



Frankfurt Preview: the Ferrari 458 Spider, the world's first mid-rear engined berlinetta equipped with a retractable hard top, designed by Pininfarina



Torino, September 6 2011 – While waiting for its world debut at the upcoming Frankfurt Motor Show, **Ferrari** reveals the first photographs of the **458 Spider**. **Designed by Pininfarina** in cooperation with the Ferrari Style Centre, the new Spider joins the 458Italia – also designed by Pininfarina - widening the range of Ferrari's mid-rear engined V8s and offering the same uncompromising technological solutions, handling and performance in a refined open-top configuration.

The 458 Spider is equipped with a Ferrari patented, fully retractable hard top, a world first for a sports car with this lay-out. Entirely in aluminium, the hard-top solution adopted for the 458 Spider offers a number of advantages over the traditional folding soft-top, including a reduction of 25 kg in weight and a deployment time of just 14 seconds. Fully integrated into the styling of the car, the hard-top was engineered to fit neatly ahead of the engine bay without compromising aerodynamics or the performance of the car. The small space needed to house the roof enables the designers to include a generous rear bench for luggage behind the seats.

The rear of the car is characterised by innovative forms with the buttresses designed to optimise the flow of air to the engine intakes and the clutch and gearbox oil radiators. For maximum comfort whilst driving top down the 458 Spider features a generously-sized adjustable electric wind stop. The design was perfected to slow and diffuse the air in the cockpit, enabling normal conversation to be held even at speeds over 200 km/h.