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ALFA ROMEO'S 215mph 'SALOON CAR'

Alfa Romeo's stunning new 215 mph ProCar, a competition car designed to look exactly like road versions of the new 164 sports saloon, takes centre stage on Alfa Romeo (GB) Limited's stand at this year's Motor Show at the NEC.

The result of a joint venture between British Formula One specialists, Brabham, and Alfa Romeo, the 164 ProCar has been built as a feasibility study for a new formula of motorsport.

To comply with FISA's proposed regulations, the car must exactly resemble a current high-volume production car, although the chassis and mechanicals can be completely different.

Built of a lightweight composite of carbon fibre and kevlar, the bodywork is a precision reproduction of that of the road-going 164, right down to the badges, bumpers, indicators and wipers. Both front doors even have authentic-looking shiny key locks.

Under the skin, the ProCar uses the latest competition technology. Instead of a front-mounted 3.0-litre V6 driving the front wheels, it uses a brand new Alfa Romeo 3.5-litre V10 engine, positioned centrally, which drives the rear wheels. Whereas the 143 mph 3.0-litre 164 produces 192 horsepower, the ProCar develops over 600 bhp. In the road car, 60 mph comes in 7.5 seconds, but on the track, ProCar manages it in just over two seconds, and top speed, depending on gearing, is well over 215 mph.



In line with existing Formula One design, the ProCar has a central 'tub' of aluminium/Nomex honeycomb, lined with carbon and kevlar. The longitudinally-mounted engine forms a fully stressed part of the chassis.

Although this new ProCar formula has yet to be given any firm starting date, Alfa Romeo are the first manufacturers to exploit the potential of the new regulations, and produce a proper, running, feasibility study to establish the formula's performance benchmark.



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## PERFORMANCE CARS

### ALFA ROMEO 164 PROCAR TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

<b>Engine</b>	
Type	72-degree V10, mid-mounted, longitudinal layout
Capacity	3,500 cc
Valve gear	Double overhead camshafts per bank, four valves per cylinder
Fuel supply/ignition	Bosch digital integrated electronic system
<b>Transmission</b>	
Type	Longitudinally-mounted, six-speed plus reverse
<b>Suspension</b>	Independent by quadrilateral wishbone with pushrod spring/damper units and anti-roll bar
<b>Chassis</b>	Integral, of composite material with stress bearing power unit
Brakes	Self-ventilating carbon discs
<b>Fuel Capacity</b>	100 litres
<b>Tyres</b>	Front            Michelin 23/66 x 17 Rear             Michelin 35/66 x 17
<b>Weight</b>	750 kg
<b>Performance</b>	Top Speed      215 mph plus 0-60 mph        2.1 seconds

