

The Southern Accent

BMW Car Club of America

Gulf Coast Chapter



Inside this issue:

BMW News	1
BMW M hybrid cars are coming in the future	2
BMW's Next Roadster Seen In Winter Testing	3
Upcoming Events	4

BMW TwinPower Turbo Technology once again Takes a Spot on 2016 Wards 10 Best Engines

Woodcliff Lake, NJ – January 21, 2016...

BMW TwinPower Turbo technology again wins Wards 2016 10 Best Engines Award, announced at the 22nd annual celebration where nearly 600 Powertrain Engineers joined at the Renaissance Center Marriott in Detroit on Wednesday January 13. Ludwig Willisch, President and CEO of BMW of North America, accepted the award for the all-new 3.0-liter TwinPower Turbo inline 6-cylinder (B58). Wards praised the modular architecture and engine performance stating "... it is hard to improve on the previous inline-6 TwinPower Turbo but this new engine provides more power and more torque allowing the 340i xDrive to sprint from 0-60 mph in just 4.6 seconds while some of our editors approached 27 mpg during their testing" said Drew Winter WardsAuto content Director.

BMW is the undisputed all-time leader at Wards Auto 10 Best Engine Award, with 32 trophies since 1995 and while the list contains many types of engine configurations, BMW's legendary inline 6-cylinder engines top that list. "We have been actually building and designing 6-cylinder engines since the 30's ever since our great 328 sports car. The B58 is

the latest generation of 6-cylinder engines and will ensure that BMW's are powered by this engine going into 2020. We have been on the list (Wards Auto) for 21 of the 22 years and we have won more awards than any other manufacturer and that is finding commitment for the future as we celebrate our 100th Anniversary this year we are looking into the next 100 years and a lot of fantastic inline sixes" said Ludwig Willisch in his speech.

"The last inline 6-cylinder turbo was the sublime N55, which earned its 10 Best Engines stars in 2011, 2012 and 2013. Like the new B58, it displaced 3.0 lt and relied on direct fuel injection, twin-scroll turbocharging, all-aluminum construction, Double-VANOS variable camshaft timing and Valvetronic fully variable valve lift. Longer Stroke and bigger turbo for the B58. The block and head were completely re-engineered with a stroke that is extended by 0.19 ins. (5 mm) and a bore diameter that is .08 ins. (2 mm) smaller, as well as a higher compression ratio." stated Tom Murphy, Executive Editor at Wards Auto World.

Today every BMW sold in the US features TwinPower Tur-

bo Technology with two of them employing this latest B58 powerplant. The 2016 BMW 740i, as well as the BMW 340i Sedan, are the newest models to receive the TwinPower Turbo inline-6. "The new turbocharger's turbine wheel is 6 percent larger, and the compressor wheel diameter is 10 percent larger, resulting in a 20 percent increase in boost pressure. An all-new water-to-air intercooler is integrated within the intake plenum, freeing up space under the hood. The new system lowers the charged air volume between the compressor and intake, improving performance by maintaining more even temperatures en route to combustion. The result of all this work is an extra 20 hp over most versions of the N55, as well as 30 more lb.-ft. (41 Nm) of torque." noted Murphy.

"BMW engines can be efficient and at the same time deliciously fun to drive, without needing outrageous power or torque numbers to feel or sound gloriously potent. In the 3-Series, the brand's volume crown jewel, it is all about leveraging the inline architecture and the sensation of perpetual balance. Mission accomplished", concluded Tom Murphy.



BMW M hybrid cars are coming in the future

[BMW M](#) | February 5th, 2016 by [Horatiu Boeriu](#) via [BMW Blog](#)

Hybrid technology is available from nearly every automaker, nowadays and BMW is just one of the automakers [heavily invested in the technology](#). In the next few years, nearly [every BMW family of cars will have a hybrid amongst them](#) and it only makes sense that the M division would also take a hard look at the advantages of an eDrive platform in a high-performance car.

According vice-president for engineering, Dirk Hacker, the future of BMW's high-performance M cars is hybrid. The advanced tech would not only lower CO2 emissions and improve fuel economy, but also make cars go faster.

But would M customers care for a limited all electric range?

"We've found that our customers are not interested in driving without the combustion engine," he said. "They want to know if these changes will help with performance."

