

Media Release

Automechanika Leading International Trade Fair for the Automotive Sector
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BARNARD HYPERCAR ON DISPLAY AT AUTOMECHANIKA SOUTH AFRICA

The prototype of the Barnard 101, one of two recently-announced "Made in South Africa" high performance sports cars will be on display at the inaugural Automechanika SA automotive trade fair at Expo Centre, Nasrec, from Wednesday to Saturday (March 18-21).

The prototype of the other locally-made car, the Perana Z-One, is in Europe after being the sole display on the Zagato design studio's stand at the Geneva Show earlier this month.

The Barnard and a series of photos of the Perana will be featured on a special stand featuring outstanding South African automotive technology.

In addition Peter de Weerd, of Unichip, will display a twin-turbo Lamborghini Gallardo that showcases the potential of the locally-developed Unichip Q engine management add-on which boosts the car's engine power to 1 052kW or about two and a half times the output when the car was built

A fourth aspect of the stand will be the Midrand-built Nissan Navara off-road racing pick-up that has earned accolades all over the world, including fourth and fifth places in the 2009 Dakar Rally. Unfortunately all the Nissan Motorsport team's Navaras will be racing in the Western Cape this week, so there will be a photographic tribute to this phenomenal racing vehicle, which has already seen 23 units exported.

The mid-engine Barnard, which is made in Bloemfontein, resembles a Le Mans prototype racer and is designed to provide "exhilarating road performance along with the ability to be used on track days". It is powered by a locally-developed twin turbo Porsche V8 engine developing approximately 460kW of power and has an estimated top speed of over 300km/h. Price is "from R1.1-million."

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