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Wings & Wheels

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www.speedi.tv

April / May 2023

Issue No: 67

**NEW FORMAT
VIDEO LINKS**

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Magazine

THIS MONTH: Bike Week '23 Eagles Nest Splash-in Daytona 500 Spring Turkey Rod Run '23 and Much More

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SPEEDI'S BLOG

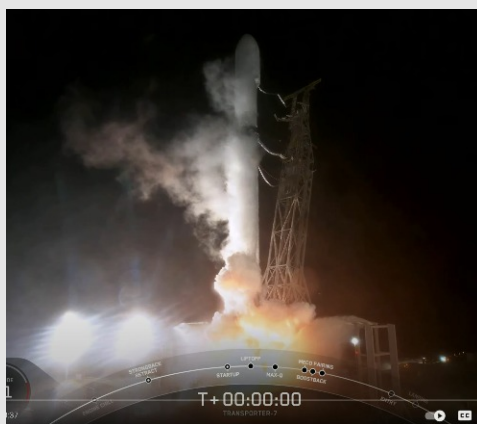
WELCOME TO SPEEDI'S Blog.

The world's most powerful rocket was launched on April 20, 2023 from Starbase. This is a spaceport, production, and development facility for Starship rockets and is located at Boca Chica, Texas, United States.

Starship is a super heavy-lift space launch vehicle under development by SpaceX. At 120 m (390 ft) in height and with a liftoff mass of 5,000 metric tons (11,000,000 lb), Starship is the largest and most powerful launch vehicle ever flown, and the first intended to be fully reusable.

Sadly the vehicle went out of control shortly after lift-off. Here's what SpaceX had to say:

"At 8:33 a.m. CT, Starship successfully lifted off from the orbital launch pad for the first time. The vehicle



cleared the pad and beach as Starship climbed to an apogee of ~39 km over the Gulf of Mexico – the highest of any Starship to-date.



The vehicle experienced multiple engines out during the flight test, lost altitude, and began to tumble. The flight termination system was commanded on both the booster and ship. As is standard procedure, the pad and surrounding

area was cleared well in advance of the test, and we expect the road and beach near the pad to remain closed until tomorrow," SpaceX said in a statement on its website.

The test launches for the Starship rockets began two years ago, with three ships previously exploding in midair and a fourth sticking the landing pad before it blew up.

A fifth attempt proved successful after a Starship prototype flew to 33,000 feet and was able to land upright and gently on its landing pad.

I'm not sure that I'd like to live where Starbase is located as there were reports of fine particles raining down over a wide area after the controlled explosion.

But of course there's a huge risk with such a large rocket, which is designed to travel not just to the Moon, but to Mars and beyond.

The other space flight company in the news recently, *Virgin Orbit*, had a rocket engine malfunction of their Launcher One during their attempt to make an airborne launch of a series of satellites from their base in the UK, at the Cornwall Newquay Airport.

This dramatically affected the fortune of the company such that it had to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings in the USA to protect its assets.

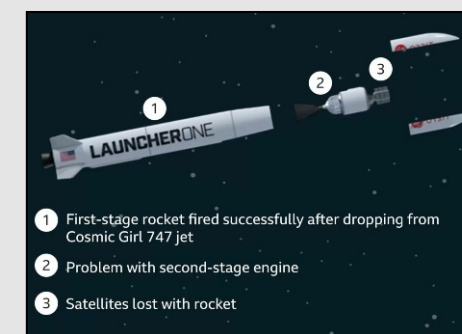
Prior to the engine malfunction of Launcher One the company's B747, Cosmic Girl, had



carried out a number of similar satellite launches from California. They also have an agreement with Brazil to stage

launches from there, right over the Equator.

The launch concept is simple - fly Launcher One to 50000 ft under the wing of Cosmic Girl then fire up the rocket motor of Launcher One and away it goes into space orbit to launch the satellites.



Boris Johnson, when he was Prime Minister, is seen in the photo below alongside Launcher One and this gives an idea of its size.



