



ASTON MARTIN

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### **2018 ASTON MARTIN RACING VANTAGE GTE**

- **New Vantage road car forms basis of Aston Martin Racing's 2018 WEC challenger**
- **Developed in parallel with the new Vantage road car**
- **Development car has already completed 13,000km of testing, including two 30-hour tests**
- **Three new technical partners: Alcon brakes; Öhlins suspension; Michelin tyres**
- **Established AMR drivers joined by British star Alex Lynn**

*21 November 2017, London:* Earlier today, Aston Martin revealed the new Vantage: a dynamics successor to the biggest-selling road car in the British marque's history. This evening, in an unprecedented synchronised launch, Aston Martin Racing revealed the new Vantage GTE: the spectacular new FIA World Endurance Championship challenger poised to replace the team's most successful competition car of all-time, the multiple Le Mans-winning V8 Vantage GTE.

Built to comply with the FIA's strict GTE class regulations, the new Vantage GTE takes the road car's core design and dynamic capabilities to a whole new level through extensive optimisation of the powertrain, chassis and aerodynamics. Designed and engineered in-house at Aston Martin Racing's headquarters in Banbury, the project is led by Technical Director Dan Sayers, who also guided the design and development of the current V8 Vantage GTE – the car credited with 37 of the team's 51 international race victories, including two Le Mans 24 Hour class wins.

Though the new Vantage road car has only just been launched, development of the new Vantage GTE race car is well advanced, with more than 13,000km of testing completed, including a successful 30-hour run at the Spanish circuit of Navarra. The car has also been through a rigorous durability programme at the notoriously rough Sebring circuit in Florida. All of Aston Martin Racing's current drivers have contributed to the test programme.

Reliability has been exceptional straight out of the box, while the drivers have reported the car is easier to control on the limit than its predecessor – something that will make the Vantage GTE especially attractive to competitors in the GTE Am class, where top-level amateurs race

alongside professional teammates. Together with Aston Martin Racing's engineers, the factory drivers have worked hard to optimise the drivability and performance of the base Mercedes-AMG 4.0-litre turbocharged V8 engine, that has been developed for use in the Vantage GTE application by Aston Martin Racing.

Aston Martin Racing is working with new technical partners: Alcon for the braking system, Öhlins for the suspension and Michelin for a bespoke tyre programme to maximise the performance of the Vantage GTE. Also, the in-house Aston Martin Design team, led by Chief Creative Officer Marek Reichman have taken their intimate knowledge of the road Vantage styling and amplified it for the WEC version. The result is an extreme and exciting evolution of an already aggressive road car design – a lesson in Aston Martin's ethos of pure form and function.

With a new car to develop, Aston Martin Racing has kept its highly experienced and successful driver line-up. This year's 24 Hours of Le Mans GTE Pro class winners Darren Turner and Jonny Adam have been retained, as have the Danish duo and 2016 FIA WEC GTE Pro world champions, Nicki Thiim and Marco Sørensen. In addition, AMR has recruited ex-GP2 race winner and now Formula E racer Alex Lynn. Further driver announcements will be forthcoming.

Aston Martin Racing is also proud to announce a range of partners who will support the team throughout the 2018/19 season.

Hackett London remains the long-term Official Clothing Partner for Aston Martin Racing, supplying the team with all technical wear throughout each race weekend and a range of Aston Martin Racing clothing in stores worldwide. Likewise, Immun'Age, who produce immune system boosting natural papaya food supplements, continue their association with the British marque.

The team are also proud to confirm that Total will continue as Official Lubricant Partner. After joining the team at the beginning of 2016, Aston Martin Racing and Total have together delivered two world championships and a win at the 24 Hours of Le Mans, underlining the success of the relationship.

Aston Martin Racing is also proud to announce a range of new partners to the fold. One of the world's most prestigious hotel brands, Waldorf Astoria, becomes the team's Official Hotel Partner, whilst Beats by Dr. Dre, the leader in premium consumer headphones, earphones and speakers, joins as Official Audio Partner.

