

PRESS RELEASE

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# CUTTING EDGE SUSPENSION TECHNOLOGY: MARC PHILIPP GEMBALLA ANNOUNCES TECHNOLOGICAL PARTNERSHIP WITH LEADING SUSPENSION PIONEER KW AUTOMOTIVE FOR PROJECT SANDBOX



- Following the collaboration announcements with Porsche engine specialist RUF and Slovenian based exhaust manufacturer Akrapovič, Marc Philipp Gemballa announces technological partnership with leading suspension technology pioneer KW automotive for his new project
- 'Project Sandbox' will be equipped with a bespoke double wishbone suspension system featuring cutting edge chassis and damper technology developed by the leading innovator in the field for individual suspension, as well as racing suspension solutions KW Automotive, enabling the ultimate driving experience for on and off road use
- The new off-road capable supercar inspired by the legendary Paris Dakar rally era is based on the all-new Porsche 992 Turbo S
- Besides the limited launch edition series of the off-road capable supercar, more than half of the small series production has already been sold before the official market launch scheduled for the upcoming days



With the young German entrepreneur's new project edging closer to its official launch, MARC PHILIPP GEMBALLA GmbH (not associated in any form with Gemballa GmbH) announces its latest technological partnership with the leading suspension and chassis technology pioneer, KW automotive.

The latest partner announcement with KW automotive follows the news of the young entrepreneur's engine collaboration with Porsche engine specialist and vehicle manufacturer RUF Automobile, responsible for delivering the engine upgrades for the new off-road capable supercar. Another announcement included the partnership with the Slovenian-based exhaust system manufacturer Akrapovič. Akrapovič has developed an entirely new titanium exhaust system, specifically created for 'Project Sandbox', focusing on a bespoke sound experience, lightweight and further increases the power output of the RUF upgraded boxer engine.

"Since we wanted to create a modern-day sports car with all its comfort and day-to-day practicality combined with on-demand off-road capabilities enabling the ultimate driving experience for on- as well as off road use, we knew we needed to come up with a highly technological suspension solution to comply with the complex architecture of the Porsche 992 platform. With Klaus and Jürgen Wohlfarth having built KW Automotive for more than 25 years to one of the fastest-growing suspension companies in the industry and just recently further increased their off road expertise by acquiring rally suspension pioneer Reiger Suspension, which is equipping most of the Paris Dakar rally teams with suspension and damper technology, we could not have envisioned a more knowledgeable partner than KW. Therefore, I am extremely proud and happy being able to partner with KW to create something truly special and cutting-edge for our first project, especially since Klaus and Jürgen had already collaborated successfully with my father in the past", says the young entrepreneur and founder Marc Philipp Gemballa about the partnership.

For more than 25 years, KW automotive has been an uprising star for suspension technology and has become one of the fastest-growing suspension companies in the industry. The German owner-managed company, run by the two brothers Klaus and Jürgen Wohlfarth, offers a vast and comprehensive product portfolio including hydraulics, electronics, sensor technology, control units, and damper controls. They are also experts in applying and calibrating complex dynamic control systems, but what they are most known for is their pioneering spirit, which is expressed in their key business of developing individual suspension solutions for on- and off road as well motorsport, has become legendary. KW has recently added further expertise by acquiring the German-based and worldwide renowned wheel manufacturer BBS and off-road suspension specialist Reiger Suspension, equipping most Paris Dakar rally teams with their damper and suspension technology.

"It is impressive with how much passion Marc has followed his visionary project. On the one hand, the vehicle has a striking design with a strong recognition value, which got translated to the 992-platform paired with sophisticated technology with particular focus on its chassis, resulting in a unique vehicle. Thus, besides equipping the super sportscar with off road capabilities, one of our main challenges was the integration of the new suspension technology into the sophisticated architecture of the Porsche 992, including its complex all-wheel drive and electrical systems by keeping the typical Porsche driving characteristics and offering maximum driving safety in any situation. We are very pleased that Marc Philipp is following his father's footsteps, which are of course very big, but when you see what he and his team have created so far, his father would probably be very proud", commented Co-Founder & CEO of KW Automotive, Jürgen Wohlfarth.

The result is a bespoke suspension system, which has been exclusively developed for 'Project Sandbox', featuring extensive changes to the chassis of the base vehicle including a completely new developed double wishbone front suspension setup equipped with KW solid piston damper technology featuring an intelligent active damper control as well as an adjustable ride height system for on and off road use.