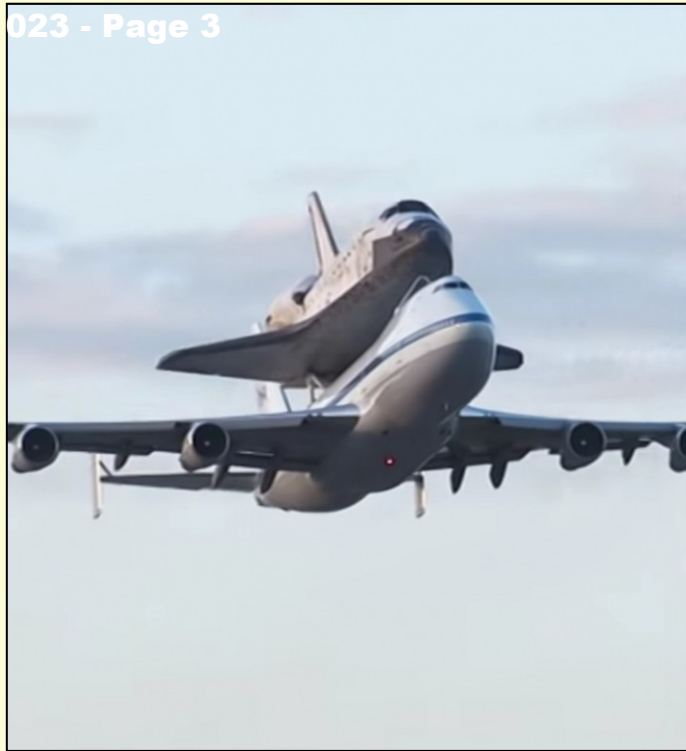
It's certainly one way to use Virgin Atlantic's retired 747's.

It was to be an historic launch -- the first ever on British soil and the first commercial launch from Western Europe. It featured a shared mission between the United Kingdom's Ministry of Defence (MOD) and the United States' National Reconnaissance Office (NRO).

It will be very interesting to see just what happens in the future at

Spaceport Cornwall where they say that they "want to be the world's most environmentally responsible launch location, leading the way in attracting investment in cleaner technologies, driving positive change and pioneering practices which become the new industry standard."

They have had the Goonhilly Earth Station in the county since 1962, so there's some history.



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PLAYLISTS

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The SpaceX Dragon Endurance spacecraft is seen as it lands with Crew-5 mission members aboard on Saturday, March 11, 2023. The crew returned in a parachute-assisted splashdown at 9:02 p.m. EST.

During the 156.5 days they spent aboard the International Space Station as part of Expedition 68, Crew-5 participated in several spacewalks to prepare the space station for solar arrays and conducted various experiments, including growing plants without soil and studying radiation exposure.

Image Credit: NASA/Keegan Barber



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

Editorial

Welcome to the April / May 2023 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.



In this issue we are featuring the Spring Turkey Rod Run '23 - 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

*Speedi Wings & Wheels is a wide screen format magazine
Best viewed in full screen single page HD mode*

Boeing Awarded U.S. Air Force KC-46A Upgrade Contract

The Block 1 upgrade will add advanced communications capabilities to further enhance the aircraft's data connectivity and situational awareness

31 March 2023

Shown here in flight, Boeing's KC-46A will further enhance its advanced communications capabilities through a Block 1 upgrade contract awarded by the U.S. Air Force. (Photo credit: Paul Weatherman, Boeing)

8 *Spring Turkey Rod Run '23*



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Speedi Wings & Wheels

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21 Eagles Nest Splash-in: The Eagles Nest Fly-in community in Central Florida hosted a Splash-in / Fly-in and Gary Rosier was there along with a number of pilots from Spruce Creek . . .

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Rolls-Royce has begun testing F130 engines for the United States Air Force B-52 fleet at the NASA Stennis Space Center.

Wednesday 1 March 2023

Rolls-Royce (LSE: RR., ADR: RYCEY) today announces it has launched F130 engine testing at the company’s outdoor test facility at the NASA Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, U.S. Rolls-Royce F130 engines were selected by the United States Air Force to replace the existing powerplants in the B-52 fleet, with over 600 new engine deliveries expected. This milestone test program is the first time F130 engines have been tested in the dual-pod engine configuration of the B-52 aircraft. Each B-52 aircraft has eight engines in four pods.

