

COMMERCE

McLaren puts vehicles on fast track of technology with \$1.3B investment

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McLaren 675LT Spider by MSO

By STAFF REPORTS

British automaker McLaren has announced a \$1.3 billion investment into research and development over the next six years.

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The "Track22" business plan was announced March 1 and will bring the automaker into the future by 2022, hence the 22 in the objective's name. Automakers are increasingly spending in areas of technology as consumer interests continue to shift toward alternative energy-source vehicles with low environmental impact as well as the development of autonomous models ([see story](#)).

On the right track

McLaren's Track22 Business Plan will extend to 2022 and in that span, the automaker will have 15 all-new models or derivatives under development.

During this time, McLaren will maintain its focus on the development of two-seater sports and supercars, as it has done since its creation in 2010. As such, the business plan will lead to an industry-leading 20-25 percent investment in research and development for future products and technology.

The first vehicle to launch under Track22 is the new 570GT at the Geneva Motor Show. This model represents a culmination of McLaren's new model introductions for the year.

For 2017, the automaker has confirmed the launch of a new Spider model, part of the Sports Series family. This was determined after the 675LT Coupe and Spider models were well received and sold out in a few weeks of their debut.

McLaren has also announced that the "LT" will be reconfigured as its own track-focused sub-brand. In the future, McLaren will release further LT models.



McLaren 650S Spider

In addition, after the global success of its gasoline-electric hybrid-powered McLaren P1, the automaker has confirmed that going forward into 2022 at least 50 percent of its models will feature hybrid technology.

As such, McLaren's Technology Center in Working, Britain is in the early stages of developing a full-electric powertrain for future generation models of an Ultimate Series vehicle.

In a statement, CEO of McLaren Automotive Mike Flewitt said, "Since its inception, McLaren Automotive has launched world-class products and this has been made possible by continuous investment in our future. The launch of our new six-year Business Plan, named Track22 because I believe that we are on track to a very exciting and successful future, scopes our future investments and development strategy up until 2022.

"This will see us launch 15 all-new cars or derivatives within our existing Sports Series, Super Series and Ultimate Series families," he said. "We will also develop an all-new engine architecture that will debut towards the end of the Business Plan period."

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