous at whim. Everyone has great fun at Spruce Creek Fly-in which perhaps explains why there's a sign inside the main entrance which reads "Caution - Children And Adults At Play".



The weather was perfect for the annual Spruce Creek Community Bonfire held on Saturday Jan 17, 2015



Smoke everywhere after the Bonfire was lit





Part of the line-up of 42 Gaggle Flight planes flying at the Bonfire





Whiskey Flight of 5



Lakes / Goofy Flight of 18





Lakes / Goofy Flight of 18





Jim Clark's Cabin Waco EGC-8 which was a part of the 18-ship Lakes / Goofy Flight





Capt Jeff Michael's P-51 Mustang 'Obsession' flew after the gaggle Flight landed





Les Lowman (left) and Michael T (right) provided the entertainment



International relations serving the wine

Community Relations members:

Belinda Wood - England (left)

Nancy Tennstedt = USA (Center)

Anette Fehlhaber - Germany (Right)



The party has just started . . .









Mark Your Calendar...

SUN 'n FUN

INTERNATIONAL FLY-IN & EXPO

Lakeland, Florida

APRIL 21-26, 2015

FOR THIS AND MORE FLY-IN INFO CLICK HERE!

NOT ONE...
BUT TWO
**JET
TEAMS!**

USAF THUNDERBIRDS



BREITLING

AT SUN 'N FUN 2015. DON'T MISS IT!



USAF THUNDERBIRDS

Performances Fri, Sat & Sun
APRIL 24, 25, 26



BREITLING JET TEAM

Performances Tues, Fri & Sat
APRIL 21, 24 & 25

Visiting all the
way from France!



Night Airshow

Wed & Sat, APRIL 22 & 25

(Saturday Evening show includes Fireworks)

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MARCH 13, 14 & 15

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(321) 268-1941 or www.vacwarbirds.net



Advance tickets - Adults \$18, Children (5 to 12) \$5 - Gate Tickets - Adults \$25, Children (5 to 12) \$10

Discounts available online at www.vacwarbirds.net



































NOSE ART & NUMBERS



In this regular Nose Art & Number feature we showcase our readers Nose Art and Special Registration Numbers. Just send in your pics, along with a bio (around 150 words) about your nose art or special registration to noseart@speedi.tv - and don't forget, spread the word.



FORD AND PETTY'S GARAGE TEAM UP TO BUILD LIMITED-EDITION MUSTANG GT

* Ford dealerships to offer 143 limited-edition Petty's Garage-tuned Mustang GTs; a Stage 1 version and an even more exclusive Stage 2 version will be available

* All Petty's Garage Mustang GTs feature Ford Racing/Roush supercharger boosting output to 627 horsepower*, as well as unique exterior and interior treatments including Richard Petty's signature on the dashboard

* AC/DC's Brian Johnson ordered the first Petty's Garage Stage 2 Mustang GT – the rock 'n' roll legend's first-ever domestic vehicle purchase

DEARBORN, Mich., Feb. 19, 2015 – Ford Motor Company and Petty's Garage are teaming up to build a new 627-horsepower* Mustang GT – a limited-edition fastback inspired by the popular Petty's Garage Mustang GT on display at last year's SEMA show in Las Vegas.

"We received a tremendous amount of positive feedback about our Petty's Garage Mustang GT displayed at the SEMA show," said Jeff Whaley, Petty's Garage COO. "With so much interest, we began to explore the possibility of building a limited run of the Petty's Garage Mustang GT."

Two versions of the Petty's Garage Mustang GT will be built this year;



the Stage 1 version will be limited to 100 units, while the even more exclusive Stage 2 version will total 43 units.

Stage 1 Petty's Garage Mustang GT will feature a host of custom modifications – both visual tweaks and under the hood. A Petty's Garage fascia at the front imparts a unique look, while a reworked rear fascia features a center-exit exhaust and prominently showcased race-inspired spoiler. Inside, custom embroidered head restraints, floor mats and Richard Petty's own signature on the dashboard set this Mustang GT apart from the rest.

A Ford Racing/Roush supercharger, cold air intake, custom engine calibration and MagnaFlow exhaust system are fitted to Mustang GT's 5.0-liter engine, boosting output to 627 horsepower. Power is delivered to the road by custom 20-inch Petty's Garage HRE FlowForm wheels shod with Continental tires.

Stage 1 Mustang GT can be ordered in any color, with all unique bodywork painted to match in-house at Petty's Garage.

Along with the features found on the Stage 1 car, the Stage 2 version includes a Petty's Garage Wilwood big brake upgrade and a complete Petty's Garage custom two-tone

paint job. Stage 2 Mustang GT will ride on Petty's Garage HRE three-piece forged-aluminum wheels.

