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A racing car with approval for road use: The Brutal S1



Brutal, the little Slovakian car manufacturer, has recently unveiled its first super sports car: the S1 is a light two-seater, for which the designation "racing car with approval for road use" would be a fitting description. This unusual project received help from the Slovakian sales partner of Spies Hecker.

Marian Lušpai, founder of the car manufacturer Brutal, has long been a fan of unusual sports cars. On a trip to England, which has a large number of small sports car manufacturers, he fell in love with the "Ariel Atom": the radical mixture of go-kart and Formula 1 racing car is so lightly built, that the Atom easily outstrips other competitors that have far more horsepower. Lušpai was impressed: "I wanted to build a car like this – one that was extremely light, extremely fast and truly unique."

300 hp for fast acceleration

No sooner said than done. Back in Slovakia, Lušpai, a trained engineer, began designing his own sports car. Today, about ten years later, the fruit of his labours is in his workshop: the Brutal S1. The two-seater has a tubular steel frame, surrounded by a body made of fibreglass, carbon and special foam material. A 300 hp 2-litre turbocharged Subaru boxer engine propels the 900 kg lightweight S1 to a speed of 100 km/h in less than four seconds – a rate of acceleration that no other super sports car can match.



Marian Lušpai, founder of the car manufacturer Brutal, with the S1 super sports car which he designed.



Brutal S1 - Technical data

Height	1190 mm
Width	1940 mm (without rear-view mirrors)
Wheelbase	2624 mm
Weight	800 - 860 kg (depending on engine)
Engine	2-Litre turbocharged Subaru boxer engine (300 hp)
Body	Fibreglass, carbon and airex
Acceleration	0 to 100 km/h in under 3.9 seconds

Lušpai turned to the Academy of Art and Design in Bratislava for the design of the vehicle. The result was a flat wedge-shaped body with sharply designed sides, wing doors and a distinctive rear. The design was produced by a student, Jakub Štarman – who now works for Škoda as a designer.

A vision which inspires

Lušpai entrusted the paintwork to the specialists at Color Centrum Vrábce s.r.o. in Michal nad Žitavou, a village situated to the south-east of Nitra. Color Centrum is also a sales partner of Spies Hecker. Contact had already been made during the development phase. "We were instantly impressed with Marian Lušpai's vision and we were pleased to do what we could to help him," reports Marián Pecho, Sales & Technical Manager at Color Centrum. Pecho and his team worked on producing a custom-made paint for the S1.

The key challenge was to ensure that the weight of the car was not unnecessarily increased by the paint. The paint specialists at Color Centrum therefore used Spies Hecker products that can be used to spray-paint vehicles in a material-saving process that uses just one-and-a-half coats. Pecho: “Permasolid® HS Vario Primer Surfacer 5340, Permahyd® Hi-TEC Base Coat 480 and Permasolid® HS Optimum Plus Clear Coat 8650 were used. “

The team chose the colour for the prototype for very practical reasons. “We opted for a bright uni-white – deliberately no metallic or pearl white, no special effect pigments,” says Pecho. “This makes it easier for us to make any subsequent adjustments to the prototype.” He laughs: “The sponsors’ bonded logos are also so much more effective.” The result is impressive: The snow-white S1 has already caused a stir at trade fairs such as the Autosalon in Nitra.



Paint products used

Putty	Raderal® Plastic Putty
Primer	Permasolid® HS Vario Primer Surfacer 5340
Base coat	Permahyd® Hi-TEC Base Coat 480
Clear coat	Permasolid® HS Optimum plus Clear Coat 8650

A purebred racing car with approval for road use

Marian Lušpai is confident that his racing car will find a niche on the market for super sports cars. “Of course, the Brutal is not a car you would use to go to the supermarket to do your shopping,” he says, describing the essence of his car. “Many of its components come directly from motor racing, such as the brakes and parts of the suspension.” It is basically a purebred racing car with approval for road use.”



There are already initial enquiries from interested parties. However, the S1 will certainly not be an everyday sight on the streets. “If there is sufficient demand,” says Lušpai, “we will be able to manufacture up to six vehicles a year.” Brutal’s partnercompany Color Centrum is already excited at the prospect: “The makers of the Brutal have done a great job: it’s a great car,” says Marián Pecho. “We are ready to paint other S1s - in other colours as well.”

Latest news on the Brutal S1 can be found on the website www.brutalcar.co.uk and the company’s Facebook page (www.facebook.com/brutalslovakia).

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