

CLASSIC DRIVER

Koenigsegg Breaks World Record for Production Cars



On February the 28th 2005, at 12.08 local time, the Koenigsegg CCR broke the production road car speed record, achieving a new official top speed of 388 (387.87) km/h at Italy's Nardo Prototipo proving ground.

A team of five Koenigsegg engineers and mechanics together with founder Christian von Koenigsegg ran, a technically standard Koenigsegg CCR in order to take the top speed record for productions road cars. The famous supercar test driver, Loris Biccocchi who is a veteran recorder breaker, drove the CCR. The Koenigsegg CCR raised McLaren's previously unofficial mark of 372 km/h set at Nardo/Prototipo in 1993 with over 15 km/h. On top of this the CCR broke the official McLaren F1 record of 386.7 km/h, which was set on the 9 km straight line VW Ehra facility in Wolfsburg Germany. A team of Nardo Prototipo technicians independently verified the speed of the CCR. The car was clocked using Tag Heuer's Splitmaster 650 with photocells stationary at the track, recording the average speed during 1 km.



Nardo Prototipo is a circular track with a circumference of 12.5 km. This means that the car is driven in a constant turning motion, which makes the exercise and speed even more impressive. The steering wheel at this speed is kept at around 30 degrees of constant angle, which equvalates to a sharp corner for the speed. The constant turning motion of the car creates extra friction on the tires. This extra friction overcomes the extra horsepower that was needed for further acceleration. The maximum speed was reached at around 6790 rpm, which is not equivalent to the maximum hp level, which is at a higher rpm. With this verification of speed, Christian von Koenigsegg is even more confident that the Koenigsegg CCR is capable of reaching its projected top speed of 395 km/h, or more, in a straight line.



Driver Loris Biccocchi was very impressed by the performance of the car. He feels happy to finally prove the performance of the Koenigsegg. "This test was very important for the customers and owners of Koenigsegg cars. It proves that their belief and faith in the small Koenigsegg Company was well founded". Filmator documented the record attempt. Filmator is a Swedish filmcrew that currently is making a documentary about the Koenigsegg Company for Swedish television.

The official Test Report is issued by Prototipo, acting as a third party verifactor and is forwarded to the Guinness Book of Records for processing.

Comparison chart results at Nardo/Prototipo for Production cars:

- 1.** Koenigsegg CCR 388 km/h
- 2.** McLaren F1 372 km/h
- 3.** Ferrari Enzo 355 km/h
- = 4.** Porsche Carrera GT 334 km/h
- = 4.** McLaren Mercedes SLR 334 km/h
- 5.** Lamborghini Murcielago 330 km/h

Text/Photos: Koenigsegg

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