Of the 43 Petty's Garage Stage 2 Mustang GTs planned, only 42 remain, as rock 'n' roll legend Brian Johnson has an order in for the first car. "This Mustang has just taken my breath away," said Johnson, lead singer for AC/DC. "It really is one of the best cars I've ever driven. I didn't have an American car, but I do now!"

Paint fit for 'The King'

The Petty's Garage Stage 2 Mustang GT's custom two-tone paint job is identical to the 2014 SEMA show car. Using crushed-and-tumbled glass combined with iconic Petty Blue paint, Petty's Garage has created a one-of-a-kind color for the lower half of the car. A custom tri-coat pearlescent blend of Ford Tuxedo Black complements Petty Blue for the upper half. "The King's" legendary No. 43 is expertly ghosted into the paint on the fastback Mustang GT's hood and C-pillar.

The Petty's Garage Stage 1 car carries an MSRP of \$62,210, while the Stage 2 car comes in at \$92,210. Orders for this limited-edition Mustang GT can be placed at any Ford dealership on a first-come, first-served basis.

*Powertrain modifications are covered by a Ford Racing/Roush Performance parts limited warranty; Petty's Garage components and installation carry a 36-month, 36,000-mile warranty from Petty's Garage.

DEMAND FOR BENTLEY CONTINUES TO GROW Jan 7, 2015

- * 11,020 cars delivered in 2014 – 9% increase
- * Growth across every region
- * New models drive record breaking sales success

Crewe, England 7th January 2015

Bentley strengthened its position as the world's most sought after luxury car brand after announcing 2014 as the company's record breaking year. 11,020 cars were delivered, a 9% growth on the 2013 figure of 10,120 cars.

The key regions of the Americas, China, Europe including the UK, and Middle East, all saw strong performance, with the Americas retaining its position as Bentley's number one market, while China closes the gap as the second largest customer region.

Growing appeal of the brand, with the launch of new models drove this success. The Continental GT V8 S and GT Speed coupe and convertible and Flying Spur V8 all entered the market in 2014.

Commenting on the results, Bentley's Chairman and CEO, Wolfgang Dürheimer, said:

"2014 marked an exceptional year for Bentley, as our record breaking

pattern continued. We delivered more cars than ever before, and we now operate in more markets than at any point in our 96 year history, a perfect example of our truly international appeal.

"And this as we embark on a milestone year for the company, in which we are working to deliver the world's first luxury SUV, and set our sights beyond this and to the future to try and maintain this significant period of success."

Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, said:

"Bentley is an iconic British Brand



that successfully exports around the world. Their recent decisions to invest heavily on new site developments and create close to 1,000 jobs is fantastic news for Britain, and for Crewe where their cars are manufactured.

"I want Britain to be a country where companies want to invest, create high skilled jobs, and export, and so I am delighted that Bentley

has had such a successful year on all these fronts."

Bentley's number one market throughout 2014 was the Americas, closing the year delivering 3,186 cars, up from the 2013 number of 3,140. This accounted for 29% of total global deliveries.

China remained the second biggest Bentley market, with 2,670 cars delivered in total over the year, against the previous year of 2,191 cars.

In Europe, deliveries were up by 4%, with 1,539 cars delivered to customers. Bentley's home market, the UK, continued to perform strongly, delivering 1,387 cars, up from 1,381 cars in 2013. Overall, this means that 87% of Bentley's cars exported from England to customers around the world.

Bentley's growing presence in the Middle East and Asia Pacific resulted in deliveries hitting a record high in both markets.

Performance was strengthened in the Middle East by Bentley's flagship model, the Mulsanne, with total deliveries increasing by 7%, 1,263 cars, on 2013's figure of 1,185 cars.

In Asia Pacific, deliveries rose by 48% on the previous year, with 669 cars delivered in 2014, against 452 cars in 2013, driven by success



Jan 12, 2015 | Detroit

Ford Redefines Innovation in Aerodynamics, EcoBoost and Light-Weighting with All-New Ford GT Carbon Fiber Supercar

* All-new Ford GT supercar sets new standards for Ford innovation through performance with advances in light-weighting, aerodynamics and ultra-efficient EcoBoost® engine

* Ford GT features the most powerful EcoBoost production engine ever – a new twin-turbocharged Ford EcoBoost V6 producing more than 600 horsepower

* Ultra-high-performance supercar is Ford's most extreme offering, infused with race-proven technology engineered to keep company with

exotics when it goes into production in 2016

Ford today unveiled the all-new GT, an ultra-high-performance supercar that serves as a technology showcase for top EcoBoost® performance, aerodynamics and lightweight carbon fiber construction.

The GT is one of more than 12 new Ford Performance vehicles coming by 2020. It joins Focus RS, F-150 Raptor, Shelby GT350 and Shelby GT350R in the growing Ford Performance lineup.