The engine testing will focus on crosswind aerodynamic flow as well as confirming the successful operation of the engine’s digital controls system. Early results from the testing have been very positive with additional test data to be analyzed over the next several months.

Rolls-Royce is collaborating very closely with the Air Force and Boeing, which is managing the overall engine integration and B-52 aircraft modernization program. The new engines will extend the life of the B-52 aircraft for 30 years. F130 engines are so durable they are expected to remain on wing for the remainder of the aircraft life.

Candice Bineyard, Director, Programs – Defence, said:

“We are excited to begin this milestone testing program, the first step for what will be decades of successful engine operation for the United States Air Force B-52 fleet. Rolls-Royce continues to work very closely with the Air Force and Boeing to ensure the engine testing and integration process run smoothly. This will result in higher fuel efficiency, reduced air



refueling requirements, and significantly lower maintenance costs for the B-52 fleet. We look forward to sharing test results with the Air Force and Boeing as the test plan progresses at the NASA Stennis Space Center.”

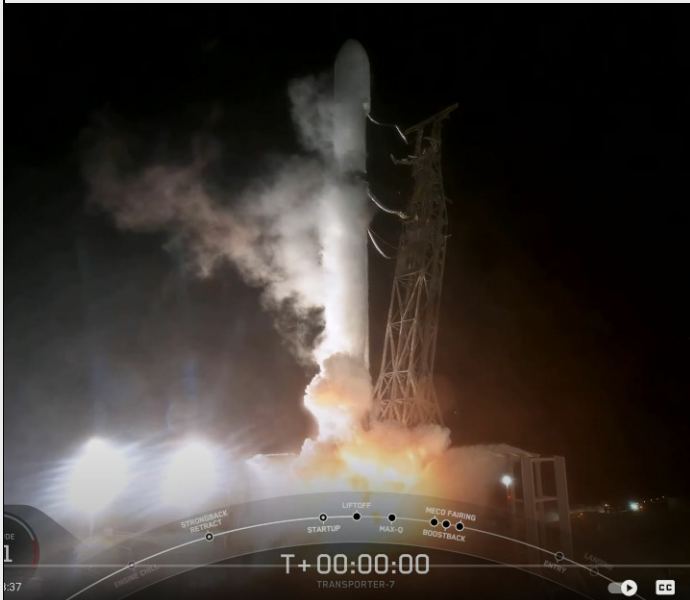
F130 engines will be manufactured, assembled and tested at Rolls-Royce facilities in Indianapolis, the company’s largest production facility in the U.S. Rolls-Royce has invested \$1 Billion in recent years

to completely modernize manufacturing and testing facilities in Indiana, as well as for advanced technology.

F130 engines were selected for the B-52 by the Air Force in September 2021 following a competitive selection process. The F130 is derived from the Rolls-Royce BR family of commercial engines, with over 30 million hours of operation and a high reliability rate. It’s a proven, dependable engine with a fuel-efficient design.

Rolls-Royce F130 engines for B-52 begin testing

Rolls-Royce has begun testing two F130 engines for the B-52 aircraft at the NASA Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. F130 engines have been selected by the United States Air Force to re-engine the iconic B-52 aircraft fleet. The F130 engines for B-52 will be manufactured in the company’s facilities in Indianapolis in the U.S.



Here is what the company had to say:

congratulations to the entire SpaceX team on an exciting first flight test of Starship!”

STARSHIP FLIGHT TEST

April 20, 2023 - Texas

Starship gave the world quite a show during the first flight test of a fully integrated Starship and Super Heavy rocket from Starbase in Texas.

At 8:33 a.m. CT on April 20, 2023, Starship successfully lifted off from the orbital launch pad for the first time. The vehicle cleared the pad and beach as Starship climbed to an apogee of ~39 km over the Gulf of Mexico – the highest of any Starship to-date. The vehicle experienced multiple engines out during the flight test, lost altitude, and began to tumble. The flight termination system was commanded on both the booster and ship. As is standard procedure, the pad and surrounding area was cleared well in advance of the test, and it is expected that the road and beach near the pad to remain closed for a full day.

