News **Events** **Features**

Show Reports



February / March 2023

Issue No: 66



NEW FORMAT VIDEO LINKS

FREE! Online Magazine

THIS MONTH: Festival of Speed

Mecum Auction Kissimmee

NASCAR Haulers

ROAR / Rolex 24 and Much More

ELCOME TO SPEEDI'S Blog.

It's been a hell of a past year for the poor **Ukrainian** population and sadly the illegal Russian occupation is far from over. At least the majority of the free world is in full support of their bid to stay as an independent Country.

Down in Florida there's still the regular launches seemed to be from the Kennedy Space Center, although a number have been delayed. Most notable being the proposed launch on Monday February 27 and SpaceX & NASA had to stand down the early morning launch attempt for the **Crew-6 mission to the International Space** Station.

NASA and SpaceX early on Monday, February 27, U.S. astronauts, a Russian cosmonaut and a United Arab Emirates crewmate minutes

before scheduled lift-off from Florida on a flight to the International **Space Station.**

The U.S. space agency and SpaceX, the private rocket company founded by billionaire Elon Musk, cited a technical glitch concerning the ignition fluid used to start the spacecraft's engines.

The countdown had progressing smoothly until about two and a half minutes before blastoff, when NASA announced on its live webcast that the launch of the four crew members on a six-month science mission would be postponed

However, SpaceX did manage to launch another Falcon 9 rocket, this time in the early evening of February 27 postponed the launch of when a SpaceX Falcon 9, a capsule containing two launched a Starlink 6-1 satellite mission from launch pad SLC-40. No delays on this launch as it could be clearly soon

from Spruce Creek Flyin as it launched on time.

However whilst the visual image of the vapor trail was similar to the Space Shuttle launches the sound was very subdued compared to the Space Shuttles.

The photo below shows the STS 57 launch which was a NASA Space Shuttle-Spacelab mission of Space Shuttle **Endeavour that** launched 21 June 1993 from Kennedy Space Center, Florida.



More of a back to earth matter from the world aviation industry is the news that many thousands of new aircraft will be needed.

Airbus forecasts a demand for 39.490 new passenger and freighter

> aircraft over the next 20 years, of which 31.620 typically Single Aisle and 7.870 typically Widebody.

Customers will enjoy tailored luxury in their private retreat in the sky in American's premium cabin.



American Airlines, the world's largest airline, is customer experience purchasing many new aircraft and is also giving customers a 'suite new ride'.

With new deliveries of its Airbus A321XLR and Boeing 787-9 aircraft, beginning in 2024, the airline will unveil new Flagship Suite® premium seating and a reimagined aircraft interior for its long-haul fleet. Flagship Suite® seats will offer customers a private premium experience with a privacy door, a chaise lounge seating option and more personal storage space.

"We are enhancing the across their entire journey with American," American's Vice **President of Customer Experience Julie Rath** said. "The arrival of new long-haul aircraft and the customized seat design of the Flagship Suite® seats will offer customers a truly private premium experience on our longhaul fleet."

American was the first U.S. airline to debut **long-haul Premium** Economy seats in 2016, and in response to customer demand, the airline is adding even

more Premium Economy seats to its long-haul aircraft. The new custom-designed **Premium Economy seat** creates more privacy and doubles the amount of in-seat storage space.

With the introduction of new interiors on its longhaul aircraft, premium seating on American's long-haul fleet will grow more than 45 percent by 2026. American's Boeing 787-9 aircraft will have 51 Flagship Suite® seats and 32 **Premium Economy** seats, and the airline's Airbus A321XLR aircraft will feature 20 Flagship Suite® seats and 12 **Premium Economy** seats.