Beginning production late next year, the GT hits the road in select global markets to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Ford GT race cars placing 1-2-3 at the 1966 24 Hours of Le Mans.

"As we at Ford drive innovation into every part of our business, it's worth remembering that our first innovation as a company was not in a laboratory, but on the racetrack,"

said Mark Fields, Ford president and chief executive officer, referring to Henry Ford's win of a 1901 car race that inspired financial backers to invest in his company. "We are passionate about innovation through performance and creating vehicles that make people's hearts pound."

The all-new GT supercar features rear-wheel drive, a mid-mounted engine, and a sleek, aerodynamic, two-door coupe body shell. It is propelled by the most powerful EcoBoost production engine ever – a next-generation twin-turbocharged EcoBoost V6 producing more than 600 horsepower.

The GT makes extensive use of lightweight materials, including carbon fiber and aluminum – enabling outstanding acceleration and handling with improved efficiency.

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Ford's commitment to and capability in delivering technologies typically offered only in elite vehicles is evident in the GT. These include advanced active aerodynamics, such as a deployable rear spoiler, and a host of material and technology innovations to help better serve the driver, such as SYNC® 3 – the latest version of Ford's advanced connectivity system.

"The GT is the ultimate execution of an enthusiast supercar," said Raj Nair, Ford group vice president, Global Product Development. "GT includes innovations and technologies that can be applied broadly across Ford's future product portfolio – another proof point that Ford continues raising the performance bar while ultimately improving vehicles for all of our customers."

Carbon fiber innovation Few innovations provide a more wide-ranging performance and efficiency advantage than reducing weight. All factors of a vehicle's capabilities – acceleration, handling, braking, safety, efficiency – can improve through the use of advanced, lighter materials.

The all-new GT features advanced lightweight composites, which will help serve Ford's entire product lineup moving forward. With the broad application of structural carbon fiber elements, the GT will exhibit one of the best power-to-weight ratios of any production car.

Anchored by a carbon fiber passenger cell, the GT features aluminum front and rear subframes encapsulated in structural carbon fiber body panels. Carbon fiber is one of the world's strongest

materials for its mass – enabling an ultra-stiff foundation for chassis components, while creating a lighter overall package for increased dynamic performance and efficiency.

Most powerful production EcoBoost ever

Ford EcoBoost technology is available in every new Ford car, utility and light-duty pickup in North America beginning this year.

EcoBoost engines power a growing number of Ford performance models, including the new Mustang, just-announced F-150 Raptor, as well as Fiesta ST and Focus ST.

Based on the same race-proven engine architecture serving Ford's IMSA Daytona Prototype endurance racing efforts, the next-generation twin-turbocharged 3.5-liter EcoBoost V6 in the GT features a wide powerband with impressive time-to-torque characteristics.

The engine demonstrates remarkable efficiency – a key attribute of its endurance racing-derived powertrain, where exceptional performance combined with efficiency is a critical competitive advantage.

Ford's twin-turbo EcoBoost V6 raced to three wins in its first season of the IMSA TUDOR United SportsCar Championship in 2014, including a win in the prestigious 12 Hours of Sebring, along with seven podiums over more than 15,000 endurance racing miles.

The GT features an all-new, port/direct dual fuel-injection setup to improve engine response, plus a low-friction roller-finger-follower valvetrain. The twin-turbocharged EcoBoost V6 will be paired with a seven-speed dual-clutch transaxle

for near-instantaneous gear changes and exceptional driver control.

Aero innovation gets active Aerodynamic efficiency is at the heart of the GT design, actively reducing drag while aiding downforce and stability.

From its optimum tear-drop shape to its aircraft-inspired fuselage and visibility-enhancing curved windshield, every slope and shape is designed to minimize drag and optimize downforce.

Although each surface on the GT is functionally crafted to manage airflow, it also features fully active aerodynamic components to improve braking, handling and stability.

An active rear spoiler is keyed to both speed and driver input, reactively deploying and adjusting its height and/or pitch angle depending on conditions.

Designed for purpose

While it shares a legacy with classic Ford racing and performance cars, GT is a fully contemporary and functional shape that communicates modernity and pure beauty.

The state-of-the-art chassis is suspended by an active racing-style torsion bar and pushrod suspension, with adjustable ride height. The 20-inch wheels are shod with Michelin Pilot Super Sport Cup 2 tires featuring a unique compound and structure designed specifically for the Ford GT. Multi-spoke wheels encircle carbon-ceramic brake discs at all four corners.

"While we hope enthusiasts rejoice about this all-new GT, all Ford customers will benefit from the ultimate performance Ford and its new-generation innovations," said Nair.

