

Bloodhound Supersonic set for RIAC Show bow



The Bloodhound Supersonic, which will feature at the RIAC Classic Car Show in March.

Bloodhound Supersonic Car is a unique rocket and jet powered vehicle designed to achieve 1,000mph. To put that in perspective, this ultimate racing car will be capable of travelling 1.6 km (1 mile) in just 3.6 seconds (or four-and-a half Gaelic football pitches in 1 second). That is significantly faster than a bullet from a .357 Magnum.

Said Show Director Bob Montgomery: "Bloodhound SSC is an amazing vehicle and we are literally seeing history in the making.

When you think that this vehicle is going to reach speeds of up to 1,000 miles per hour it really sparks the imagination.

"Compare this to some of the cars we have at the show that would only reach 5mph in their heyday, it is a real statement of how far the automotive industry has come in such a short time.

"This car will no doubt inspire visitors when they see the scale of this engineering masterpiece in the flesh."

The car itself weighs in at just over 7.5 tonnes and is nearly 14 m long. Its jet and rocket-powered engines produce more than 135,000 horsepower (more than 100,000 kW) pushing this vehicle to an incredible 1,000 mph (1,609 kph, Mach 1.4).

That is more or less the same horsepower as 180 Formula 1 cars! At its top speed it will be generating an incredible air pressure of 11 tonnes per square metre on the vehicle.

Compare that to the 1960's Peel car that will also feature at the RIAC National Classic Car Show you get a true understanding of the scale of the project. The Peel comes in at minuscule 54in (1,372mm) long and 41in (1,041mm) wide and has an un-laden weight of 59 kilograms. It once held the record as the smallest car ever to go into production.

The organisers also noted that there will be a Bloodhound SSC simulator at the show where visitors will get a taste of what it is like to drive at speeds never before achieved on land. Team members will be on hand to discuss the project with visitors and guide them through what is involved with a World Land Speed Record attempt of this scale.

The car for the record attempt, currently being built in a special Technical Centre near Bristol in the UK, will head to South Africa in the summer of 2015 for test runs (which will also break the sound barrier), before returning about a year later for the attempt to break the World Land Speed Record.

Bloodhound SSC, will attempt to increase the current land speed record, already held by Richard Noble's team with Thrust SSC at 763mph in 1997, to just over 1,600 km/h (1,000 mph) at Hakskeen Pan in the Northern Cape Province in 2016.