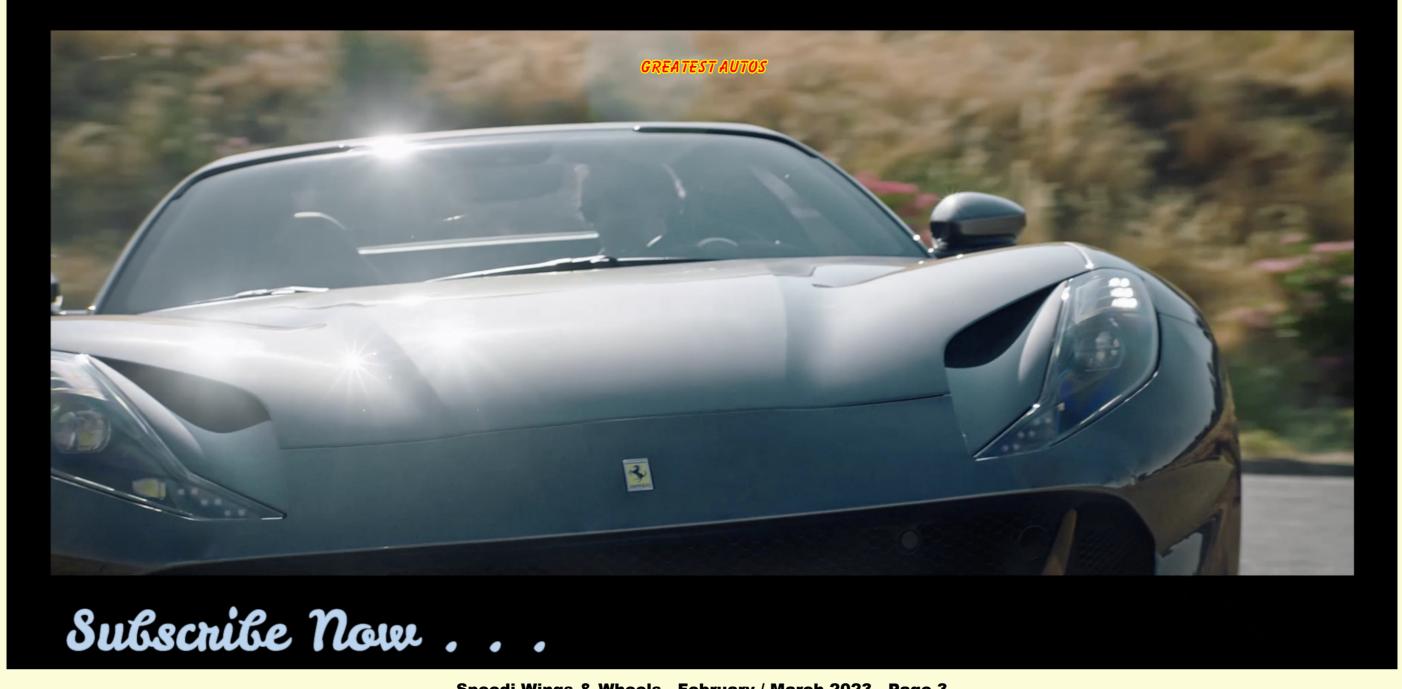
However, the standard of service provided must match up to the new seat offerings and here, the US carriers have a long way to go to compare with the superb first and business class products from the Middle Eastern carriers.



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Crescent Moon Beyond Greek Temple

Image Credit & Copyright: Elias Chasiotis

Explanation: Why is a thin crescent moon never seen far from a horizon? Because the only geometry that gives a thin crescent lunar phase occurs when the Moon appears close to the Sun in the sky. The crescent is not caused by the shadow of the Earth, but by seeing only a small part of the Moon directly illuminated by the Sun. Moreover, the thickest part of the crescent always occurs in the direction of the Sun. In the evening, a thin crescent Moon will set shortly after the Sun and not be seen for the rest of the night. Alternatively, in the morning, a crescent Moon will rise shortly before the Sun after not being seen for most of the night. Pictured two weeks ago, a crescent moon was captured near the horizon, just before sunrise, far behind remnants of the ancient Temple of Poseidon in Greece.