Porsche GTS Club Coupe Revealed in the New PCNA Headquarters at One Porsche Drive

January 21, 2015

Atlanta. Celebrating six decades of the largest Porsche club organization in the world, Porsche Cars North America is commemorating this milestone with a 60 unit limited-production run of the Club Coupe based on the 911 Carrera GTS. Known as the GTS Club Coupe, the 430 hp sports car is painted in a color unique to this model appropriately named "Club Blau," which was created exclusively for this anniversary edition by the Porsche Club of America.

"The Porsche Club of America is home to passionate ambassadors who have been fostering the appreciation and recognition of Porsche for 60 years," said Andre Oosthuizen, Vice President of Marketing for Porsche Cars North America, as the car was unveiled today at Porsche's new headquarters at One Porsche Drive in Atlanta. "We are proud and honored to celebrate this anniversary with a very special edition of Porsche's most storied sports car - the 911."

The GTS Club Coupe features the 44 mm wider body of the 911 Carrera 4 models with a rear wheel drive platform. SportDesign side mirrors, black framed Bi-Xenon™ headlights with Porsche's Dynamic Light System, and taillights tinted in black are standard, while the doors are marked with black "Club Coupe" model designations, clearly distinguishing this unique 911.

Painted in the newly created "Club Blau" color, the limited-edition model is also characterized by the SportDesign package, which is fitted as standard. A more pronounced front fascia as well as a "ducktail" rear spoiler gives the special car a striking, yet classic, appearance. 20-inch Sport Classic wheels painted in semi-gloss black with polished wheel centers and rim flanges are also standard on the GTS Club Coupe.

The interior is highlighted by the GTS Interior Package. The stitching, seat belts, and rev counter are held in contrasting Carmine Red, while



the dashboard trim strips, door trim and center console are finished in carbon fiber. The striking steering wheel has a Red 12 o'clock marker and two-tone stitching in Carmine Red and Blue. The center compartment lid is embossed with a "60" and the dashboard trim is personalized with "GTS Club Coupe 60 Years Porsche Club of America" lettering above the glove compartment. Stainless steel door sills which read "GTS Club Coupe" serve as a further distinction.

An Extended Club Coupe Package is available as a unique option. It consists of a vehicle key painted in

"Club Blau," a leather key pouch and leather-edged floor mats, both with two-tone stitching in Carmine Red and Blue. An individual personalized indoor car cover is also available as an option.

Powering the GTS Club Coupe is an enhanced version of the Carrera S engine, which is also found in the 911 Carrera GTS model variants. 430 hp propel the GTS Club Coupe from standstill to 60 mph in just 3.8 seconds when equipped with the optional PDK (Porsche Doppelkupplung) dual-clutch seven-speed transmission. The top track speed is 190 mph (189 mph on PDK-equipped models). A third center radiator ensures consistent performance in all conditions. A standard Sport Exhaust system with black chrome tips accentuates the Boxer engine note in particularly exhilarating fashion.

Porsche Active Suspension Management (PASM), incorporating adaptive dampers and a 10 mm lower ride, and Porsche Torque Vectoring (PTV), as well as the Sport Chrono Package with dynamic engine mounts, contributes to the car's optimal handling characteristics.

The GTS Club Coupe will be launched in the United States in June 2015. Porsche Club of America members will have the opportunity to purchase one of 59 vehicles and PCA members will also be eligible to win the initial display vehicle. Official details will be announced February 1st, 2015 on www.pca.org. The MSRP is \$136,060, not including a destination charge of \$995.

Nissan announces partnership with Always Evolving to campaign two Nissan GT-R GT3 cars for 2015 Pirelli World Challenge season

Feb. 19, 2015

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Nissan Motorsports announced today a partnership with Always Evolving (AE) to campaign two GT Academy-NISMO Nissan GT-R GT3 racing cars for the 2015 Pirelli World Challenge season.

Nissan GT Academy North America 2011 winner Bryan Heitkotter will drive one of the team cars, while Australian open wheel and GT star James Davison will pilot the second car. Featuring logos from the GT Academy program, the two cars will be co-sponsored by Replay XD and NISMO.

AE will utilize AIM Autosport for much of the car preparation and on-track support during the season. AIM won the 2012 IMSA GTD team, driver and manufacturer championships, as well as the 2013 manufacturer title while campaigning a Ferrari.

"Nissan couldn't be happier to have Always Evolving and AIM as Nissan's partners to campaign the first GT3 spec GT-Rs in the U.S. in Pirelli World Challenge," said Rick Kulach, Nissan North America Motorsports Manager. "This partnership is a great opportunity to showcase Bryan's talents alongside James, who is a rising star in motorsports. It's exciting to have a

GT Academy champion in a great car racing at this level."

