

Super Factories

6 X 1 HOUR

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Corvette

The Corvette Z06 is a high performance street machine exploding with the force of 505 horsepower and a top speed of 320kph. It's the fastest, most powerful production Corvette has ever built. We visit the only place in the world this car is built: the Corvette factory in Bowling Green Kentucky. The car is made, from start to finish, in 36 hours. Every engine is hand-assembled by one builder, and the technology in its building is extraordinary: an aluminium frame, carbon fibre fenders, balsa wood floor and the first ever magnesium engine cradle.

2. BMW

It rockets from 0-60mph in 5.6 seconds and reaches 155mph. It handles so well, the G-forces might make you lose your lunch before it loses its grip on the road. The roar of a muscular six-cylinder engine makes you want to drive the \$45,000 BMW Z4 Roadster simply for the thrill of the open road.

To manufacture such an artful instrument of automotive pleasure requires three ultimate factories, and we visit them, following the trail from innovation to engineering to emotion.

3. Caterpillar

A truck the size of a two-story house, strong enough to carry 380 tonnes, at 25ft tall, 3550 horsepower, this is the biggest mining truck in the world, the colossal Caterpillar 797 B. But how do you build this goliath? It requires a specialised factory where everything is super-sized, from the plasma cutters and welding guns to the torque tools and hand wrenches. Imagine installing a 12-foot wheel or an engine bigger than a car! From blue print to mega truck, we follow the journey of creation.

4. Winnebago

Winnebago is America's motor home. People know to expect perfection from every motor home that is assembled in their 400,000sqft factory in Forest City, Iowa. Here, every inch of a Winnebago coach is built for life on the road. Inside and out it is carefully crafted and designed on a 1000ft assembly line. Their newest cross-country colossus is The Vectra. A movable mansion with a new chassis design, this motorhome even has a basement!

5. Pierce Fire Truck

It takes a Super Factory to build this ultimate fire truck. From lasers to heavy lifters, no one does it better than Pierce Manufacturing. They've designed a fire truck for the ages: the 100ft Heavy Duty Ladder model. This fire fighting powerhouse is a jack-of-all-trades. It can shoot water at a blaze-busting 2000 gallons a minute. Top it off with precision-point handling, breakthrough safety innovations, and superior suspension - it's taking the fire truck to new high-tech heights.

6. UPS

When something absolutely has to get from A to B overnight, or even in hours, every day, millions depend on UPS. UPS ships 4bn packages each year. Join us inside the largest, most efficient and high-tech automated delivery system on the planet. More than a courier, UPS is a transportation network of staggering proportions, complete with a meteorology centre, a flight-simulation training hub, and the eighth largest airline fleet in the world. And at the heart of it all is their Ultimate Factory in Louisville, Kentucky.