

911 GT3RS wins Grand Prix

Pictured below is the winner of the 2005 German Grand Prix – that's the Tuner Grand Prix – held in mid-May at the Hockenheim circuit.

The event isn't a race, as such (although it's no less competitive), but rather a series of timed runs in which drivers in various classes are allowed half an hour to record the fastest lap.

It was Cargraphic's highly modified and specially lightened 911 GT3RS driven by Marc Basseng (in the GT Class, which was exclusively Porsches) that did so, with a lap time of one minute and 19 seconds in the wet, nearly two seconds ahead of second-

placed Wolfgang Kaufmann in a Gemballa 911 GTR Evo.

A measure of how seriously participants take the event is seen in Cargraphic's preparation of its GT3RS, renamed the GT3RSC. Over the winter the tuner not only increased engine capacity from 3.6 to 3.8 litres, and power to some 435bhp, but also shed some 100kg, taking the car down to just 1280kg. It wears a lightweight bodykit, and runs 19-inch wheels and a racing suspension kit.

The smaller of the two pictures shows a 997 in full glory in a separate part of the event, the Drift Challenge. ■

