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[Bonhams to Sell 'VMF 65' at May Aston Martin Auction](#)



One of Aston Martin's celebrated Team Cars, the 1950 Le Mans entry DB2 'VMF 65', is an early headlining entry at this year's Newport Pagnell sale.

Post-War Astons do not get much more famous than this. Chassis LML/50/9 was raced by a dazzling line-up of British drivers including **Stirling Moss**, **Peter Collins**, **Roy Salvadori**, **Major Tony Rolt**, **Lance Macklin**, **George Abecassis** and **Eric Thompson**. The car was one of a triple factory entry at **Le Mans** in 1950, when works driver **Jack Fairman** crashed it badly enough *en route* to the French classic for it to be a non-starter.

This was the time, of course, when racing cars were routinely driven on the roads to meetings. The sister cars, **VMF 63** and **VMF 64**, did start the 24-hour race, finishing sixth and fifth overall, respectively.

VMF 65 was repaired and became a works entry at **Silverstone** (**Eric Thompson**), the **Ulster Tourist Trophy** (**Abecassis**) and the **MCC Daily Express 1000-Mile Rally** (**Moss/Macklin**), before its sale out of works ownership to the legendary British private owner/entrant **Rob Walker**. Having further top-flight excursions in the hands of **Abecassis**, **Rolt**, **Thompson**, and **Walker** himself, it then passed into collectors' hands, including the late **Robert Leyba** in whose collection it joined two other DB2 works cars, **VMF 63** and **XMC 76**.

Bonhams estimates its price at £380,000-£440,000. For the record (as indeed it was, for the type), RM Auctions sold '**VMF 64**', [another ex-Factory DB2, for £550,000 last October](#).

The **Bonhams Aston Martin** sale will be held on May 22, 2010 at **Aston Martin Works Service**, Newport Pagnell.

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Photos: The Klementaski Collection

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