



Touring Superleggera increases the production capacity of the Bentley Continental Flying Star

MILANO, January 2011.

While Touring Superleggera opens the 2011 season with a debut on the important Middle Eastern market, exhibiting the model on the Qatar Motor Show from 25th to 29th January, the manufacturing of the third *Bentley Continental Flying Star* is almost completed in the Milano atelier.

To cope with the requests, Touring has invested in tooling, technology and additional workforce to reach a production capacity of 5 units in parallel, and keep the 6-months delivery term.

The total series is foreseen in a maximum of 19 cars, all manufactured on order to personal specifications. The mechanical base is the Continental GTC, with power outputs ranging from 560 to 630 PS.

The ingredients of the car's success are multiple. "Before all, the strong and unmistakable design was much appreciated – notes Piero Mancardi, CEO of Touring -. It combines elegance and sportiveness. It is timeless, and perfectly in line with the Touring heritage. Moreover, the very limited production is a parameter for collectability and a driver of the car's future value, though the *Flying Star* is very practical and fit for everyday use. In fact, the compliance with Bentley Motors' quality and engineering standard allows for warranty and service through the regular Bentley dealer network. Commissioners also appreciate the value of the 4000 hours of handwork by a team of extraordinary craftsmanship, inheriting 85 years of experience and tradition."

The concept of shooting brake combines a two-door, high performance sports car with a wide and accessible luggage compartment, which is fit for the longest of travels. These features inspired the owner of the *Flying Star* nr. 2. The commissioner expressed his desire for a true grand tourer, for trips with family and dog, to be paired with his current Continental GT in the same colour combination. The car thus was finished in Cypress Green, with an interior in Nautic Blue and Hotspur Red. To allow maximum space for the dog, the luggage compartment was lowered by an extra six centimetres. Unsurprisingly, a water bowl for the dog in coordinated leather trim is on the specifications list.

The *Flying Star* nr. 3 is ordered in Crystal Blue with a tan interior. Like nr. 2, it features a number of aesthetical and technical improvements made possible by the mix of advanced technologies and craftsmanship typical of the Touring Superleggera process. The boot lid now opens faster and wider, using directly driven gears. The rear compartment gets new luggage retention anchorages. For further weight reduction, Touring is currently studying the use of carbon fibre for the rear boot lid, the rear wings and the complete roof section.

Embargo: immediate

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