

Press Release

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Volvo Announces More Power for R-Design

2012 S60, XC60 models get added horsepower, torque

- S60, XC60 R-Design get 325 horsepower and 354 lb.-ft. of torque

TORONTO (April 20, 2011) - The 2012 Volvo S60 R-Design sport sedan and XC60 R-Design crossover will get significant horsepower and torque increases when they go on sale late this summer, the company announced today at the New York International Auto Show.

The standard T6 engine in both models produces 300 horsepower and 325 lb.-ft. of torque, while the R-Design package, only offered with the T6 powerplant, has been massaged to produce 325 horsepower and 354 lb.-ft. of torque. The S60 R-Design will have a starting price of \$50,325 and the XC60 R-Design will start at \$53,695.

"The added styling and performance attributes of these two models make them even more attractive," said Jeff Pugliese, president and CEO of Volvo Cars of Canada Corp. "These two R-Design models back up the added styling elements with a more dynamic suspension setup and significantly more power, which is sure to attract customers who may not have previously considered buying a Volvo."

After developing the all-new S60, which is Volvo's most dynamic model ever, the chassis team focused on further refining a number of details. "The challenge was to boost the dynamics without making the chassis feel raw," says Stefan Sallqvist, manager of vehicle dynamics. Taking the S60 R-Design to the next level required a critical dissection of the already capable chassis and the addition of a number of performance enhancing sub-systems.

The chassis team fitted a strut brace under the hood that ties together the suspension strut towers. This is a classic method of stiffening up the body structure and to improve steering response. At the rear, the S60 R-Design features monotube shocks. Unlike the twin-tube shocks used in the S60 T6, the monotube system features compression and return via the same valve. This gives shorter, faster fluid flow, which in turn means the shock responds more quickly.

The front and rear springs have been shortened by 15 mm to give the car an aggressive stance. What is more, spring stiffness is 15 per cent higher compared to the dynamic chassis in the S60 T6. The bushings with which the rear shocks are attached to the body are 20 per cent stiffer compared with the Dynamic chassis found in the standard S60 T6. The front tie-rod bushing, that is to say the attachment in the rear of the car, is 400 per cent stiffer than before to ensure the car stays planted during spirited driving.

Ride control and confidence inspiring handling are nothing without the appropriate muscle and the S60 R-Design won't disappoint. The turbocharged T6 is the most powerful six-cylinder engine currently offered by Volvo. Maximum torque now is achieved from just 3,000 rpm and remains available throughout the rev range. Power is transmitted to the wheels via Volvo's second-generation six-speed automatic Geartronic transmission with sport mode. New valves and lower friction mean faster gear changes than before. Similar to the S60 T6, the S60 R-Design will be offered standard with Volvo's electronically controlled all-wheel-drive system with Instant Traction® and Corner Traction Control with torque vectoring.

Corner Traction Control uses torque vectoring for smoother cornering. This technology is a further refinement of the Dynamic Stability and Traction Control (DSTC). When cornering, the car's inner

driven wheel gently applies braking while, at the same time, more power is transmitted to the outer driven wheel. This allows the driver to take the corner more tightly while reducing understeer.

Helping to set the S60 R-Design apart from the S60 are a number of visual design cues. On the outside, the lower front fascia has been redesigned and painted a glossy piano black. The sporty stance is further enhanced with color-matched body components. Incorporated within a sporty rear exhaust baffle are distinctive, 90mm twin exhaust tailpipes and unique R-Design exclusive five-spoke 18-inch diamond cut wheels that emphasize the enhanced performance prowess. The introductory R-Design colour is Passion Red but the Volvo S60 R-Design also will be available in four other colours. Additionally, the S60 R-Design features a rear trunk spoiler and standard Dual Xenons with Active Bending Lights.

Inside, a number of new features help to further differentiate the S60 R-Design. The driver and front passenger sit in sports seats in which the highly supportive backrest from the S60 is matched by an all-new seat cushion with deeper side bolsters. The upholstery will be offered in off-black leather with contrasting stitching and a sport-oriented textured leather accent with an embossed R-Design logo across the front-seat backrests. The interior also features a sport steering wheel with R-Design logo, gear selector, sports pedals, floor mats and a blue watch-dial instrument cluster.

On the safety front, the S60 R-Design is available with Pedestrian Detection with Full Auto Brake. This driver assistance system consists of a newly developed radar unit integrated into the S60's grille, a camera fitted in front of the inside rearview mirror and a central control unit. The radar's task is to detect any object in front of the car and to determine the distance to it while the camera determines what type of object it is. Up to 35 km/h, the system helps the car avoid hitting a pedestrian. At higher speeds, the system helps mitigate the severity of an impact.

The function is also programmed to respond to vehicles in front that are at a standstill or are moving in the same direction as the car fitted with the system. Thanks to the newly developed dual-mode radar's much wider field of vision, pedestrians about to step into the roadway can also be detected early on. The camera has higher resolution than the previous-generation unit, making it possible to detect the pedestrian's pattern of movement and avoid a collision.

Volvo Cars of Canada Corp. is part of the Volvo Car Corporation of Göteborg, Sweden. The company provides marketing, sales, parts, service, technology and training support to the 41 Volvo automobile retailers across the country. The company's product range includes the stylish and sporty C30, the elegant C70 hardtop convertible, the S40 sedan and the S80 flagship sedan. For customers looking for a vehicle with all-road capability, Volvo offers the versatile XC60, XC70 and XC90. Volvo Canada has also recently expanded its line-up to include the new-for-2011 S60 sport sedan with optional Pedestrian Detection with Full Auto Brake.

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