

# Press Release

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For Immediate Release:

## David Donner to drive a Palatov D4 at Pikes Peak

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David Donner, 3-time overall winner of the Pikes Peak International Hillclimb, will drive the new Palatov D4 Turbo in the Unlimited class in this year's event slated for July 8, 2012. Donner's background on Pike's Peak includes 3 overall wins, numerous qualifying records and top three race finishes. He also has an extensive background in road racing including the 24 Hours of Daytona, Petite Le Mans among many other racing series.

Palatov Motorsport is a designer and manufacturer of sports and racing cars, located in Portland, Oregon. The company's design and business philosophies are both driven by a fanatical commitment to getting the most possible performance out of the least possible weight. The Palatov "Quest for the Peak" is intended as the ultimate test of this approach, going head-to-head against the world's top competitors.

"In reviewing the nature of the race, which will be fully paved in 2012, we realized that our cars would have a great advantage over existing designs", said Dennis Palatov, owner and designer. "The key unique feature of the car is the unprecedented combination of extremely light weight, AWD, high power, ultra-compact size, and advanced ground-effects aerodynamics."

"You have drivers from every form of motorsport, every manufacturer, they have all done it and it's great to be a part of this truly remarkable event. My grandfather helped revive it after WWII, my Dad won it three times in a Porsche, and my late brother Bobby won it in 1989. This event has so much personal meaning it's difficult to state. Of course now it's different with pavement, however that adds even more challenge." says Donner. "Being a veteran road racer and knowing every aspect of the mountain gives me an excellent perspective on this exciting opportunity. I think the Palatov will shock many with its speed, agility, affordability and knowing you can buy one for track or running the Peak. "

This event was selected by Palatov Motorsport because it is perhaps the only major international race where the overall win and record is potentially accessible to a

newcomer on a modest budget. In contrast to most highly-regulated race series, Pikes Peak is a once-a-year-event where the Unlimited class places no restrictions on technical innovation and provides a perfect venue to test radical new approaches to racecar design.

The Pikes Peak International Hill Climb is a long-standing tradition in Colorado Springs and the second oldest motorsports event in the United States after the Indy 500.. An annual event since 1916, 2012 marks the 90<sup>th</sup> running of the "Race to the Clouds". The race is run on a 12-mile course that begins at 9,200 feet and finishes at the 14,110-foot summit of Pikes Peak. It features a variety of automotive, semi truck and motorcycle classes with an average of 150 competitors. For more information please visit the official Pikes Peak International Hill climb website at [www.ppihc.com](http://www.ppihc.com)

Palatov Motorsport will be fielding an evolution of the D4 track car, which currently is the most developed and tested of the Palatov vehicles. For the Pikes Peak effort the D4 will use a lightweight small-displacement engine turbocharged to 300+hp.

The Palatov designs are based on the concept of placing a lightweight drivetrain next to the driver, creating a very compact package that gives extreme mass centralization and perfect balance. This layout lends itself very efficiently to AWD with minimal weight penalty. At high power to weight ratios, AWD is essential to making full use of the engine's potential.

The Palatov Modular Platform was designed and developed with a singular goal in mind – to facilitate the full and effective use of most possible power at the lowest possible weight, and the smallest possible size. With today's engine technology, high power numbers are easily attainable. Top Pikes Peak competitors run in excess of 1,000 hp. However making effective use of the power, putting it to the ground without negating it with excess weight, is the challenge that has not been effectively met, until now.

“The D4 Turbo offers an exceptional level of performance and is a strong contender for the overall win and record,” said Palatov.

The Palatov “Quest for the Peak” is a daring effort by a small company and is made possible by the grassroots support of many individual sponsors. The unique program even provides a way for an individual sponsor to own the racecar outright after the race. Fans can learn more about the effort and how to become involved at the Palatov website <http://www.palatov.com/pikespeak/>.

**High res photos are available upon request.**

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