



FORD PERFORMANCE

NEWS FEATURE

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORD GT: THE RETURN

SUMMARY

- Ford Motor Company's passion is for making the most innovative, cutting-edge vehicles on the road. That's what inspired them to design and build the newest Ford GT.
- Once greenlighted, Ford set off on an ambitious track of simultaneously engineering the Ford GT for the street as well as for the track, in time for the 50th anniversary of its legendary win at the 24 Hours of Le Mans
- "The Decision," the first of five video shorts, features Bill Ford Jr., Raj Nair, Dave Pericak and Edsel B. Ford II, who attended the 1966 race with his father Henry Ford II. The shorts will culminate in one long-form documentary that will follow the development of both the Street Car and Race Car version of the Ford GT from the decision to build the cars to the return to the 24 Hours of LeMans.
- VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/qd-HyazYbcU>

CONTEXT / BACKGROUND

The desire to win at Le Mans is what drove Henry Ford II to create the Ford GT 40 in the 1960s. It took vision, ingenuity and fearlessness to take the dive into racing at Le Mans. Taking the Ford GT racing now is yet another defining moment for the company. It's time for the Ford GT to return. In all, four Ford GTs will compete globally for championship titles in 2016 for Ford Chip Ganassi Racing. Two will race in the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship (North America) and two will race in the FIA World Endurance Championship (global). All four will race in the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

IMAGES Additional high resolution images of the Ford GT available at www.media.ford.com



DETAILS

Ford GT

- The all-new Ford GT supercar is the culmination of years of Ford innovations in lightweighting, aerodynamics and efficient Ford EcoBoost engines.
- Ford announced it would return to GT racing with the Ford GT last June at the 2015 24 Hours of Le Mans.
- The Ford GT is powered by the second generation twin-turbo Ford EcoBoost V6 engine.

QUOTES

“You have to be at your best to win a race, because the competition is so, so hard. Every second matters. Every millimeter on the car matters. That’s what’s really sexy about racing, is what it takes to win.”

“I always say ‘we work for a company called Ford Motor Company, but we actually work for a family – and that’s called the Ford family.’ So it’s important for us to be able to go back to Le Mans and do it in a way that celebrates the heritage and also, hopefully, if we’re successful, give the Ford family something I would love to give them, which is that trophy.”

– Dave Pericak,
Global Director, Ford Performance

“To win a race, you have to have incredible commitment.”

“I think we’ve always been thinking about building another Ford GT. I think what drove it was the 50th anniversary of the win in ’66 coming up. We felt we really had to do something to honor that win...It represents honoring our heritage. Our heritage is very important. At our heart, we’re a family company.”

– Raj Nair,
Executive VP, Global Product Development and Chief Technical Officer

“You race to win. You don’t race to hope you do well. You don’t race to have a nice looking car. You race to win.”

“Sure, it’s a big risk, but not when you add in reputation, halo effect, and the morale boost it gives anybody who loves the Ford brand. This car will, in the scheme of our earnings, not make much difference. But in the reputation of Ford Motor Company, which is something I care deeply about, this car will be huge.

About Ford Motor Company

[Ford Motor Company](#) is a global automotive and mobility company based in Dearborn, Mich. With about 199,000 employees and 67 plants worldwide, the company's core business includes designing, manufacturing, marketing, financing and servicing a full line of Ford cars, trucks, SUVs and electrified vehicles, as well as Lincoln luxury vehicles. At the same time, Ford is aggressively pursuing emerging opportunities through Ford Smart Mobility, the company's plan to be a leader in connectivity, mobility, autonomous vehicles, the customer experience and data and analytics. For more information regarding Ford, its products worldwide or Ford Motor Credit Company, visit www.corporate.ford.com.

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