

CLASSIC DRIVER

International Classic Car Show Birmingham UK 2001

The highlight of the International Classic Motor Show (NEC, Birmingham, November 10-11) was not a classic car at all but the first public viewing of the sensational new MG ZT XPower, seen on the MG Owners' Club stand. MG Rover Chief Executive Kevin Howe was also there on the Saturday to receive the MGOC's award as MG Man of the Year.



The new MG ZT XPower, with its 385bhp, 4.6-litre supercharged engine and rear-wheel drive layout, is tipped to become the world's fastest four-door production saloon when it goes on sale in the second half of 2002. With a top speed of 175mph, and 0-60mph in under five seconds, this new model will put MG into a new supercar league. The proposed price of £38,000 should also give the opposition something serious to think about.

Birmingham's International Classic Motor Show was bigger than ever and appeared to draw a record crowd (attendance figures were yet to be announced when this was written). Among the more impressive exhibits, the Unipart Jaguar Classic stand featured recent concept cars including the F-Type while the the Bentley Drivers' Club's large display included the Birkin and Barnato Hassan single-seaters.

Report by Tony Dron



Gallery

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