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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

& Wheels

Editorial

Welcome to the February / March 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.

n this issue we are featuring a the Rolex 24, from Daytona Beach in Florida - 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

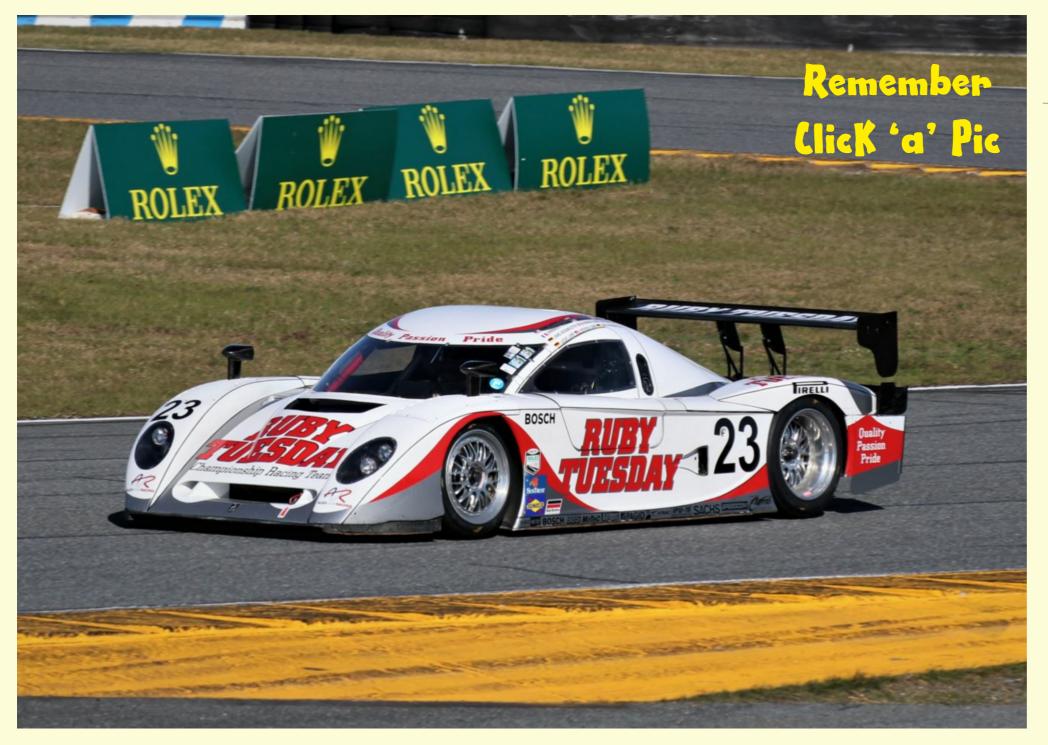
Speedi Wings & Wheels is a wide screen format magazine Best viewed in full screen single page HD mode

Hamburg, 27 February 2023 – EGYPTAIR took delivery of its first A321neo from Airbus' Delivery Centre in Hamburg, making the airline the first African operator of the aircraft.

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EGYPTAIR has specified a high comfort, two-class configuration with 16 Business class seats and 166 Economy class seats, and will increase the airline's single aisle capacity to the Middle East, Africa and Europe. The aircraft is on lease from AerCap and is powered by CFM engines.

8 Rolex 24 Practice Days - 2023





- **8** Rolex 24 Practice Days 2023: The Rolex 24 Practice Days take place the week before the Rolex 24 itself. Gary Rosier was there to snap the action. . .
- **11 Mecum Auctions Kissimmee:** The annual Mecum Auctions in Kissimmee, Florida takes place each January. In 2023, Gary Rosier was there, as ever . . .
- **14 Festival of Speed:** This is a new event to Speedi Wings & Wheels and took place at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala, Florida. Gary Rosier snapped the event . . .
- **NASCAR Haulers:** NASCAR had some of their haulers trucks on display before the Daytona 500 race. Gary Rosier was at One Daytona to view this big rigs . . .
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Regular Features:

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FV DEUS Snippets of Aviation News

Boeing Sets F/A-18 Production Completion Date as Defense Business Pivots to **Future Work**

- Defense, Space & Security plans St. Louis workforce growth supporting new and next-generation military aircraft programs and services
- F/A-18 Service Life Modification will continue through the mid-2030s; advanced capabilities development and upgrades for global fleet continuing for decades

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 23, 2023 —

Boeing [NYSE: BA] expects to complete new-build production of the F/A-18 Super Hornet fighter aircraft in late 2025 following delivery of the final U.S. Navy fighters. Production could be extended to 2027 if the Super Hornet is selected by an international customer.