Based in Los Angeles, Always Evolving Racing was founded in 2013 by Erik Davis and Roger Rodas to combine the friends' passion for cars with their desire to



support their favorite charities. Following a tragic automobile accident late in 2013 that took Rodas' life, Davis elected to continue with Always Evolving in his friend's honor.

"We are extremely excited to partner with Nissan in Pirelli World Challenge," said Erik Davis, Chairman of AE. "Our two brands have had a distant relationship for many years, and to be able to now officially launch an effort together bringing the Nissan NISMO GT3 GT-R to North America is humbling to say the least. We look forward to showcasing the team, our drivers, the GT Academy and our sponsors in a very competitive platform."

"I have been watching the Pirelli World Challenge gain momentum over the past couple years, and I'm absolutely thrilled to help represent

Nissan in this highly competitive series," said Heitkotter. "The GT-R has proven to be a spectacular racing car, and I can't wait to see what we can all accomplish together."

Davison, 28, was born in Melbourne, Australia and moved to the United States when he was 18 years of age to develop his skills in open wheel racing. His career highlights include a 2005 victory in Formula BMW at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, a runner-up finish in the 2007 Star Mazda Championship, and second spot in the 2009 Indy Lights Championship. Davison ran up front during the 2014 Indianapolis 500 driving for Always Evolving KV Racing Technology, finishing the race in 16th position. In his limited time in sports cars he has always been at the front, driving for the TRG-

Aston Martin team in IMSA competition. Davison has recorded five consecutive poles in IMSA including pole position at the 2015 Rolex 24 at Daytona International Speedway.

"We have great confidence in Erik (Davis)'s vision and ability to campaign a competitive car at a high level every race," added Kulach. "James Davison is not only a talented young race driver, but he's also a great sportsman and will be an outstanding representative for the Nissan brand."

The first Pirelli World Challenge Race for 2015 will be at Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas March 6-8. Television broadcast times have not yet been announced and the series will be webcast via www.world-challenge.tv.

On track for glory: Aston Martin Vulcan prepares for take-off

a rare and thrilling supercar. Designed and engineered to deliver a genuinely bespoke driving experience that draws on our rich



25 February 2015, Gaydon:

Introducing the Aston Martin Vulcan – a track-only supercar and the British luxury brand's most intense and exhilarating creation to date.

Born out of extensive motorsport experience – and using the brand's acknowledged flair for design and engineering ingenuity – the 800-plus bhp, all-carbon fibre Aston Martin Vulcan promises truly extreme performance.

Uniquely for Aston Martin the new supercar – limited to just 24 examples worldwide – will allow owners the opportunity to precisely tailor their track day experience through a graduating scale of detailed power and dynamic performance adjustments.

CEO, Dr Andy Palmer, said: "Aston Martin Vulcan is, by its very nature,

heritage, this car tailors its power and handling to both the capabilities of the driver and the characteristics of the track.

"A sports car for true sports car lovers, I believe the Aston Martin Vulcan – and the unique ownership programme that sits behind it – sets a whole new standard in the ultra-high luxury supercar class."

Motorsport-inspired

Styled entirely in-house by the Aston Martin design team led by Chief Creative Officer Marek Reichman, and with a design language hinting at the next generation of Aston Martin sports cars, this supercar is powered by the most potent iteration yet of the company's naturally-aspirated, 7.0-litre V12 petrol engine.

With its 800-plus bhp powerplant developed in conjunction with Aston Martin Racing, this front mid-

engined, rear-wheel drive sports car draws extensively on the brand's rich GT motorsport experience.

Utilising the techniques of world-class motorsport engineering, the supercar sees its power-to-weight ratio exceed those of the GTE cars which compete in the FIA's annual World Endurance Championship.

Comprising cutting edge engineering including that sourced from the brand's successful GT racing campaign, the car features a carbon fibre monocoque and body constructed by Aston Martin's long-term specialist body engineering and manufacturing partner Multimatic, integral limited-slip differential, magnesium torque tube with carbon fibre propeller shaft and Brembo racing calipers acting on carbon ceramic racing disc brakes which measure 380mm in diameter at the front and 360mm at the rear.

Drive is channelled to the 345/30 x19 rear wheels and Michelin race specification tyres through a race-bred rear mid-mounted Xtrac six-speed sequential shift gearbox.

Track-derived pushrod suspension with anti-dive geometry is complemented by Multimatic's Dynamic Suspension Spool Valve (DSSV) adjustable dampers and anti-roll bars front and rear, driver-adjustable anti-lock braking, and variable traction control.

The new track car will comply with all relevant FIA race safety requirements.

Aston Martin's Director of Special Projects and Motorsport, David >>

King, said: "Taking the extensive learning from our various successful racing programmes and applying it to this exceptional track car for customers has been an exciting and sometimes challenging task for the team here at Gaydon.