“With a test like this, success comes from what we learn, and we learned a tremendous amount about the vehicle and ground systems today that will help us improve on future flights of Starship.

Thank you to our customers, Cameron County, and the wider community for the continued support and encouragement. And

Photo top right shows the Starship spinning down towards the Gulf of Mexico, out of control

Photo below shows the controlled detonation of Starship

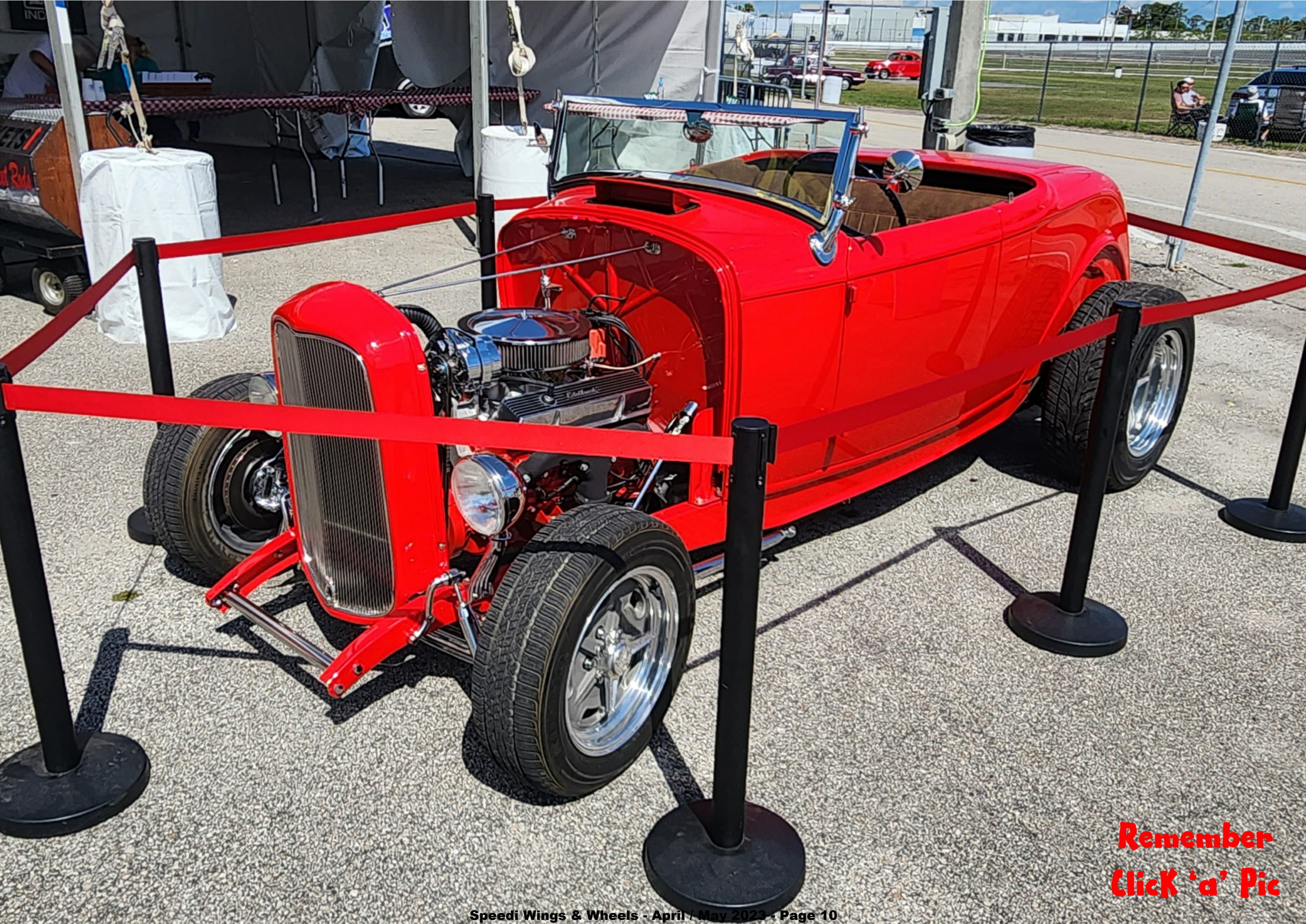




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NEW FROM THE Barn is a regular feature about the happenings at the largest (and greatest) fly-in community in the world - Spruce Creek Fly-in. Situated on the Space Coast of Florida, just 7 miles south of the famous Speed City of Daytona Beach, Spruce 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](#)