To meet demand for defense products and services, Boeing plans to continue hiring year-over-year for the next five at its St. Louis site. More than 900 people were hired in the region last year.

"We are planning for our future, and building fighter aircraft is in our DNA," said Steve Nordlund, Boeing Air Dominance vice president and St. Louis site leader. "As we invest in and develop the next era of capability, we are applying the same innovation and expertise that made the F/A-18 a workhorse for the U.S. Navy and air forces around the world for nearly 40 years."



The F/A-18 production decision allows Boeing to:

- Redirect resources to future military aircraft programs: To support work on the next generation upgrade efforts: Boeing will of advanced crewed and uncrewed aircraft, Boeing plans to build three new, state-of-the-art facilities in St. Louis. These facilities, as well as the new Advanced Composite Fabrication Center in Arizona, and the new MQ-25 production facility at MidAmerica St. Louis Airport, represent more than a \$1 billion investment.
- Boeing has invested \$700 million into St. Louis infrastructure upgrades during the past decade, enabling the introduction of new design and build techniques streamlining processes and improving first-time quality. Ramp up production of critical new defense programs: Boeing St. Louis will increase production of the world's first all-digital training system, the T-7A Red Hawk, and the world's first carrier-deployed autonomous refueling aircraft, the MQ-25 Stingray, along with

ongoing production of new F-15EX Eagle IIs and 777X wing components.

Focus on modernization and continue to develop advanced capabilities and upgrades for the global F/A-18 Super Hornet and EA-18G Growler fleet. Throughout the next decade, all Block II Super Hornets in Service Life Modification will receive the Block III capability suite. Boeing will also continue to add advanced electronic attack capability as part of ongoing Growler modifications.

Since the F/A-18 debuted in 1983, Boeing has delivered more than 2,000 Hornets, Super Hornets and EA-18G Growlers to customers around the world including the U.S. Navy, Australia, Canada, Finland, Kuwait, Malaysia, Spain and Switzerland.

Airbus built Inmarsat-6 F2 satellite arrives on board an Airbus Beluga in Florida for launch

Toulouse, 30 January 2023 - The second Airbus-built Inmarsat-6 geostationary telecommunications satellite (I-6 F2) has arrived on board an Airbus Beluga at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida ready for its launch in February.

The second satellite of the Inmarsat 6 generation is based on Airbus' ultra-reliable Eurostar E3000

spacecraft and will be the 58th Eurostar E3000 built by Airbus. It will be the ninth Eurostar in orbit that is equipped with electric propulsion for orbit raising, reinforcing Airbus' position as the world leader in electric propulsion.

François Gaullier, Head of Telecommunications & Navigation

Systems at Airbus, said: "I-6 F2, with its sophisticated digitally processed payload, will join Inmarsat-6 F1 (I-6 F1) in orbit giving Inmarsat even more flexibility, capability and capacity. This is the 10th geotelecommunications satellite we have built for our long-term customer Inmarsat, a leading provider of global mobile satellite communication services, and with I-6 F1 the satellites will enable a step change in the capabilities and capacity for their ELERA services, and deliver significant additional capacity for their Global Xpress network."

I-6 F1 and I-6 F2 each feature a large 9m aperture L-band antenna and six multi-beam Ka-band antennas, giving a high level of flexibility and connectivity. They also carry new generation modular digital processors to provide full routing flexibility over up to 8000 channels and dynamic power allocation to over 200 spot beams in L-band, per spacecraft. The Kaband spot beams are steerable over

transformational growth in capacity and new features for customers into the 2030s and beyond.

