Dodge Intros Rally Car Version of Its Soon-to-Debut 2013 Production Dart

by Gerald Scott News Dept.

Dodge introduced its latest Rally Car - and its driver and it's difficult to say which is going to generate more horsepower and enthusiasm.

That's because Dodge and SRT Motorsports (Street and Racing Technology) last week debuted an all-new 2013 Dodge Dart Rally Car and it will be piloted by fourtime Rally America Champion and 17-time X Games Gold Medalist Travis Pastrana in the upcoming 2012 Global Championship RallvCross (GRC) Series.

tegral part of our heritage and embodies our competitive spirit, so we're very excited to announce the next chapter in racing for Dodge with our all-new Dodge Dart," said Reid Bigland, president and CEO of Dodge Brand.

"The new Dart Global RallyCross Championship car with 600 horsepower and driver Travis Pastrana takes our passion for performance to new heights.'

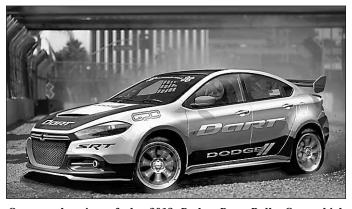
Last week, the Motor City got its first up-close look at hot driver Pastrana and in person he comes across as a marketer's dream.

The GRC Series, with first race in Charlotte May 26, appeals greatly to the 18-to-34year-old age group and there's Pastrana, just 28, and looking like, if he wasn't a car driver, maybe he should be lead guitarist in a Seattle grunge band.

Right guy for right part, in other words - and right enthusiasm for this job, too, apparently.

"When I first heard about GRC, I was really interested, and after watching some of the rounds last year and then actually competing in the X Games, I was hooked!" he said.

"Now to be able to partner with Dodge to field my own program this year is a dream come true. The new Dodge



Concept drawing of the 2013 Dodge Dart Rally Car, which Chrysler had built in Sweden and shipped to the U.S. last week in preparation for the first 2012 Global RallyCross Championship Series race in the U.S. in May.

Visteon Sells Lighting

End of Its Car Business

form for rally cross, and I look forward to putting it on the podium all season long."

Indeed, Pastrana will be competing in a rally-race version of the Dart, a vehicle so unique that Dodge had it built in Sweden and shipped to the U.S. for trials just last week.

The street Dart debuted to positive reviews at the De- last week and he likes what

Varroc Group for \$92 million.

Visteon said the sale an-

nounced last week will allow it

to concentrate on making cli-

mate-control and electronics

products for vehicle manufac-

turers and on its joint ven-

counted for \$531 million in rev-

enue last year and employs

about 4,200 workers. That's

about 16 percent of Visteon's

current workforce of about

Visteon had \$8.05 billion in

The operations being sold

make front and rear lighting

systems, auxiliary lamps and

26,000 employees.

total revenue in 2011.

The business being sold ac-

tures

"At Dodge, racing is an in- Dart offers the perfect plat- troit auto show back in Januarv and otherwise it's scheduled to begin production at Chrysler's Belvidere, Ill., factory later this year.

Meanwhile, Ralph Gilles, president and CEO - Street Technology and Racing Brand and Motorsports, Chrysler Group, attended the briefing with Pastrana at the Hard Rock Cafe in Detroit



PHOTO: GERALD SCOTT

Four-time Rally America Champion driver Travis Pastrana, center, makes a point as he's introduced as the new driver of the 2013 Dodge Dart Rally Car at a briefing at the Hard Rock Cafe in Detroit. Looking on are SRT executive Ralph Gilles, left, and Dodge executive Reid Bigland, right.

he sees in both the driver and the vehicle at hand.

Travis is a living example of what action sports activities are all about, so he fits in perfectly with the youthfulness and passion for performance of the Dodge Brand and the SRT Motorsports team," Gilles said.

"He's proven that he can handle just about anything with wheels, so it's going to be great to watch him pilot our new Dodge Dart in Global RallyCross.

Indeed, the Dart rally car is

Global RallyCross racing, but powertrains that produce up share a few traits with the to 184 h.p. and an equal 184 production Dodge Dart.

have exceptional aerodynamics, are agile and fun to drive and will add a little excitement to their segments.

Powered by a 2.0L, 4-cylinder, 16-valve turbocharged though its interior space is 600 h.p. engine mated to a Sedav, 4-wheel-drive gearbox that puts out more than 550 lb. ft. of torque such as the vehicle is raring to go.

custom-built specifically for version of the Dodge Dart after all.

the newer motorsport of features three state-of-the-art lb. ft. of torque and what is Gilles said both vehicles described as a sporty, fun-todrive road handling experience.

The Dart figures to put Dodge back on the compactcar segment map, even actually larger than some mid-size cars.

Now, add the Rally version of the car and an equally enthusiastic driver and Dodge Note that the production may be on to something hot

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, subcomponents such as pro-Mich. (AP) - Auto parts maker jectors and electronic mod-Visteon Corp. is selling its autoules. The business has operamotive lighting business to Intions in Europe, North America dian automotive parts supplier and Asia.

The agreement is also expected to include Visteon's equity stake in Visteon TYC Corp., a China-based lighting joint venture.

Plants involved in the sale include those in Novy Jicin and Rychvald, Czech Republic; Monterrey, Mexico, and Pune, India.

Visteon, which is based in Van Buren Township, Mich., expects to complete the deal in the third quarter.

Visteon was spun off from Ford Motor Co. in 2000. It filed for bankruptcy protection in 2009 and emerged in 2010 after shedding billions in debt and pension costs.









subject to change. Other restrictions may apply. Auto loans currently financed through the credit union cannot be refinanced with this offer.