"Our deep and broad motorsport experience, allied to our renowned road car expertise, has allowed us to make the Aston Martin Vulcan the absolutely compelling proposition it is today."

Fast-track training

Prior to taking delivery of their cars, owners will be offered the opportunity to take part in an extensive and detailed programme of intensive track driver training.

Experienced racers including Aston Martin Racing's Le Mans-winning Darren Turner will support owners on their learning journey, offering them the chance to refine their track driving technique and increase their ability through a carefully-constructed series of practical and theoretical driver training events.

Using a number of exciting high performance Aston Martins including the V12 Vantage S and One-77 road cars and the Vantage

GT4 race car, customers will gradually build experience and develop their track technique, before beginning their thrilling personal journeys into the immense performance potential of their Aston Martin Vulcan.

David King said: "We will be running a series of exclusive track day events commencing in 2016 that will offer the opportunity for these

customers to explore their driving capabilities, and the car's performance potential, on some of the world's most famous and glamorous race circuits."

There will also be the option of time in the virtual race car world of Darren Turner's

Base Performance Simulators, where buyers will have ample opportunity to further refine their driving style in the safety of the digital race track.

No longer the exclusive preserve of Formula 1, it is widely acknowledged that using a simulator can help prepare a driver for any race; improving technique and consistency as well as, ultimately, lap times.

Almost infinitely flexible in terms of colour and trim options, the exclusive new sports car will be offered to buyers through Aston Martin's VIP sales programme, using the expertise and luxury customer service that is now a hallmark of the brand's 'Q by Aston Martin' bespoke personalisation service.

Dr Palmer added: "We have already received strong interest from the customers we have spoken to about Aston Martin Vulcan.

"The cars will blend our traditional Aston Martin values of Power, Beauty and Soul with an unrivalled ownership experience; a unique combination that will guarantee their place in the brand's rich and charismatic history."

Performance data, together with further technical details about the



ultra-exclusive track-only supercar, will be released closer to its track debut later this year.

The Aston Martin Vulcan will make its world debut on the brand's new stand at the 85th Geneva International Motor Show (Hall 5 Stand 5253) at 10.15am on Tuesday March 3.

GONE CRUISIN'

Gary's Hot Rods & Cruisers



DQ Cruise

Welcome to Gone Cruisin', our regular feature on the cruisin' scene brought to you by Gary Rosier. Primarily from in and around Central Florida, but we'll be including interesting events around the USA. More pics from Gary at <http://www.carsplaneslandscapes.com/>





































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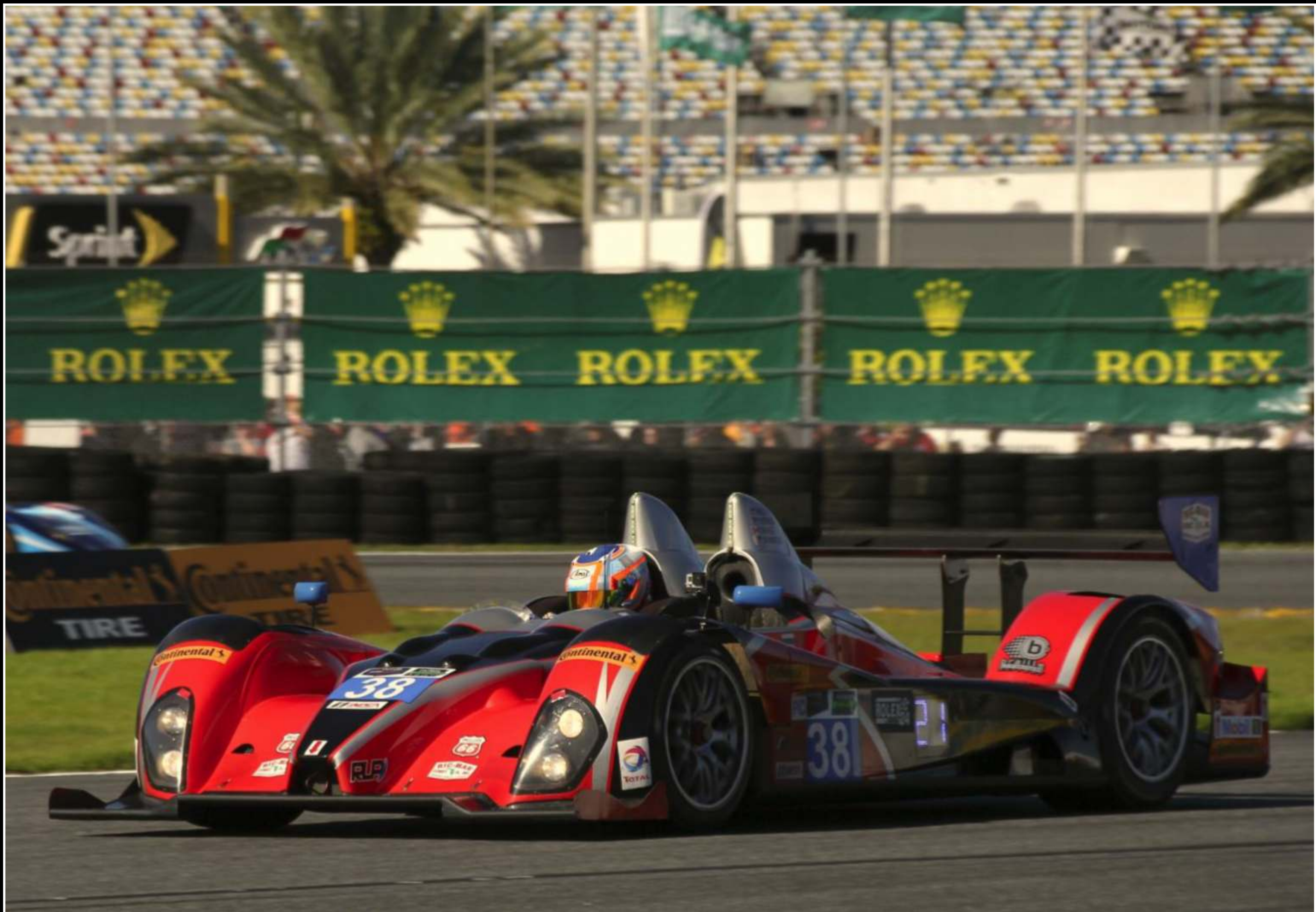