By the touch of a button, the adjustable ride height system enables an electronically controlled hydraulic lift increasing the ride height from Turbo S on road level up to an overall ground clearance of 250 mm, enabling the ultimate on and off road driving experience.

And there is even more to discover: Due to the Dynamic Damping Control (DDC) system, the compression and rebound forces of the dampers are optimally adjusted in real-time, ensuring immediate response behavior. Each damper contains two electromagnetic proportional valves that regulate the forces separately and adjust the damper forces within just 20 milliseconds perfectly to any driving situation, no matter which terrain – be it on snow, sand, or the worst dirt road imaginable.

Furthermore, the driver can choose between several driving modes via the drive mode knob on the steering wheel, which automatically adjusts damper, transmission setting, engine mapping, as well as the ride height accordingly for the selected drive mode that include besides the standard Porsche modes as well off road modes like gravel, mud, sand, and snow.

For the ones who are looking for the ultimate off-road experience and don't mind limited road usability, there will be an optional off road package equipped with Reiger Suspension rally spec off road dampers further enhancing the suspension travel and increasing the ground clearance to a fixed off road ride height.

The world premiere of 'Project Sandbox' is nearly upon us. The demand is already very high: besides the exclusive launch edition, limited to only ten units, more than half of the small series production has sold out even before the official launch, leaving only a few of the original 40 units available while the company is preparing for the start of serial production later this year.



Teaser image of Marc Philipp Gemballa's 'Project Sandbox'

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# **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Base vehicle:	Porsche 911 Turbo S (992 series)
Engine:	RUF upgraded twin-turbocharged flat-six engine
Power (kW):	552 kW (Series: 478 kW)
Power (hp):	750+ hp (Series: 650 hp)
Max. torque:	930 Nm torque (Series: 800 Nm torque)
Exhaust:	Bespoke Akrapovič titanium exhaust system
Suspension:	Double wishbone front suspension Multi-link rear suspension KW solid piston dampers with two electronic valves and semi-active Dynamic Damper and Chassis Control (KW DDCC) and adjustable ride height via Hydraulic Lift System (HLS)
Ground clearance:	250 mm in off road mode / 120 mm in on road mode

Further information and more technical details about the vehicle will be released in the upcoming weeks leading up to the project's official market launch.





Marc Philipp Gemballa in 1997 at the age of four

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## BORN AND RAISED IN A 911

With the newly founded company MARC PHILIPP GEMBALLA GmbH (not associated in any form with Gemballa GmbH), the 27-year-old son of Uwe Gemballa is launching his very first project in 2021. Born and raised in a sports car enthusiastic family, Marc Philipp developed his passion for automobiles from a very early stage. After completing his business studies at EBS University of Economics and Law, he gained professional expertise in the automotive industry, working for various sports car manufacturers, including Aston Martin, Mercedes-Benz, and Porsche.

## TIME FOR A CHANGE

Growing up in an environment where building the fastest and most powerful production car on the planet and setting the next world record on the Nürburgring was key, now ten years down the road, the market has changed. The horsepower game is over, tuning is done by the OEMs themselves, and the market is being flooded with an influx of new supercars with hyped-up horsepower figures constantly. Marc Philipp realized when aiming to build a successful company for the next decades – and not just toss the next 'me too' product onto the market, he needed to come up with something very special for the clients.





First sketch of the project by designer Alan Derosier

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# THE VISION

MPG sees a new market opportunity in the creation of special design lead vehicles in a small production series – with a vision of creating holistic masterpieces – combined with a new fresh design and technology-focused approach, leaving the era of tuning behind, and ultimately achieving a USP position in the market.

More than two years of development has resulted in the young entrepreneur's first project: an ultra-modern but timeless designed supercar forming a hybrid between a modern-day sports car with all its comfort and day-to-day practicality, combined with off-road capabilities equipping unique people for their adventure featured by the latest and cutting-edge technologies. MPG is taking the extreme from on-road to off-road, building his very first supercar combined with off-road capabilities in a limited small series.

## PARTNERS

Supported by a worldwide network of clients, dealers, suppliers, and business partners, Marc Philipp Gemballa is launching his very first project with his newly founded company MARC PHILIPP GEMBALLA GmbH (not associated in any form with Gemballa GmbH) starting a new era in 2021. The selected partners include designer Alan Derosier, suspension technology partners KW Automotive, engine specialists RUF Automobile, tyre manufacturer Michelin, leading exhaust system manufacturer Akrapovič, engineering partners VELA Performance, and Aerodynamic engineers KLK Motorsport.

## DELIMITATION

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