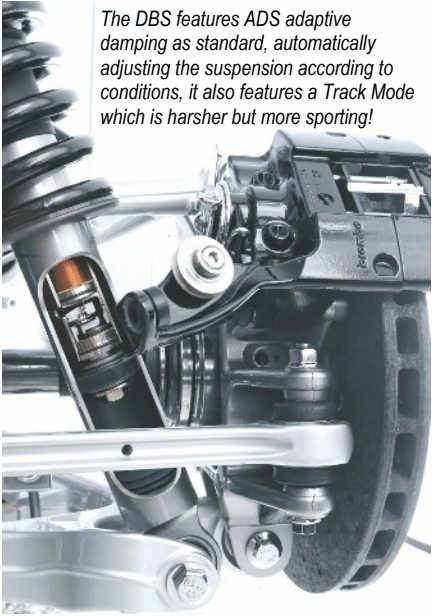


practice the ADS system actually enables the DBS to offer a more comfortable ride than the DB9 while also allowing it to handle better when pressing on. There is no doubt that advanced adaptive systems are the future for high-end suspension set-ups and they are also used by other prestige brands like Ferrari and Porsche. It is good to see Aston Martin utilising the latest technology at the same time as their prestige competition. We are pleased to say that ADS works very well and A.M. continue to develop the system, with a new 3-stage set-up on 13MY DB9/Vanquish.

FOCUS ON CCM BRAKES

Brake specialists Brembo supply the CCM discs: they are made from a carbon fibre compound which is then impregnated with silicon, this is then baked in a mould at 1700 °C. The end result is claimed to be much tougher than conventional cast iron discs but they also dissipate heat much more rapidly, dramatically reducing possible brake fade. The discs are cross-drilled as they don't suffer from the same brake dust build-up of standard discs/pads. This ensures gases emitted by the pads during braking do not build up between the pad and disc surface and also cools the disc right through to the pads with air fed via larger front-mounted intakes. The brake rotors are then mounted onto bespoke disc bells using a 'floating disc' system. Aston say this allows the discs to flex relative to their mountings, making them less prone to 'judder'. Much larger discs and upgraded calipers also ensure much better stopping power: the front brakes feature huge 398 mm discs clamped by six-piston calipers (instead of four), while the rears are 360 mm with four-piston calipers. The brake calipers are bespoke to the Aston Martin CCM system, featuring a monobloc construction, which is strengthened using a 'bridge' across the rear of the caliper. Although the discs are larger than other models steel brakes they are also around 12.5 kg (27.6 lb) lighter in total; this reduces unsprung weight to improve both handling, performance and ride comfort. The end result is, much better stopping power - greatly reduced fade - reduced unsprung weight - and a stronger design claimed to offer a vastly longer service life. But they are unproven in the long term and VERY expensive to replace, so ensure expert inspection! The design continues to be evolved and the latest models, like the Vanquish, feature third generation CCM brakes.

The DBS features ADS adaptive damping as standard, automatically adjusting the suspension according to conditions, it also features a Track Mode which is harsher but more sporting!



Huge carbon fibre brakes reduce unsprung weight while offering superb fade free stopping power.