

Touring Car Racing

From the Showroom Floor to Victory Lane

Developed from the popular “Showroom Stock” racing series of the 1980s, today’s North American professional, production-based racing series – the Pirelli World Challenge Touring Car categories (TC, TCA and TCB) and the Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge Street Tuner (ST) class – feature large fields and fierce competition.

HPD provides parts, engineering development and technical support to teams competing in both series, from the multi-car efforts of Shea Racing and Honda Ste-Rose Racing to the smallest teams making their initial forays into professional competition.

Honda teams and drivers can be found in the thick of the action in both series. In 2012, HPD led development of the Civic Si for competition in both the TC class in World Challenge and ST in Grand-Am, and was rewarded with the 2012 Manufacturers’ Championship in the Pirelli World Challenge.

Additional race wins in both series and another TC World Challenge Manufacturers’ Championship followed in 2013. Honda also swept the top four positions in the TC Drivers’ Championship, led by Compass360 pilot Ryan Winchester.

A new addition to World Challenge competition in 2012 was the TCB category, designed as an inexpensive, entry-level category for compact “B-Spec” cars such as the Honda Fit, developed for participation in the new class by HPD.

For 2017, the new Honda Civic Si is now available from HPD as a “body in white” (with all passenger components not needed for racing removed). The body-in-white Civic also features exclusive racing parts developed by HPD and its partners, and is available to Honda Racing Line customers who wish to build and race their own cars.

One of these new Civics will be fielded by Shea Racing for Tom O’Gorman, who won the PWC TCB Drivers’ Championship last year racing a Honda Fit, and will now move up to TCA in his new Civic Si coupe. Shea Racing, a veteran Honda team operated by owner/driver Shea Holbrook, will continue to field two Touring Class Honda Accords for Holbrook and teammate Jason Fichter in 2017.

While the SCCA Pirelli World Challenge consists of a series of sprint races, the similar Grand-Am Continental Tire Sports Car Challenge is an endurance racing series, with two drivers per entry for the multi-hour contests that comprise the schedule.