The odds of a full electric M car are fairly low at the moment and Hacker also hinted that M is also in no rush to deploy an electric battery in an M car.

"We'll need to look at the weight implications of electrification," he added. "What is the compromise? Are we ready now or do we need to take a look at some special structural solutions for the future?"

Hacker also believes that weight should be kept in check through different

methods and not solved by adding more horsepower. The M philosophy of the right balance between power and performance stays at the core of future M models, being an M3, M5 or M6.

"We will look at electrification – I think it could be inevitable – but it depends on the possibility of increasing performance," Hacker said for [AutoExpress](#).



BMW's Next Roadster Seen In Winter Testing BMW News

Last year BMW led us to believe that it might not have a replacement for the Z4 roadster until 2020 or beyond. But recent spy photos indicate that BMW's partnership with Toyota has already produced a new roadster—one that may have reached the road-test phase of development.

This camouflaged ragtop raises a few questions: Is this the Z4's replacement, or a new class of BMW roadster? Many industry observers are already calling it the Z5, which could make it the Z4's successor just as the Z4 replaced the Z3. We're inclined to believe the Z4 replacement theory, since BMW is not likely to run two roadster production lines given the soft sales of convertible sports cars these days. BMW sold only 1,829 Z4s in 2015. It is the oldest model in BMW's catalog, having been introduced in 2009.

The car in these photos looks to be larger than a Z4, which sort of goes along with BMW's "bigger is better" philosophy in next-generation vehicles.

The BMW-Toyota roadster development agreement is three years old. Most observers have guessed that the partnership will produce a Z4 successor for BMW and a new Supra for Toyota. There is also talk of alternate powerplants, since Toyota has a

lead in hydrogen-powered electric fuel cells and BMW has proved it knows how to build plug-in electric hybrids. Remember that BMW has promised an electrified version in every model range, so eventually we can expect at least a plug-in hybrid version of a new roadster.

Analysts have further speculated that BMW will be responsible for the chassis and powertrain in the joint project. It will almost certainly be a rear-wheel drive car.

While renderings of possible BMW and Toyota sports cars have speculated at some pretty wild designs, the spy photos of the heavily camouflaged BMW test mule don't reveal all that much of the car's styling. BMW has taken to fastening fake body panels on its test cars to hide the real design lines, but if these shots are of a possible production test vehicle, we can at least see that the car has a high sideline and a

relatively low roofline.

Also of interest is that BMW may be tipping its intent to return to a soft convertible top for its mainstream sports car, although there are rumors that a hardtop coupe version might follow the roadster after a year or so.

If these photos are signaling that we are within two years of a Z4 replacement, and that replacement might have a soft—and presumably lighter—top, and if BMW installs more aluminum and carbon fiber to further reduce weight, we might expect a great-handling and fast sports car sooner rather than later. Perhaps that by itself will revitalize roadster sales in the U.S. and make BMW glad it stayed in the convertible sports car game.—*Scott Blazey*

[Photos courtesy of Automotive News.]



BMWCCA Gulf Coast Chapter

5113 Westport Drive
Milton, Fl. 32570

Phone: 850-449-1095

Email: gulfcoastbmwspres@gmail.com

<https://www.bmwcca.org/chapter/gulf-coast-chapter>

Upcoming Events

Cars & Coffee Ft. Walton

Every 2nd Saturday 10-12

Behind Starbucks at Santa Rosa Mall

340 Mary Esther Blvd, Mary Esther, Fl. 32569

Cars & Coffee Tallahassee

Every 3rd Saturday 8-10:30

Texas Roadhouse

3131 Capital Circle Northeast

Tallahassee, FL

Cars & Coffee Pensacola

Every 4th Saturday 8-10

Behind Mellow Mushroom

5175 Bayou Blvd, Pensacola, FL 32503

Disclaimer:

The Southern Accent is a publication of the Gulf Coast Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America, Inc. The club is in no manner affiliated with BMW AG or BMW of North America. None of the information contained herein bears factory approval unless otherwise noted. The information supplied is provided by and for the use of club members. Any ideas, suggestions, and technical opinions expressed are those of the authors without authentication by, nor liability to, the editors or the officers of the club.

