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Saab Aero Academy Now Open for All

DETROIT — The exclusive Saab Aero Academy two-day performance driving school held at Road Atlanta in Braselton, Ga., once reserved for Saab Aero model customers only, is now available to U.S. drivers everywhere. The cost is only \$495 in combination with the purchase of a new Saab and \$1,000 more without.

The intensive two-day course combines driver education with the thrill of piloting Saab Aero performance vehicles. It consists of 80 percent advanced handling exercises on specially constructed training tracks and 20 percent classroom time. Aero Academy instructors are professional race car drivers.

“The Saab Aero Academy is an important element of the overall Saab customer experience,” says Saab Automobile USA General Manager Steve Shannon. “Improving driving skills and learning how to avoid an accident benefit American road-ways. Besides, pushing Saab 9-3s and 9-5s to the limits on a safe, closed course is just plain fun and we wanted to share that experience with as many people as possible. Bottom line, if you love to drive and want to sharpen your skills in a Saab, it’s a must.”

Aero Academy enrollees experience a skid pad where they learn how to control a car with proper steering, throttle and brake responses; “threshold” braking, which teaches how to apply brakes, improve reaction time and avoid brake lockup; a lane change exercise which is designed to improve reflexes and car control skills; a slalom course which tests timing, throttle and steering skills – all while avoiding the orange cones; and an autocross, a scaled down race track that tests cornering, braking, acceleration and skid control while using 100 percent of the cars’ potential.

Saab Aero Academy instructors are active in open wheel formula racing, sports car racing, endurance racing and oval track racing. Instructor to student ratio is 1:4. More than 2,000 Saab owners have participated in the Aero Academy since it was founded in 1999 under the name "Viggen Flight Academy."

To enroll in the Saab Aero Academy visit SaabAcademy.com or call 800.456.4728. Customers who purchase or lease a 2008 Saab will receive a voucher good for \$1,000 of the \$1,495* Saab Aero Academy tuition. All participants are responsible for travel and hotel as well as meals not part of the program.

Saab is a division of General Motors Corp. Saab Automobile USA is the importer and/or distributor of Saab 9-3, 9-5 and 9-7X automobiles for Saab Automobile AB, Sweden. In 2007, Saab celebrates 60 years since first being introduced to the automotive scene as the vision-turned-reality of 16 aircraft engineers. Visit www.saabusa.com for more information.

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<http://media.saab.com/>

*Cost of the Academy is \$1,495 per person for the general public and \$495 per qualified person for each new Saab owner. The discount offer is valid for 12 months from date of purchase for all new 2008 models.