

[VW Touareg TDI Tackles Pan-American Highway in Record Time](#)

**Image Gallery**



*When it comes to going the distance, it would be hard to overlook the 2011 Volkswagen Touareg TDI Clean Diesel SUV after it recently carried a crew of three along the Pan-American highway, a trip nearly 16,000 miles in length, in less than 12 days to set a new world record. The trip, led by prominent adventurer Rainer Zietlow, beat the old Pan-American record by more than three days, using a VW Touareg model similar to those available at any Volkswagen dealership.*

Online PR News â€“ 29-July-2011 â€“ MANCHESTER, N.H. - When it comes to going the distance, it would be hard to overlook the 2011 Volkswagen Touareg TDI Clean Diesel SUV after it recently carried a crew of three along the Pan-American highway, a trip nearly 16,000 miles in length, in less than 12 days to set a new world record. The trip, led by prominent adventurer Rainer Zietlow, beat the old Pan-American record by more than three days, using a VW Touareg model similar to those available at any Volkswagen dealership.

Â

Zietlow and his comrades started in Argentina on July 2 and continued through 13 more countries before finishing the trip on July 13. The other countries along the travelers route included Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, the United States and Canada before reaching the final destination in Deadhorse, Alaska. Zietlow chose the 2011 Volkswagen Touareg TDI for its mix of durability, power and the long driving range shared by all Volkswagen diesel vehicles. The only vehicle modifications were a satellite communications system, larger tires to help clear obstacles, and an additional 300-liter fuel tank to allow more time between fill-ups.

Â

The trip was a great way to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Pan-American Highways establishment, and were proud that VW could be a part of it, said Frank Carnucci, general manager of Quirk Volkswagen, a New Hampshire Volkswagen dealer. I cant think of a better vehicle to carry passengers through intense sand storms, blizzards and muddy trails than a Volkswagen Touareg TDI, and our New Hampshire Touareg drivers would agree with me, especially during wintertime in New England.

Â

More than just a celebration, the trip was also a gesture of goodwill. For every kilometer covered, Zietlow vowed to donate 10 Euro cents to two villages in Latin America through Plan International, a charity organization working in 48 developing countries. The trip covered roughly 25,750 kilometers, which should result in about \$2,575 in donations.

Â

Three passengers and their requisite gear for a non-stop Pan-American journey fit inside the Touareg with ease thanks to its 101.4 cubic feet of interior volume, including 70.9 cubic feet of cargo space with the rear seats folded flat. While the interior space made the trip more comfortable, it is the drivetrain that made it possible in the first place.

Â

With 4MOTION all-wheel drive, an eight-speed automatic transmission and the powerfully efficient TDI Clean Diesel engine, the Touareg made short work of the variable road conditions. The TDI engine produces a massive 406 pound-feet of torque and 225 horsepower while returning 19 mpg in the city and 28 mpg on the highway. That kind of fuel economy suits those looking for epic adventures just as well as those just trying to make it to their favorite ski resort safely.

Â

VW diesel technology produces crucial performance when you need it without a penalty at the fuel pump, whether its in a Touareg or a Golf TDI, Carnucci added. TDI engines are also incredibly reliable, which makes them popular with people who buy a vehicle for the long haul even if it doesnt include driving through 14 countries.

Â

About Quirk Volkswagen NH:

Quirk Volkswagen NH is the newest addition to the Quirk family of auto dealers, and it is already emerging as the destination for VW lovers throughout southern New Hampshire. They have a fantastic selection of new and used Volkswagens ranging from the Jetta to the Tiguan, and the friendly, experienced sales and service staff to back them up. You can browse Quirk Volkswagen's inventory online at [www.quirkvwnh.com](http://www.quirkvwnh.com), like them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/QuirkVolkswagenNH](http://www.facebook.com/QuirkVolkswagenNH), call them at (603) 626-7000 or visit their dealership at 1100 S. Willow Street in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Â

## **Image Gallery**



# Media Information

Michael Wong

MWongPR@yahoo.com

<http://>

United States