



Media Information

May 2021

Opel Corsa-e Rally: Maximising Electric Drive Performance Potential

- The Corsa-e Rally delivers high driving dynamics and agile handling
- Strong acceleration thanks to high torque and Torsen limited-slip differential
- Electronics and suspension specially developed for rallying

Rüsselsheim. Electric driving is mostly associated with aspects such as sustainability and ecological benefits. It is often overlooked that electric mobility can also mean high dynamics and impressive performance – for which the production Opel Corsa-e is a good example. Even more so in the case of the highly tuned rally version.

Every driver of the Opel Corsa-e Rally is impressed by the high torque of 260 Newton metres, which is immediately available from the first squeeze of the accelerator pedal and enables strong acceleration, particularly out of tight turns. In order for the front wheels to gain maximum traction in all situations, wheel spin is controlled by a Torsen limited-slip differential. The drivetrain of the production car has been adapted for the high demands of rallying, with the drive shafts meeting competition standards.

In comparison to the production model, the electronics of the Corsa-e Rally have been significantly modified. Assistance systems such as ESP, ABS and traction control, which in the production car provide additional safety, have been permanently deactivated on the rally car in favour of higher driving dynamics. A motor sport control unit manages the electric motor and the mapping of the accelerator pedal. The “Eco” drive mode, which the Corsa-e Rally uses on the road sections between special stages, has been retained as standard. However, the “Sport” and “Normal” modes have been modified for competition purposes, with “WP” for full power and “WP Rain” for reduced torque on slippery surfaces.

All competition cars must display good balance and the Corsa-e Rally is especially talented in this respect. Thanks in particular to the 300-kilogramme battery mounted under the floor



between the front and rear axles, the rally car features an optimum weight distribution and low centre of gravity. The results are neutral handling and high braking stability.

The chassis of the production Corsa-e also underwent several modifications. While the rear axle is to standard specification, motor sport technology is used at the front. Dynamic handling and high agility are ensured by the rally suspension with McPherson struts, universal joints, Bilstein shock absorbers and Eibach springs. The Brembo brake system features four-cylinder brake calipers with internally ventilated 323 x 28 mm discs at the front and 264 x 12 mm discs at the rear (production model: 302 mm front, 264 mm rear). Brake pressure at the rear is hydraulically adjustable. With a strong tug of the hydraulic “fly-off” handbrake, the Corsa-e Rally darts around the tightest turns.

“The Corsa-e Rally is great fun to drive, especially on twisty stages”, says Opel Motorsport development driver Marijan Griebel. “The car reacts predictably on the limit, which will make it easier for newcomers to the ADAC Opel e-Rally Cup to exploit their full potential. The power delivery is excellent and thanks to the high torque of the electric motor the car really flies out of corners. A great machine for a one-make cup!”

About Opel

Opel is one of the largest European car manufacturers and a leader in the reduction of CO₂ emissions thanks to its extensive electrification offensive. The company was founded by Adam Opel in Rüsselsheim, Germany, in 1862 and started building automobiles in 1899. Opel is part of Stellantis NV, a global leader created for the new era of sustainable mobility as a result of the merger between Groupe PSA and FCA Group in January 2021. Together with its British sister brand Vauxhall, the company is represented in more than 60 countries around the globe. Opel is currently consistently implementing its electrification strategy to secure sustainable success and ensure that the future mobility demands of customers are met. By 2024, an electrified variant of each Opel model will be available. This strategy is part of the company plan PACE! with which Opel will become sustainably profitable, global and electric.

Visit <https://int-media.opel.com>

Contact:

Colin Yong
Marcus Lacroix

+49 (0) 6142-6922084
+49 (0) 172-7404562

colin.yong@stellantis.com
ml@opel-motorsport.com