

# CLASSIC DRIVER

## Automobile Year 56 2008/09 Reviewed

RENAULTS - USA

### A smaller market with more competitors

Sales in the North American market have fallen from previous heights of 1.7 to 1.6 million units to 1.5 million in 2008. In the second half of the year, the domestic market, however, has not been as strong as in the first half, with the impact of the highly priced Cadillac CTS and Chevrolet Malibu, but the market is still strong. The company has introduced a new car, the Renault Fluence, which is a small car with a price of \$10,000. The company has also introduced a new car, the Renault Fluence, which is a small car with a price of \$10,000. The company has also introduced a new car, the Renault Fluence, which is a small car with a price of \$10,000.



MINI COOPER

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If any publication can make sense of this extraordinary period for the automotive industry, it's **Automobile Year**. From the heights of an \$11m classic Ferrari in the spring, to worldwide recession as the leaves fall in autumn: this most indispensable book covers it all.

Concept cars, new production models, racing and rallying, concours and the collectors' classic car movement are all in the latest **Automobile Year** (the third published by **Christian Philippson**). Written concisely and with authority, by contributors of the calibre of **Philippson** himself, **Karl Ludvigsen** ('Markets: Analysis'), **Prof. Gordon Murray** ('Sustainable Mobility: Concept for a City Car') and **Paul Frère** ('Sustainable Mobility: The Diesel Engine'), the book once again becomes a definitive volume.



Ferrari and Williams both entered the 2008 F1 season with a new engine and a new car. The Ferrari F2008 was the first car to use a V8 engine, while the Williams FW28 was the first car to use a V6 engine.



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As usual, the **Formula 1** season is covered in depth, as is long-distance racing and **Le Mans** in particular – all illustrated with stunning photography in the best tradition of the series. As in previous Philippson AYs, the top-level classic car world has a generous section, with a review of the best concours around the globe and a good summary of cars sold at auction.

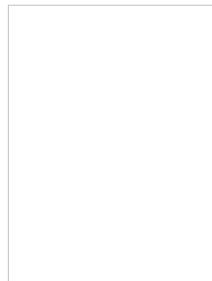
The latter is included in 'Culture', the last part of the book that is dedicated to the history and heritage of the automobile. You will also find articles on 'BMW World and Museum', as well as that great American tradition, 'The Bonneville Speed Week'.



Small speedboats racing on a dry lake bed. The boat in the foreground is the 'Speed Demon', owned by the late Steve McQueen. It is a 1966 Ford Mustang, modified to be a speedboat. The boat in the background is a 1967 Ford Mustang, also modified to be a speedboat. The boats are racing on a dry lake bed in the Mojave Desert, California.



If you have all the others, you'd better get your credit card out - and if you **don't** have many previous **Automobile Years**, why not make this the excuse to start collecting? For further information, see the multi-language [www.automobileyear.com](http://www.automobileyear.com) - but be warned: not only can you order online, but you can also search for out-of-print issues, too. It can become addictive.



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