



Gumpert

GUMPERT Sportwagenmanufaktur



Type Private

Genre Supercar manufacturer

GMG Sportwagenmanufaktur Altenburg

Predecessor Gm

GmbH

Founded 2005

Founder(s) Roland Gumpert

Headquarters Altenburg, Thuringia, Germany

European, Middle Eastern and U.S.

Area served Markets.

Industry Automotive industry

Products Gumpert Apollo

Owner(s) Roland Gumpert

Employees 45

Website Gumpert.de

GUMPERT Sportwagenmanufaktur GmbH is a German, Altenburg-based company manufacturing supercars. The first model produced was the GUMPERT apollo, followed by the apollo sport in 2007. GUMPERT Sportwagenmanufaktur also offer the apollo race. Founder and owner of GUMPERT Sportwagenmanufaktur is Roland Gumpert, former Director of Audi Sport.

Under his management, Audi won a total of 25 World Rally Championship races and 4 World Rally Championship titles.

History

In 2001 Roland Gumpert proposed a new generation sports car. One of the first concerns of this car was that it be a street-legal car, ready for the race track. Gumpert returned to Germany at the end of 2001, after more than three years in China. There he was the head of sales and marketing, responsible for the development of the dealer network of the Audi-VW joint enterprise. Just after he returned to Germany, Roland Meyer asked him if he would assist him in building a prototype sports car. Audi approved Gumpert's involvement in this project, on the condition that, if they did eventually develop a new sports car, it would not be a prototype, but a series product. The company was founded in 2004 under the name GMG Sportwagenmanufaktur Altenburg GmbH. The technical guidelines were defined and the first designs of the car were drawn by Marco Vanetta. Upon Vanetta's completion of this process, the first 1:4 scale model of Gumpert's car was produced in 2002.GUMPERT Sportwagenmanufaktur is located in Altenburg, Germany.Gumpert continued with the development of the apollo, along with the Technical University of Munich and the Ingolstadt University of Applied Sciences. They have assisted with the constructional work, computer simulations, and wind tunnel tests. This research and development helped forming the blueprint for the first 1:1 scale model. Finally two prototype apollos were constructed.. The production of the apollo started in October 2005.On July 27, 2008 an Apollo Sport was featured on the UK show Top Gear. Richard Hammond and The Stig drove the Apollo Sport. With a lap time of 1.17.1, the Apollo Sport became the new leader on the Power Lap Board. This is only 0.2 seconds faster than the former lap leader, the Ascari A10.

Development partners

GUMPERT Sportwagenmanufaktur collaborated with several business and technical partners, including the following major partners.

• Apollo Germany Limited

Paints and repairs.

ATS Group

Development and production of wheels.

BFFT

Automotive electronics.

• Bosch Group

Automobile components and systems, including ABS/TCS systems.

Eibach

Sports chassis development.

• HS GENION

Automotive engineering

• KBF Kabelbaumfertigung

The apollo's cabling, measuring 4.2 km.

• KW Automotive

Sport suspension systems.

• MERO TSK

Mengeringhausen tube system.

• Pirelli

Road and racing tyres.

• TRW

Active and passive vehicle safety systems.

• Technical University of Munich

Virtual prototyping, vibration technology and driver-vehicle interaction.

• WIDOS

Welding plastic tubing and moulded parts.

Contrust

Optimize risk management

Availability

The GUMPERT Apollo, Apollo Sport and the Apollo Race are currently only available in the European, Middle Eastern and U.S. markets. In the U.S., this is made possible via a partnership with Evolution MotorSport. Gumpert also plans to export the apollo to Australia, the Asian region and Russia.

Since October 2005, a total of 45 employees, both from the production and administration departments, have produced and delivered the first cars. For 2009, an annual production of 30 cars is planned. The base price for the apollo, with its 4.2 Liter V8 engine with bi-turbo delivering 650 hp (480 kW) is ϵ 301,600 excluding VAT. The Apollo sport is available at an extra ϵ 77,910, and the apollo race at ϵ 125,320 more. The waiting list is approximately four to five months.

Motorsport

During April 2005 the Apollo made its racing debut in the Divinol Cup. This apollo was driven by the Belgian race driver Ruben Maes. Maes finished third on the Hockenheimring race track. Three years later Gumpert announced that they would enter a hybrid version of the apollo in the 2008 24 Hours Nürburgring, driven by 2004 winner Dirk Müller and ex Formula One Racer Heinz-Harald Frentzen. Three months passed between the first discussions and the finished hybrid apollo. The apollo was driven in the 24 Hours Nürburgring in May of 2008. The hybrid Apollo can deliver up to 630 hp (470 kW), powered with a 3.3 Litre V8 bi-turbo engine coupled with a 100 kW (136 PS; 134 hp) electric motor. The car has the ability to recharge the battery under braking.