Aston Martin Racing Technical Director, Dan Sayers said of the 2018 Vantage GTE: “Designing and developing this new car has been an extremely satisfying process. We’ve collaborated closely with Aston Martin’s Gaydon headquarters to develop the road and race cars in parallel. Attention to detail has been a priority at every step of this process and we’ve made big improvements in each area of the car. We’ve spent every second optimising the design right until the build of our test car, which has paid dividends during our current testing schedule. This project has been one of the most intensive but also rewarding of my career so far”.

John Gaw, Managing Director, Aston Martin Racing said, “It’s terrific to be involved in this exciting new chapter for Aston Martin Racing. The increasingly tough competition in the GTE class and the prospect of two visits to Le Mans and a return to Sebring within the 2018/19 super-season is thoroughly tantalising. To conduct the development process of this car so closely with Aston Martin’s design and engineering teams was essential for both road and race car to retain the same underlying DNA. We believe the Vantage GTE will bring further success worldwide to Aston Martin Racing in the coming years”.

President of Aston Martin Racing, David King said, “Motorsport is fundamental to the DNA of Aston Martin and our commitment to the FIA World Endurance Championship is stronger than ever. This is a golden era for GT racing and today’s launch of the new Vantage GTE will ensure that Aston Martin Racing remains at the forefront of the world’s greatest endurance series. The team has enjoyed incredible success over recent years with the outgoing V8 Vantage GTE and while this will hold fond memories for me, I can’t wait to see the new car race in anger at Spa next year and continue to write motorsport history”.

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## **Attachment 1**

### **Aston Martin 2018 Vantage GTE Technical Specification**

#### **Engine**

- Bespoke BorgWarner turbos with integrated electric wastegates
- Akrapovič inconel exhaust system
- Dry sump lubrication system
- Engine repositioned to optimise mass
- Distribution
- Power >400 kW\*
- Torque >700 Nm\*
- Variable by boost

#### **Driveline / Transmission**

- Rear wheel drive with traction control
- Xtrac six speed sequential transmission
- Alcon motorsport multi-plate clutch
- Mechanical limited-slip differential with externally adjustable preload
- Semi-automatic paddle shift gear change
- Direct acting electric gear shift actuator
- Carbon fibre propshaft

#### **Chassis**

- Lightweight aluminium chassis based on the latest Vantage production car
- Steel roll cage to FIA safety standards
- High speed pneumatic jack system

#### **Suspension**

- Optimised geometry double wishbone suspension front and rear
- Öhlins 5-way adjustable dampers
- Adjustable anti-roll bars

#### **Steering**

- Electro-hydraulic power assisted steering
- Quick release carbon fibre steering wheel

#### **Fuel System**

- 100 litre fuel cell to FIA safety standards
- Single point fuel coupling

#### **Brakes**

- Alcon monobloc six pot front calipers
- Alcon ventilated wide annulus front brake discs
- Alcon monobloc 4 pot rear calipers
- Alcon ventilated rear brake discs

- Integrated caliper temperature and pad wear sensors front and rear
- Floor mounted driver adjustable pedal box
- Driver adjustable front/rear brake bias

### **Cockpit**

- Optimised for driver access and visibility
- RaceTech FIA 8862 safety seat
- Schroth Six-point safety harness
- Lifeline FIA 8865 fire extinguisher system
- Cosworth driver display and shift lights
- Rear view camera with Bosch collision avoidance radar system
- Air conditioning
- Electrically operated driver drinks system

### **Aerodynamics / Bodywork**

- Removable carbon-fibre body panels to FIA LMGTE regulations
- Carbon fibre roof with regulation safety access hatch
- Full length flat floor
- Carbon fibre splitter and diffuser
- Adjustable carbon fibre rear wing

### **Wheels**

- TWS forged magnesium 12.5" x 18" front
- TWS forged magnesium 13.0" x 18" rear
- Captive wheel nut design

### **Tyres**

- Michelin 30/68 – 18 front
- Michelin 31/71 – 18 rear

### **Weight**

- Dry weight 1245kg (regulated base weight)