

The Professionals

FLOGGING THE CHEVY CAMARO Z/28 AND PORSCHE 911 GT3 WITH HELP FROM SPORTS-CAR ACE ANDY PILGRIM

STORY BY JONATHAN WONG
PHOTOS BY JOSH SCOTT

□ WE'RE IN A BARBER Motorsports Park garage in Birmingham, Ala., on a brisk morning with pro race-car driver Andy Pilgrim—and Chevrolet's Camaro Z/28 and Porsche's 911 GT3, the latest, road course-focused street cars for 2014. Cadillac Racing pays Pilgrim to pilot a CTS-V coupe in the Pirelli World

Challenge series, but today he is our hired gun to give us top-level feedback around the challenging 2.38-mile circuit.

Pilgrim's résumé boasts wins at the 12 Hours of Sebring, Petit Le Mans and the Rolex 24 at Daytona, in addition to numerous Le Mans podium finishes. And while he has bagged five professional sports-car championships, it's his articulate, detailed feedback about a car's behavior at the limit that's more valuable to us on this day.

We know what you're thinking: A General Motors factory driver? A Chevy and a Porsche? Stacked deck, anyone?

Not so fast. Rather, Chevy having no problem letting us drop Pilgrim behind the Camaro's wheel (and that of a 911 track machine carrying a \$60,000 premium) speaks volumes about its confidence in the Camaro. Not many manufacturers have the stones to participate in that kind of comparo. But Chevy aims big with the Z/28.

