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Let's Go Aero and Firestone Brothers Team Up to Tackle the 2004 Cannonball One Lap of America

Colorado Springs, CO – When Andrew and Adam Firestone set out to complete the 2004 Tire Rack™ Cannonball One Lap of America, their first challenge was to prepare for the grueling 5,800 mile, 24-hour-a-day dash that circumnavigates the mid and western United States.

The event, founded in the early 1970s by legendary automotive journalist Brock Yates, Sr., is one of the greatest challenges of endurance and vehicle preparation. No support crews are permitted, sleep (if and when possible) is only achieved from inside the vehicle and the finest meals available are those found at gas stations and convenience stores.

Heading to New York in a 2004 Subaru WRX STi equipped with Bridgestone brand tires and a Praxis adjustable air-suspension system, Adam and Andrew, great-grandsons of Harvey S. Firestone, founder of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, were ready to race - and, thanks to Let's Go Aero, were also ready for the long road ahead.

Onlookers quickly learned the Firestone brothers had arrived with a unique advantage in tow – the GearWagon AT™ Sport Performance Trailer®. Sporting a stylish wing, and with paint and wheels to match the Subaru, the spacious Let's Go Aero trailer drew longing glances from teams now lamenting soon-to-be cramped cockpits and sparingly selected supplies.

Featuring 86-cubic feet of dry, enclosed storage space, the GearWagon AT trailer made a lasting first impression. It was obvious to other One Lap drivers that their experience would differ greatly from that of the Firestone brothers – ready to run the One Lap with a storage locker in tow. With the rigors of fatigue, weather, traffic and the demands of strenuous driving ahead, Andrew and Adam, unlike their competition, enjoyed piece-of-mind that extra clothing and a sufficient snack supply would always be at hand.

“The GearWagon AT trailer was an absolute life saver,” said Andrew Firestone. “The close confines of the vehicle would have been unbearable if cluttered with dirty clothes, pillows and blankets. GearWagon AT handled it all. You might say it preserved our sanity! Seven days in a cramped car is bad enough without a mess to contend with. I suppose, I just feel sorry for all the other racers!”

“Having the GearWagon AT along was like having an AAA membership in tow,” he added. “With our tools and spare tires in the trailer, we were prepared for every situation.”

Firestone went on to say the decision to use the trailer was also due to its functionality. In heavy rain, the weather-tight trailer kept all contents perfectly dry. When exposed to sunlight, the carrier's Lustran ABS-plastic shell kept things cool on the inside by deflecting UV rays. And at only 275 lbs., the lightweight GearWagon AT made it possible for the Firestone brothers to race successfully between cities on the One Lap tour.

"The trailer's torflex axle and independent wheel suspension performed admirably," said Adam Firestone. "With all the highly tuned race vehicles competing in the One Lap, the GearWagon AT trailer looked out of place at first, but quickly proved that it belonged here. It traveled along behind our car so smooth and seamlessly, we often forgot it was there, even at high speeds."

"By the second day, the trailer seemed to have become a logical extension of the car. It was a shame to unhook it when we stopped at racetracks along the way to compete in time trials. GearWagon AT became our trusted companion. Really, it was the third member of our drive team."

According to the Firestone brothers, as One Lap drew near the finish line, talk amongst the other competitors turned to next year's race, and more specifically, how they might secure a GearWagon AT for the event.

"I look at the incredibly positive response the GearWagon AT received from the One Lap participants and it says everything," Andrew commented. "Here was a gathering of the most expert automotive minds, media and race teams in the country. To earn their respect is no small accomplishment."

Looking ahead, the Firestone brothers are already entertaining thoughts about competing in next year's One Lap event. Of course, the GearWagon AT is a big part of that plan.

"Never go One Lapping without it!" Adam quipped. "Maybe next year we'll see even more egg-shaped trailers darting down the freeway. In fact, I've heard a rumor of converting one of them into a rolling barbeque grille. One Lap and ribs? Now that's a great idea!"

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Read more about the GearWagon AT, the Firestone brothers and the 2004 One Lap of America:

[Car & Driver Magazine](#) (August 2004)

[The Weekend Drive](#) (August 2004)