



Powered to push limits

By **JAEDENE HUDSON**

Autodelta, the legendary name that produces hot versions of Alfa Romeo's fastest cars, has added the 156 and GT to its range.

The 156 GTA AM boasts 245kW of power from a bored-out version of the 3.2-litre engine used in the normal Alfa GT, which extends torque output to 353Nm at 4700rpm and has a new 7300rpm redline.

The 0-100km/h sprint drops to just 5.3 seconds.

The Alfa GT Super hides a supercharged version of the normal 3.2-litre V6 engine under the bonnet.

Its performance figures jump to 239kW and the 0-100km/h run takes just 5.4 seconds.

This time last year, the company unveiled the 147 3.7-litre GTA at the MPH03 Motor Show in London.

The 156 GTA AM accelerates from 0-100km/h in just five seconds and has a top speed of 280km/h. But while they can't be purchased here

as a full car, Alfa spokesman Edward Rowe says those who purchase the base car can add on the kit later.

"We can't sell it here, it does not pass homologation, but people can contact Autodelta direct and get the kit fitted to the base car after market," Rowe says.

The 156 GTA AM gains a limited-slip differential to help with 30 per cent progressive lock, which helps transfer the extra power to the tarmac via a new, stronger clutch and 18-inch light alloy wheels.

Quad exhaust pipes protrude from the rear.

The extra grunt is halted via upgraded 355mm front brakes with AP racing six-pot calipers and there is a sports suspension to cope with the extra power.

The hot version of the GT is powered by a Rotrex supercharger. The factory ECU has been re-mapped, and the supercharger has built-in safety features to control

boost levels. It too has been fitted with a limited-slip differential and with sports suspension.

But it is not just the technical specifications that have been upgraded in the Autodelta package.

Creativestudio, Autodelta's own styling and manufacturing arm, is responsible for the aggressively sporty look of the cars.

The 156 GTA AM features the new Giugiaro-styled front and a full body kit with front wings, front and rear bumpers, rear wheel arches, door panels and boot spoiler.

The GT Super sports new front and rear bumpers, discreet rear boot spoiler and a re-designed dual exhaust pipe.

Both new models will be custom-built and feature their own plaque carrying the serial number.

The new year, however, will see a hole in the Alfa model line-up, with production of the Spider to cease after nearly 50 years.



Red-line time:
Autodelta's Alfa Romeo 156 GTA AM and (inset) the Alfa GT have increased power and performance