Investments made by Airbus in platform and payload technologies used on I-6 are supported by the European Space Agency and national agencies, in particular the UK Space Agency and CNES, France's National Centre for Space Studies. I-6 F2 has a launch mass of 5.5 tons, spacecraft power of 21 kW and a design life of more than 15 years.

The first Airbus built Inmarsat-6

(I-6 F1) satellite was successfully launched in December 2021. It reached its geostationary testing location in summer 2022 and is scheduled to enter service in early 2023. I-6 F2 is set to follow after its successful launch and enter service in early 2024.

Airbus' geostationary telecommunications satellites have clocked

up more than 1300 years of successful operation and are in service or being built for all of the world's leading geostationary satellite operators.



the full Earth disk, with flexible channel to beam allocation.

The satellites will enable Inmarsat to further enhance its worldleading <u>ELERA</u> (L-band) and Global Xpress (Ka-band) networks respectively, for customers across land, sea, and air. They are also the next step in the company's plans for the world's first multi-dimensional network, Inmarsat ORCHESTRA. The 'network of networks' will build on Inmarsat's existing space-based capabilities to provide a













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NEWS FROM THE BARN



EWS 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

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)

AWOS...... 121.725 MHz

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

Airport Manager - Jim Stone 386 275-1894





























NASCAR HAULERS







AutoNews

Top Titbits of Auto News

www.speedi.tv

BMW Group brings hydrogen cars to the road: BMW iX5 Hydrogen pilot fleet launches

27.02.23

Munich / Antwerp. The BMW Group is presenting international media representatives with the first vehicles in a pilot fleet that will go into service this year. After four years of development work, the BMW iX5 Hydrogen vehicle and development project is entering its critical next phase.

The fleet of under 100 vehicles will then be employed internationally for demonstration and trial purposes for various target groups. This active driving experience will therefore be the first chance for people not involved in the development process to gain a direct impression of what the BMW iX5 Hydrogen has to offer.

"Hydrogen is a versatile energy source that has a key role to play in the energy transition process and therefore in climate protection. After all, it is one of the most efficient ways of storing and transporting renewable energies", said Oliver Zipse, Chairman of the Board of Management of BMW AG. "We should use this potential to also accelerate the transformation of the mobility sector. Hydrogen is the missing piece in the jigsaw when it comes to emission-free mobility. One technology on its own will not be enough to enable climate-neutral mobility worldwide."

The BMW iX5 Hydrogen.

The BMW iX5 Hydrogen developed efficiency. In addition to the on the basis of the current BMW X5 technological equivalents of features was first unveiled as a concept at the found on combustion engines, such IAA show in 2019. Initial prototypes as charge air coolers, air filters, were then made available at the IAA control units and sensors, the BMW Mobility 2021 for visitors to experience in action as shuttle vehicles.

Its hydrogen fuel cell system is further proof of the BMW Group's leading development expertise in the field of electric drive technologies. The BMW Group is systematically pushing forward with development of hydrogen fuel cell technology as an additional option for locally emission-free individual mobility in many years and have been the future.



BMW's technological expertise.

The BMW Group produces the highly efficient fuel cell systems for work there in the body shop, the pilot fleet at its in-house competence centre for hydrogen in Munich. This technology is one of the core elements in the BMW iX5 Hydrogen and generates a high continuous output of 125 kW/170

A chemical reaction takes place in the fuel cell between gaseous hydrogen from the tanks and oxygen development and initial assembly of from the air. Maintaining a steady supply of both elements to the fuel cell's membrane is of crucial importance for the drive system's

Group also developed special hydrogen components for its new fuel cell system. These include the high-speed compressor with turbine and high-voltage coolant pump, for instance.

The BMW Group sources the individual fuel cells from the Toyota Motor Corporation. The two companies have enjoyed a partnership characterised by trust for collaborating on fuel cell drive systems since 2013.

