



ASTON MARTIN

Best Cars 2013: Double victory for Vanquish and Rapide Aston Martin most successful foreign brand in auto motor und sport vote

Frankfurt am Main / Stuttgart, 24 January 2013. Aston Martin is celebrating its latest success as the top foreign brand in the latest readers' vote for the "Best Cars" run by automotive magazine *auto motor und sport (ams)*. Achieving victories in two categories, as well as a second and third placement in a further category, the English luxury sports car maker has scooped the most awards for non-German brands.

Best Car 2013 in the category *Sports Car Imported* is the Aston Martin Vanquish. Introduced as the ultimate GT just recently, the car triumphed over a large competitor field consisting of 25 models.

Meanwhile the most votes in the category *Luxury Class Imported* were awarded to the Aston Martin Rapide. The four-door sports car has now achieved this top podium position for the fourth year in a row, drawing attention away from nine other international competitors in the process.

In the category *Convertibles Imported* Aston Martin has also been highly rated by readers of *ams*. They awarded the DB9 Volante second place in the class and presented the V8 Vantage Roadster with a third place position.

Dr Ulrich Bez, Aston Martin CEO, said at the award ceremony in Stuttgart on Thursday: "The beginning of this year in which we are celebrating 100 years of Aston Martin, could not have gone better for us. On the verge of our second century Aston Martin presents itself as a modern, competitive brand of global importance. We are proud of our independence and our success, and we thank the readers of *auto motor und sport* for their acclaim."

He added: "Through the course of this year there will be more exciting products from Aston Martin. The stunning new Rapide S, which we announced just yesterday, is only the beginning."

Separately, just a few days ago, the Vanquish and the Rapide scored highly in another reader vote, this time from car magazine *Auto Illustrierte* in Switzerland. The models achieved the title of "Best Car 2013" in the categories *Sports Cars* and *Luxury Class*.

Almost 113,000 readers of the magazine *auto motor und sport* took part in this year's vote for the "Best Cars", which has been held for the 37th time. They could choose between 373 models spanning more than ten categories.

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