

KW Ultra-Low .with specially developed spring rates and a shortened damper body... Combine the adjustability and quality of KW's legendary The Haro A new trend is emerging and KW Automotive is leading the Hard Slam revolution with its Ultra-Low Coilover System. We check it out... Words: Ben Chandler Photos: KW Automotive

t was just over two years ago that we pulled into Velden at the famous Wörthersee show to see a brand-new Audi A3 and a Mk5 Golf GTI on 20-inch wheels rolling incredibly low. Nothing new, you may think. But on closer inspection these cars were absolutely on the deck, all courtesy of collover suspension systems.

At the time, nothing was available off-the-shelf to get cars running this low. Special tricks had to be employed with helper springs and the spring collars themselves having to be binned to gain ultimate lows. The result of this extreme suspension modification meant that the actual suspension damping itself would struggle to work correctly and both ride and handling would, of course, suffer.

Now though, there is a solution. KW Automotive in Germany has engineered an Ultra-Low Coilover System that has been specifically designed for car tuners who want to run their cars, well... ultra low! This new Hard Slam movement sees cars running mega-low with wheels tucked right into the arch. It's a quality solution that's almost a backlash against air-ride.

"This Mk6 GTI belongs to Alexander Szautner, from our R&D department over in Germany," Richard Good, managing director of KW Automotive UK explains. "The coilover kit is based upon our Variant 3 system, but has been completely redeveloped. Basically, the spring rates are new, the damper body itself has been shorted and the end result allows excellent handling and ride quality."

Richard is very passionate about the product, and it's clear to see why. The KW Ultra-Low Coilover System makes total sense. After all, many of us here in the UK have already put the helper springs in the bin, so why not order a product that's been designed to do exactly what you want – get your car super low?

"Initially core cars like the Audi A3, Mk5 and Mk6 platform Volkswagen Golf and the Scirocco are being catered for. But we have more kits in development."

It's exciting to see products being created for the new Hard Slam trend and it's even more interesting to experience a car that's capable of running so very low, whilst delivering ride quality that's only just a little firmer than when the car left the factory. This is engineering at the car left the factory.

We plan to run a full test on the KW Ultra-Low Coilover System in a forthcoming issue of the mag. In the meantime, log on to www.kwsuspensions.co.uk to check out the KW Automotive website