



1909 Ocean to Ocean Racer (Replica)



Manufacturing Information

Manufactured By Ford Motor Company
Assembled At Ford Piquette Avenue Plant

Model Production 2
Annual Production 10,660 (all vehicles this manufacturer this year)
Horsepower 22
Weight 900 pounds/408 kilograms
1909 Cost Unknown

Innovations

Fully stripped-down Model T to reduce weight for racing:

- ✧ No metal fenders
- ✧ No rear seat
- ✧ No windshield
- ✧ No metal body

Special bucket seats were added for “some” comfort.



Ocean to Ocean Race Winner

The Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition was opened June 1, 1909, in Seattle; and Robert Guggenheim, a wealthy mining company owner, was interested in promoting it. Since no car had ever driven from New York to that corner of the U.S., what better than staging an automobile race from coast to coast? Guggenheim posted a \$2,500 cash prize and a \$3,500 gold trophy for the winner. Only six cars entered the race: two Model T's, an Acme, an Itala, a Shawmut and a Stearns. The Model T was considerably lighter than the other vehicles, though the competition all had much more powerful engines. All vehicles had to visit thirty checkpoints across the country. Twenty-two days later, the #2 Model T crossed the finish line first. Some months later, however, the race records revealed there was a dispute in regards to one of the checkpoints for Ford's #2 car. Guggenheim then retracted the award and announced the Shawmut had actually won. Henry very wisely had already publicized worldwide that the Model T had won the race. The retraction never got very much attention.

Milt Roorda

On loan from Milt Roorda of Odessa, Florida. In 2009, Milt drove this replica car in the 100th anniversary running of the Ocean to Ocean Race. He and 54 other Model T's trekked from White Plains, New York, to Seattle, Washington - the reenactment covered over 4,400 miles.



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