



The new CUPRA Leon Competition

A 3D printed racecar

- > CUPRA commits to 3D printing in the development of the new Leon Competition
- > The door mirror, air intakes and cooling intakes have been produced with state-of-the-art HP Multi Jet Fusion technology
- > Faster and more efficient testing are the major benefits of this system
- > The CUPRA Leon Competition will be presented next February 20th at the inauguration of the CUPRA Garage

Martorell, 06/02/2020. – At first glance it looks like a normal mirror, but it isn't. It is a 3D printed part, a technology that CUPRA has begun to implement in the development of the new Leon Competition in collaboration with HP. Greater agility, efficiency and flexibility are the benefits of a system that is set to revolutionise car development. Below are the key points.

- **Printed parts.** “For the new CUPRA Leon Competition we modelled the steering wheel's centre control module, the bonnet air vents, door mirrors and the brake and water cooling inlets”, says Xavi Serra, the Head of technical development at CUPRA Racing. These parts were produced using HP's industrial grade Jet Fusion 5200 3D printing solution and included in the demanding development tests put to the new racing model.

- **More efficiency, greater speed.** This technology features multiple benefits. “The main goal is to have a lot of parts in a short time. We can quickly test a wide variety of designs and furthermore, since vehicle development is now done in parallel, this technology enables us to react swiftly to any changes in the design process”, Xavi points out.

“The work with CUPRA demonstrates the power of 3D printing and digital manufacturing – changing the way the world designs and manufactures”, explains Virginia Palacios, head of Systems Product Management, 3D Printing & Digital Manufacturing, HP Inc.



- **3D parts into the wind.** In TCR competitions, the door mirror is a part which, according to the rules, must have the same shape as the production car. But the CUPRA engineers went one step further. **“We wanted to add an additional function, which is to cool the driver. We therefore had to design an air intake in the maximum pressure zone to achieve this effect”**, Xavi indicates. The place where these materials are tested is the wind tunnel, where the 3D printed parts are verified in exactly the same way as the rest. **“The bigger the variety of parts we can test in this facility, the better. It enables us to make much faster progress”**, says Xavi.

- **And tested on the track.** As it is a racing car, the final phase of development can only be carried out in one place: the circuits. More specifically, the Leon Competition with its 3D printed parts was put to the limit on the Portimao track in Portugal. **“The results were excellent, and some were even surprising, because we were looking to push the material to its limits”**, says the CUPRA engineer.

- **An impressive future.** **“3D printing is going to signal a turning point in the automotive industry by accelerating lead times and HP 3D technology is helping designers create parts that could not be produced with other technologies”**, says Palacios. **“This technology is and will continue to be key in countless fields to make the most complex ideas a reality”**, concludes Xavi.

The new CUPRA Leon Competition is now heading for the final stretch to the starting grid. It will be presented next February 20th at the inauguration of the CUPRA Garage. Once again, CUPRA has successfully innovated in the world of competition, as it is the first touring race car that can be reserved in advance.

CUPRA is an exclusive brand for unique people, designed to captivate customers and meet all car lovers' expectations of uniqueness, sophistication and performance. In its second year of operations, CUPRA sales shot up by 71.8% in 2019, reaching almost 24,700 units thanks to the success of the CUPRA Ateca. Along with the launch of new models, CUPRA will also keep the motorsport and racing spirit alive by participating in the TCR series. The CUPRA world is alive and ready to conquer a new group of enthusiasts in close to 250 CUPRA Specialists around the world.



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