Here's a link to Spruce Creek Airport (7FL6) web page - click [here](#)

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](#)

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

FAX 386/761-7808 AFTER 1700 386/756-6125 (Security)

VORTAC OMN112.6 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 06) GPS (Private, Residence Only)

Runways: 06 / 24 - 4000 ft x 150 ft

CTAF..... 122.725 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 129.925 MHz (forward request to Spruce Creek)

Airport Manager - Jim Stone ... 386 275-1894



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IN 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".





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EAGLES NEST SPLASH-IN



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FORD ELECTRIFIES AN ICONIC BRAND WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW, ALL-ELECTRIC EXPLORER ENGINEERED AND BUILT IN EUROPE

- * New Explorer crossover leads the way for a new wave of bold, iconic electric vehicles that are steeped in Ford's American roots and designed for Europe
- * All-electric Explorer offers an outstanding digital experience with a fully loaded infotainment system, 15-inch movable screen, wireless app integration and advanced driver assistance
- * Primed for adventure, Explorer's clever cabin storage is roomy, features a private locker and 17-litre central console provides stowage for large items, like a laptop
- * Explorer will take road trips in its stride, with charging from 10-80 per cent in 25 minutes. 1 Features for extra comfort range from assisted lane changes to massage driver's seat

COLOGNE, Germany, March 21, 2023 – Ford today revealed the new all-electric Explorer – a bold new electric vehicle that combines German engineering with striking American style.

Explorer is the first in a wave of innovative new electric vehicles from Ford and forges the way for a complete reinvention of the Ford brand in Europe. The mid-size crossover has seats for five across two rows and is fully equipped to set families on the road to adventure.

Engineered and built in Germany, the all-electric Explorer offers an outstanding digital experience, helping drivers and passengers stay connected and comfortable on the move. Features include a SYNC Move 2 supersized movable touchscreen and fully connected infotainment system with audio tailored to the interior, wireless app integration and advanced driver assistance technology. 3

Adventure-ready design and storage of about 470 litres in five-seat mode make Ford's newest electric vehicle ideal for exploring the city and beyond. The 17-litre console



between driver and front-seat passenger can hold a 15-inch laptop, combined with a private locker and available hands-free accessible boot space, Ford's all-electric Explorer sets a new standard.

Futuristic exterior styling is matched by an ultra-modern interior with premium materials and features such as sculpted sporty seats and a sophisticated soundbar more typical of revolutionary concept cars than family vehicles. All this comes together with the ability to fast charge from 10 to 80 per cent in just 25 minutes 1 and access, by next year, to 500,000 charging points across Europe.

“Explorer is a trailblazer for a new breed of exciting Ford electric vehicles. Steeped in our American roots but built in Cologne for our customers in Europe, it is road trip-ready for the big adventures and fully loaded with everything our customers will need for their daily drives,” said Martin Sander, general manager, Ford Model e, Europe. **Stylish, smart and road-trip ready**

At the forefront of Ford's electric vehicle charge, the new all-electric Explorer is the company's first electric vehicle to be built at scale in the new Ford Cologne EV Centre in Germany. Ford in Europe is committed to offering an all-electric portfolio of passenger vehicles by 2030.

An aerodynamic exterior captures the spirit and assertive style of Ford's iconic American SUV for a new electric era, also defined by a bold “shield” design in lieu of a traditional grille.

Real-life adventure

To help demonstrate the Explorer's capabilities, Ford has teamed up with travel adventure influencer Lexie Alford – known to millions as Lexie Limitless and the youngest person to visit every country in the world – for a global expedition in the new all-electric Explorer. Inspired by original female explorer, Aloha Wanderwell, who set a record 100 years ago with a Ford-sponsored round-the-world trip in a Model T, Lexie will lead a new round-the-world expedition beginning later this year.

