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BIGGER ENGINE FOR SEBRING: Chrysler's Sebring sedan, launched in 2007 in South Africa with a 2.4-litre engine, now has a more muscular 2.7-litre V6 as an option. *Image: Quickpic*

Chrysler adds 2.7 V6 to Sebring's arsenal

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March 5, 2008

Chrysler SA has a new flagship sedan - a V6, 2.7-litre Sebring Limited to join the 2.4-litre, four-cylinder models that arrived in South Africa in 2007.

A convertible version has also been launched with the same engine.

The cars' interior trim will be identical to the 2.4 Limited with beige, black or light slate grey leather trim and the signature tortoiseshell finish on the steering wheel, door trim and instrument panel.

The 2.7 V6 will be hooked to a new six-speed auto transmission. Chrysler rates the engine at 137kW and 256Nm and claims fuel consumption figures of 10 .9 litres/100km in general urban driving and 8.4/100km on the open road.

The V6 will be hooked to a new six-speed auto transmission

Chrysler's new MyGIG information, entertainment and audio system will be fitted to the cars. This best-in-class, next-generation radio has a 6.5" touch-screen capable of giving a three-dimensional appearance to graphics and animation.

Satnav can be added as an extra-cost option and a hands-free Bluetooth communication system will be added soon to communicate using the vehicle's audio system.

Each Sebring 2.7 will have multi-stage front crash bags, side bags in the front seats, anti-lock brakes and the electronic stability control.

- The Chrysler Sebring 2.7 Limited will cost R269 900, satnav upgrade R14 900, power sunroof R10 000 and metallic paint at R1200.

All Chrysler products are sold with a three-year or

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How about getting traffic cops back on the roads?

Driving home the other night on the 10km or so of the R27 that links my home village of Melkbosstrand, north of Cape Town, and the booming suburbs of Table View brought home the fact that we need patrol cars, not speed traps and road blocks, to bring down the death toll.

On that short stretch of almost perfectly straight road I spotted:

- A big container truck that parks every night, unlit and with apparent impunity, on the hard shoulder.
- Two trucks travelling without any rear lights at all.
- Three cyclists without lights.
- One car without lights.
- Several with one broken headlight.
- A number of pedestrians almost invisible in dark clothes.

That's a dozen examples of road-users just waiting to die or, worse, to kill others who observe the law.

The number of sad little white crosses on this road is testament to the great business undertakers are doing and the lack of work the Cape Town traffic department is doing – and I've no doubt the same thing can be seen in countless other places in this country that seems to take 30 000 road deaths a year in its stride.

On Sunday night, on this well-maintained highway, there were two crashes within minutes of each other and only a few hundred metres apart.

The answer is a blitz on

100 000km warranty and maintenance plan.

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moving traffic violations: crossing solid white lines, unsafe overtaking, ill-maintained vehicles (which should be instantly impounded), jumping red lights - and only traffic patrols will curb this scourge about which politicians talk much but do little.

31 people died on KZN roads on March 3. The MEC for safety and security announced, no doubt after deep thought and reflection: "This is not a very good morning." A senior traffic cop said: "This is a very sad day."

Well hey, guys (and you lot in Cape Town), get off your backsides, put your traffic cops to work, and bloody well do something about it. That's what you get paid for – go earn your cheques and put good men, in fast cars, back on the roads. ***- The Editor***

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