## New Kia Optima GT released

NAZA Kia Malaysia on Wednesday unveiled the all-new fourth-generation Kia Optima GT for the local market. It will only be available in GT trim. This gives buyers a more aggressive and sporty design that includes a new dot array mesh satin chrome front signature grille, a sporty front bumper as well as a new rear bumper that incorporates dual exhausts and a diffuser.

Other features include headlights that feature LED technology with daytime running lights – with new dynamic bending light technology that turns the lights according to the steering wheel angle; smart trunk, and smart wireless phone charger (making a debut in the Optima GT), among many others.

It is 10mm longer than the previous model, 30mm wider, 10mm higher and has a 10mm longer wheelbase. There's more interior space due to 10mm more headroom, 25mm more legroom and 17mm more shoulder room at the rear and 20mm more shoulder space up front. The centre fascia has been angled towards the driver by 8.5 degrees, while interior trim is made of leather and high quality polymer, with soft leather for the seats.

The powerplant is a new 242hp, 350Nm of torque, two-litre turbocharged petrol engine mated to a six-speed automatic transmission. The fuel consumption is rated at 8.5-litres for every 100 kilometres travelled on the combined cycle.

Safety-wise, there are six airbags, Antilock Braking System (ABS), Electronic Stability Control (ESC), Vehicle Stability Control (VSM), Hill-start Assist Control (HAC) and an Emergency Stop Signal (ESS). The Optima GT scored a five-star rating for the Euro NCAP crash test, five stars in the Asean NCAP, 5.1 stars in the US NCAP and achieved a first grade rating in the Korean NCAP crash test.

The all-new Kia Optima GT will be offered in three different colours: Gravity Blue, Aurora Black and Snow White Pearl. Its on-the-road price, inclusive of insurance and GST, is RM179,888.