BENTLEY BLOWER TO RETURN TO RACING

Crewe, 21 March 2023

Blower Continuation Series Car Zero to complete 2023 race programme

- * Events from April to September in UK, France and Belgium
- * Blower Continuation Series created specifically for racing; customer cars invited to compete alongside
- * 380-mile test completed to validate entire car at race pace
- * Car to race 93 years after its iconic forebear – Tim Birkin's Team
- * Car #2 – competed at Le Mans First Bentley works entry at Le Mans since Speed 8 victory in 2003

* The first car of Bentley's Blower Continuation Series – known as Car Zero – is set to invoke the history of its ancestor by racing at a series of events across 2023. Completing its purpose of engineering validation while honouring its genealogy,

Blower Car Zero will take to tracks in the UK, France and Belgium in a set of races that will test its performance and endurance.

The Blower Continuation Series – the first pre-war continuation series ever created - has been built by hand using a combination of modern laser-scanned data and original drawings. Both the blueprints and the 3D data were taken from the 1929 4½-litre supercharged Team Car #2 – the most famous Bentley in the world, and one of the icons of the Bentley Heritage Collection. 93

years after that car competed at Le Mans (and elsewhere), Car Zero will assume the original Blower's mantle and race to win – including at the Circuit de la Sarthe, in what will be the first Bentley works car to race at Le Mans since the Speed 8's victory in 2003.

Modifications to allow Blower Car Zero to go racing have been minor, and safety-related. They include the installation of a rain light, wing mirrors, towing points, a fire extinguisher and a battery isolation switch. The car also now holds an Historic Technical Passport (HTP), the certifies the car as eligible to compete in FIA-sanctioned events for historic vehicles.

Blower Car Zero will compete at three tracks in 2023:

Donington Park, UK, 29 – 30 April
Le Mans, France, 29 June – 3 July
Spa, Belgium, 28 – 30 September
After Car Zero, 12 further Blower Continuation Series cars have been commissioned through Mulliner – Bentley's bespoke and personalisation division - with eight delivered and four still in-build. Some of these customer cars will compete alongside Car Zero at Le Mans in the summer, together with original Bentley Team cars from the 1920s.

Paul Williams, Mulliner's Chief Technical Officer, comments:

“By going racing with Blower Car Zero, we will

prove the performance, authenticity and durability of our Continuation Series by taking on the original competition, and give our customers confidence that they too can take their continuation cars to the track. We've already proved the quality of the engineering within the car by completing a tough test of several hours at race pace around Goodwood, and it's now time for the car to be unleashed for real racing. We'll take the learnings from this race programme and apply them to the upcoming Speed Six Continuation Series, for which the first engineering car is in build now.”

To prepare for its racing debut, Car Zero recently completed a six-hour endurance test at full race pace, at the Goodwood Motor Circuit. Driven by Stuart Morley (GB), the car performed flawlessly throughout the test, covering 380 miles and averaging 83 miles per hour.

Drivers for the race programme will be confirmed shortly, and will feature a mix of experienced motoring journalists with racing credentials alongside professional racing drivers.



Mercedes-Maybach EQS SUV: Premiere of the legendary brand's first all-electric model

Apr 17, 2023 - Shanghai/Stuttgart

* Redefining automotive excellence in the age of electromobility

* Maximum luxury and comfort with a cocooning effect in the rear

* First model in the Mercedes-Benz family with sustainably processed leather

* Extraordinary driving experience with MAYBACH driving programme and maximum noise comfort

With the Mercedes-Maybach EQS 680 SUV (provisional figures: combined power consumption: 24.4-22.5 kWh/100 km; CO2 emissions: 0 g/km)[1], the legendary brand is presenting its first all-electric series model.

It is based on the technology of the EQS SUV from Mercedes-EQ and combines it with the exclusivity of Maybach – in line with Karl Maybach's maxim: "What is good must also be beautiful". The special exterior with an upright Mercedes star on the hood and a striking black panel front, which carries the specific Maybach radiator grille into the age of electromobility, ensures an unmistakable appearance. The optional two-tone paintwork is also typical of the brand. Thanks to exquisite materials, perfect



craftsmanship and exclusive details, the spacious interior offers a holistic comfort experience with a cocooning effect. With its consistent interpretation of Sophisticated Luxury, the Mercedes-Maybach EQS SUV sets the new benchmark in the all-electric top-end luxury SUV segment.

