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Aston Martin and the Nürburgring 24-Hour Race: New V12 Vantage Debuts in 2009



Just a few days after the model's worldwide launch, in near-standard specification, the new V12 Vantage will be entered in the famous German 24-hour race.

The drivers will include none other than the company's Chief Executive, Dr Ulrich Bez, who will be driving in his fourth consecutive 'Ring 24 hours. He will be joined by other members of Aston Martin's engineering team.

The V12 Vantage marries the DBS-spec 6.0-litre, 510bhp 12-cylinder engine to the compact, two-seater dimensions of the V8 Vantage. It was officially launched at this year's Geneva show and will be tested by members of the press – including Classic Driver – only days before the Nürburgring event.

Said Dr Bez, "This is the final engineering durability test for the V12 Vantage programme. We will be subjecting the car to the toughest assessment yet, under public scrutiny, as we successfully did with the Vantage N24 programme.

"We already have a proven track record at the Nürburgring racing our road cars with limited modifications and in 2009 we also celebrate our 50-year anniversary of winning the ADAC Nürburgring 1000Km with a DBR1."

As in the previous entries at the 'Ring, the car is based firmly on production components and the British company is proud of the V8 model's reliability over long distances: since its inception in 2006, no standard N24 from the factory or customer team has failed to finish a 24-hour endurance race in 13 starts around the world.

The 37th ADAC Nürburgring 24-hour race takes place on 23-24 May 2009.

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Photos: Aston Martin

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