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Ferrari 458 Challenge Revealed at Bologna



The Bologna motor show sees the world debut of Ferrari's 458 Challenge, the fifth model Ferrari has produced for its single-series racing programme.

The **458 Challenge**, a racing version of the **458 Italia**, retains the road car's 4.5 V8, with its 570HP at 9000rpm, but modifications to the gear ratios guarantee higher torque at lower revs. Meanwhile, the new **458 Challenge** is the first of **Ferrari's** track-only cars to have the **E-Diff** electronic differential. What really sets the **Challenge** car apart, however, is the reduction of weight, thanks to thinner bodyshell panels and the use of lightweight materials such as carbonfibre and Lexan.



The suspension features stiffer springs, single-rate alloy dampers, centre-nut 19in forged rims, larger dimension **Pirelli** slicks and a ride height lowered by 50mm all round. The car is equipped with **Brembo CCM2** brakes, as per the **599XX**, **Ferrari's** extreme experimental laboratory car.

Another first for a **Ferrari Challenge** model is the adoption of the **F1-Trac** traction control system, which constantly monitors levels of grip for high-performance road-holding.

In the development of the **458 Challenge** for the track, the car lapped **Fiorano** in just 1min 16.5sec, while a maximum lateral grip of 1.6g is claimed for the new car.



Text - Charis Whitcombe Photos - Ferrari

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