"Mercedes-Maybach customers expect the extraordinary, and we aim to exceed their high expectations. The Mercedes-Maybach EQS SUV unites our ambition to lead in digital and electric with our focus on the luxury segment. The very first all-electric vehicle from Mercedes-Maybach complements the best technologies from Mercedes-Benz with the extra comfort and individual details that are only available from Mercedes-Maybach." Ola Källenius, Chairman of the Board of Management Mercedes-Benz Group AG

"The Mercedes-Maybach EQS SUV is our first all-electric, full-size

luxury SUV. At Mercedes-Maybach we strive to add the shine of the extraordinary to the beautiful. The interior is an emotional and stylish statement. The lounge character promises luxurious travel at the highest level. Together with the innovative, progressive SUV proportions, we are completely redefining the SUV luxury of the future."

Gorden Wagener, Chief Design Officer Mercedes-Benz Group AG

"The Mercedes-Maybach EQS SUV is a milestone in our brand history. For us, it embodies nothing less than the redefinition of automotive excellence in the age of electromobility. Our customers can look forward to an absolutely top-class electric driving experience – with the aura of the extraordinary that is typical of Maybach." Daniel Lescow, Head of Mercedes-Maybach, Mercedes-Benz Group AG

BUILD YOUR OWN ADVENTURE: LEGO® ICONS LAUNCHES CLASSIC DEFENDER 90 SET

16 MARCH 2023

Celebrating 75 years of Land Rover with the LEGO® Icons Classic Defender 90

* Anniversary model: New LEGO® Icons Classic Land Rover Defender 90 set celebrates 75 years of Land Rover

* Builder's choice: 2,336-piece set is complete with all the accessories for an off-road expedition

* Coming soon: Available from 1 April, priced at £209.99 in the UK (€239.99/\$239.99)

* Adventure race: Watch the LEGO® Icons Classic Land Rover Defender 90 set launch with a Highlands challenge at www.lego.com/Defender

The LEGO® Group and Defender are celebrating 75 years of Land Rover with a build-your-own-adventure: the new LEGO® Icons Classic Land Rover Defender 90. The 2,336-piece set is complete with all the accessories for an off-road expedition.

The set has a two-in-one format, allowing builders to create an

everyday road-ready model or customise it for adventures.

Defender has racked up 75 years of all-terrain expeditions. Instantly recognisable around the world, it has a unique record of adventure, humanitarian aid and hard work.

The 32cm-long LEGO® model reflects this with accessories including a roof rack, raised air intake, front bumper with working winch, side rails and toolbox, plus traction plates for crossing mud and sand. It also has working steering and suspension, opening doors and

Defender can take you anywhere, so during the design process we wanted to infuse the set with that sense of adventure. We can't wait to see fans' reactions.

KURT KRISTIANSEN
LEGO® DESIGN MASTER

To launch the set, the LEGO® Group placed a real Classic Defender in the Scottish Highlands and used it to house the hardest-to-reach LEGO® Store in the world. That was the scene for a challenge, with adventurers Raha Moharrak and Aldo Kane racing to be the first



bonnet and an interior with details based on the full-size Classic Defender.

Defender is synonymous with adventure and this new LEGO® set is a perfect way to capture the spirit of an incomparable, unstoppable automotive icon, whilst also sharing the playful side of the vehicle.

PAUL BARRITT
DIRECTOR OF LAND ROVER CLASSIC

Bringing the Classic Defender to life in bricks was no easy challenge.

to find and build the new set. Watch the film at www.lego.com/Defender The LEGO® Icons Classic Land Rover Defender 90 set is available from 1 April in LEGO® stores and online at www.lego.com/Defender, priced at £209.99 in the UK (€239.99/\$239.99).

GONE CRUISIN'

Gary's Hot Rods & Cruisers



Welcome to Gone Cruisin', our regular feature on the cruising 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/>

Bike Week '23



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All photos for this feature: Gary Rosier



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Daytona 500



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