



Product test: **Racelogic Driftbox**



Words and photography by Richard Nicholls

What we have here is an amazing little gismo. Racelogic's new GPS-based Driftbox does one unique thing: it measures the angle at which your car is drifting. It's a great tool for the drifting fraternity, but it also packs in features that will make it useful to trackday drivers, racers and enthusiasts, whether they drift or not.

The Driftbox uses GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) technology, in which Racelogic staff are experts, thanks to its industry standard V-Box performance measuring device. Driftbox is a consumer evolution of V-Box, offering access to precision technology in a conveniently small and low-cost package.

Simply plug the Driftbox into your 12V socket and it's basically set up for use. In

Drift mode, life becomes a hoot as you try to achieve extreme drift angles. The unit displays live drift angle in the centre, peak angle on the right and live speed on the left – and it will also show peak *g*-force readings. It even registers when you lose it, flashing up 'SPIN!' Drifters Phil Morrison and Julian Smith gave us a demo – and they were instantly hooked. Biggest angle of the day? Fifty-four degrees, on dry tarmac at speed through a slalom course!

In Performance mode, the unit boasts 0–60mph and 0–100mph readouts but, more importantly for serious testers, there's 0–100-0mph, in-gear 30–50mph and 50–70mph, peak *g* reading, eighth-mile and quarter-mile times and speeds, plus deceleration tests.

In Lap Timing mode, you can input a virtual start line simply by pushing a button,

and it will record lap times, split times (by punching in up to six points around the track), plus you can even map out the track and your lines to reveal your best lines, speeds and braking points. It even has functions for slalom courses and sprints.

A 64Mb card can store up to 10 hours of information, viewable on a laptop/PC or card reader via an incredible F1-style software suite (included in the Driftbox package). This includes tons of graph data and even a map of the circuit and the actual lines taken. As a bonus, the unit will also warn you of speed cameras!

If you're serious about your performance, this is a must-have item – and it's not just for the drift fraternity. It's also great value at £465. To find out more, log on to www.driftbox.com or call Racelogic on 01280 823803. ●