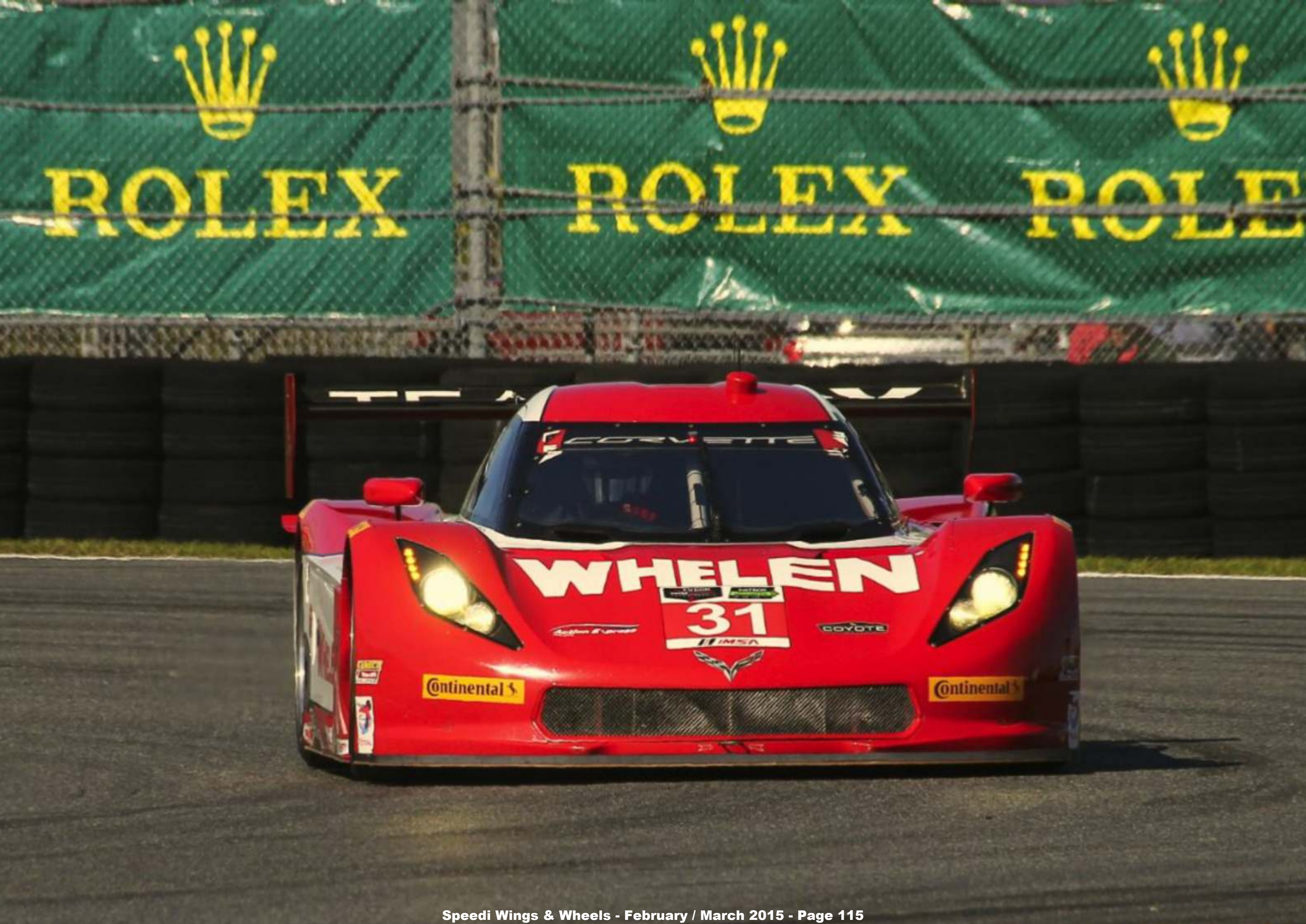






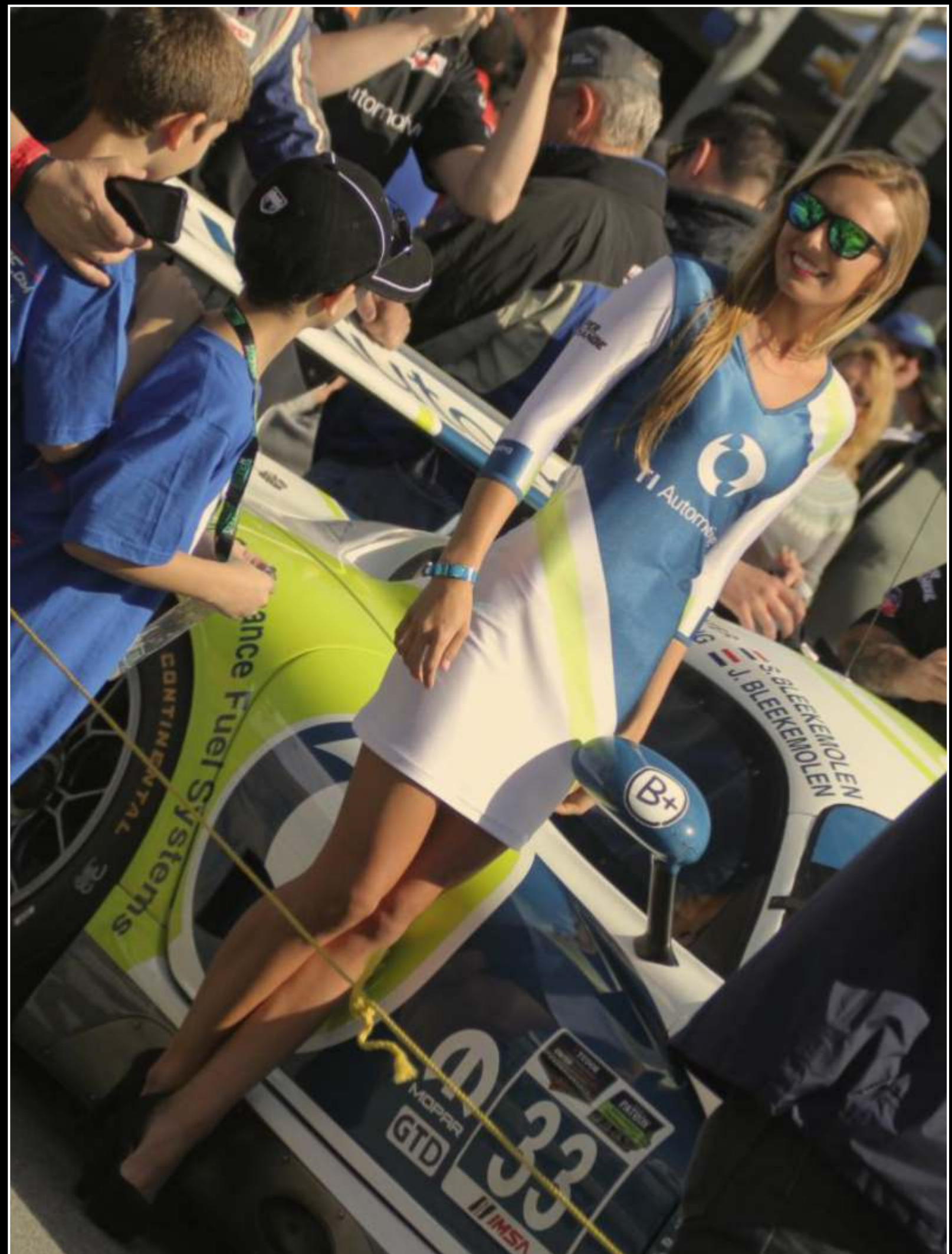












Roar Before the Rolex 24































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