Production at Munich pilot plant.

The BMW iX5 Hydrogen is being built in the BMW Group's pilot plant at its Research and Innovation Centre (FIZ) in Munich. This is the interface between development and production where every new model from the company's brands is made for the first time. Around 900 people assembly, model engineering, concept vehicle construction and additive manufacturing.

They are tasked with ensuring that both the product and the manufacturing process are ready for series production. In the case of the BMW iX5 Hydrogen, specialists in hydrogen technology, vehicle new models have been working closely together to integrate the cutting-edge drive and energy storage technology.

Mercedes-Benz and Google Join Forces to Create Next-Generation Navigation Experience

Feb 22, 2023 – Sunnyvale, California

Mercedes-Benz plans to build its own branded navigation using new in-car geospatial data and navigation capabilities from Google Maps Platform.

The partnership enables Mercedes-Benz to create a driving experience that pairs the trusted, reliable information from Google Maps with its own unique luxury brand and feel.

The companies agreed to explore further collaboration using Google Cloud's leading artificial intelligence (AI), data and open infrastructure solutions.

Starting today, Mercedes-Benz will give customers access to initial new features like Place Details, provided by Google.

Mercedes-Benz and Google announced today a long-term strategic partnership to further accelerate auto innovation and create the industry's next-generation digita luxury car experience. With this partnership, Mercedes-Benz will be the first automaker to build its own branded navigation experience base on new in-car data and navigation capabilities from Google Maps Platform.

This will give the luxury automaker access to Google's leading geospatial

offering, including detailed information about places, real-time and predictive traffic information, automatic rerouting, and more. By embedding these features into the upcoming Mercedes-Benz Operating and places around the world, System (MB.OS), customers will be able to enjoy a superior navigation experience, thanks to easy usability high-resolution screen. To help enrich the user experience, the companies will bring the YouTube app into the Mercedes-Benz infotainment system. In addition, Mercedes-Benz will use Google Maps data to enable assisted driving features such as automatic speed adjustments before intersections,



roundabouts or curves.

"We invite only the very best partners to enhance our operating system and to add to the Mercedes-Benz customer experience. Google has been a leader in maps and navigation for many years. With our strategic partnership, we are excited to create unique services and to elevate the level of convenience for our customers. It will be deeply integrated within our signature Mercedes-Benz user interface and fully connected to relevant vehicle functions like the state-of-charge." Ola Källenius, Chief Executive Officer, Mercedes-Benz

As a first step, Mercedes-Benz will give customers access to Place Details provided by Google, helping them find detailed information about more than 200 million businesses including business hours, photos, ratings, and reviews. Place Details will be available starting today in all and outstanding graphics on the car's vehicles with the latest generation of MBUX in applicable markets*. The companies agreed to explore further collaboration using Google Cloud's leading artificial intelligence (AI), data and open infrastructure solutions. For example:

> AI: Mercedes-Benz intends to use Google Cloud's AI and Machine Learning capabilities to create, train, and deploy new models at speed and enhance customer experiences. Data: Mercedes-Benz intends to use Google Cloud's fast and efficient data processing platform to analyze fleet data.

Open Infrastructure: Mercedes-Benz plans to use Google's open infrastructure to securely innovate and scale from on-premises, to edge, to cloud, across Mercedes-Benz's current technology landscape. "Our partnership with Mercedes-Benz brings advanced technologies from Google Maps Platform, Cloud, and YouTube to help create new experiences for drivers. In addition to enabling Mercedes-Benz to design a customized navigation interface, we'll provide our AI and data capabilities to accelerate their sustainability efforts, advance autonomous driving, and create an enhanced customer experience." Sundar Pichai, Chief Executive Officer, Google and Alphabet



GONE CRUISIN











Gary's Hot Rods & Cruisers













More motorsport news & photos from Daytona Beach, Speed City USA.



More motorsport news & photos from Daytona Beach, Speed City USA. Daytona Beach Speed City USA





