



March F1
Chassis 761 – 4

Background, March

British manufacturer and Formula One constructor, March Engineering began operation in 1969 by its four founders, Max Mosley, Alan Rees, Graham Coaker and Robin Herd. The name 'March' was chosen by using initials from their first or last names. Each of these individuals brought unique qualities and talents to the team. Herd was the designer, Rees was the team's manager, Coaker oversaw production, and Mosley handled the commercial side of the operation.

The purpose of the company was to provide chassis for customers competing in all racing categories. In 1969 the company built a Formula 3 car. A year later they produced an F1 racer, the 701, which they used for team competition and to supply to privateers. In the non-championship Race of Champions, Jackie Stewart gave March its first F1 victory. He won the Spanish Grand Prix a month later.

In the years to come, the company would become more successful in more classes, except for the F1 program, than any other manufacturer.



March 761

The March 761 was raced during the 1976 and 1977 Formula 1 season. It was powered by a Ford/Cosworth DFV engine which brought the car to a one race victory during its racing career. It sat on pole position once and even had one fastest lap. In total, there were six examples created. In comparison to the prior March F1 cars, this had a wider track and a stronger chassis.

This car, 761-4, was raced in period by Arturo Merzario. It raced in the golden era of F1 in the classic Hunt vs Lauda season of '76.

Period race history 761-4

- **US GP West Long Beach - 28 Mar 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Arturo Merzario Did not qualify
- **Spanish GP Jarama - 2 May 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Arturo Merzario Retired
- **Belgian GP Zolder - 16 May 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Arturo Merzario Retired
- **Monaco GP Monte Carlo - 30 May 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Arturo Merzario Did not qualify
- **Swedish GP Anderstorp - 13 Jun 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Arturo Merzario 14
- **French GP Paul Ricard - 4 Jul 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Arturo Merzario 9
- **British GP Brands Hatch - 18 Jul 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Arturo Merzario Retired
- **German GP Nürburgring - 1 Aug 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Vittorio Brambilla Retired (accident)
- **Austrian GP Österreichring - 15 Aug 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Karl Oppitzhauser Did not take part in official practice
- **Shellsport G8 Championship round Brands Hatch - 30 Aug 1976**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Karl Oppitzhauser Did not qualify
- **Aurora AFX Championship Round Mallory Park - 1 May 1978**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Gerd Biechteler 11
- **Aurora AFX Championship Round Donington Park - 21 May 1978**
- March 761/4 - Cosworth DFV V8 Gerd Biechteler Did not start

Period sponsors

Ovoro

Wine makers

Marlboro

Cigarettes

Goodyear

Tyres

FINA

Lubricants

Champion

Spark plugs

Koni

Suspension

Ownership history

1976 – works car, entered by March Engineering

1977 – aquired by Gerd Biechteler for the UK Aurora Series

1982 – aquired by Yuam Lequime and not raced

2000 – aquired by Bernard de Dryver for a restoration

2002 – aquired by Jean Louis Duret and raced in GP Masters and at Monaco (2004)

2005 – aquired by Peter Dunn and raced in GP Masters and at Monaco

2012 – aquired by current owner Tommy Dreelan and raced in Historic F1 and at Monaco