

DSO Performs from Commercials for Chrysler Audience

AUBURN HILLS – Chrysler Group LLC partnered with one of Detroit's cultural icons, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO), to offer four special DSO concerts to its hourly and salaried employees on July 6, 7 and 8 at Max M. Fisher Orchestra Hall.

The "Symphony of the Brands"-themed concerts served as a celebration of the automaker's third anniversary and commitment to the Detroit community and its treasures.

"It is vital that we support organizations, like the DSO, that share the same philosophy we do – an unwavering commitment to the city of Detroit," said Sergio Marchionne, chairman and CEO, Chrysler Group LLC.

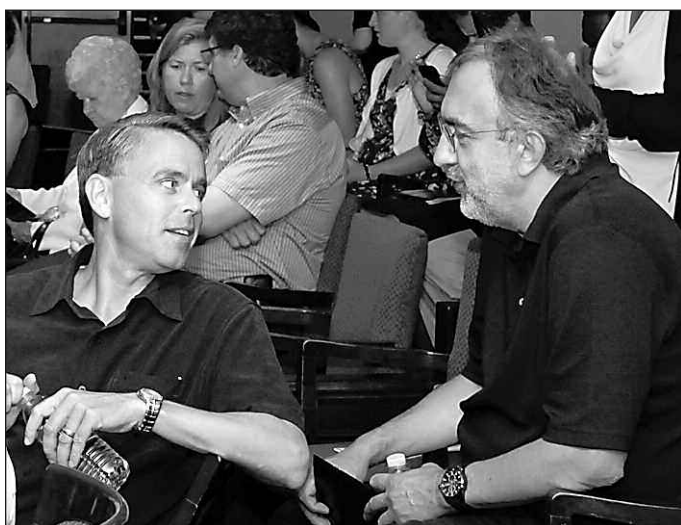
"While it is our duty to focus on the revival of this city, it is equally crucial to cherish the treasures the city already offers."

More than 8,000 Chrysler employees and their guests attended the concerts, which also included "Taste of Detroit"-themed food and vehicle displays from each Chrysler Group brand.

The symphony performed music ranging from classical to rock and country. Volunteers from United Way for Southeastern Michigan were also present to help attendees learn how to take a pledge to end childhood hunger.

Chrysler Group also used the concerts as an opportunity to recognize the contributions of its hourly workforce in the areas of World Class Manufacturing (WCM) and support of the United Way.

Employees who helped achieve high WCM audit scores at their facilities or who participated in United Way volunteer efforts were given box seats and were rec-



Mike Brennan, President and CEO of United Way for Southwest Michigan, and Sergio Marchionne, President and CEO of Chrysler.

ognized by the event's emcee, WJR-AM personality Paul W. Smith.

"We have tremendous demand for our products, and the workforce has risen to the challenge. We have more than 75 percent of our assembly and component plants working some part of the typical summer shutdown," said General Holielfield, UAW vice president. "These concerts were an opportunity to say thank you to the employees for the role they have played in the company's turnaround, celebrate the company's third anniversary and truly showcase what Detroit has to offer."

Chrysler Group is committed to contributing to the revitalization of the City of Detroit, say Chrysler officials.

On Jan. 5, 2012, the automaker announced that it will be adding a third crew of about 1,100 new jobs at its Jefferson North Assembly Plant (JNAP) in Detroit and expanding the Jeep Grand Cherokee lineup to include a diesel version for North America.

Chrysler also announced its

plans to reactivate its Conner Avenue Assembly Plant, also located in the Motor City, for production of the SRT Viper.

The opening of the Conner Avenue plant will create 150 new jobs. Moreover, the automaker recently announced plans to rename the former Dime Building as the Chrysler House and move 70 employees to the historic building.

Marchionne is currently serving a term as the United

Largest Mucell Injection Automotive Component Earns Faurecia and Ford SPE's 'Grand Award'

AUBURN HILLS – As the 2013 next-generation Ford Escape began rolling off the assembly line in Louisville last month, it carried with it Faurecia technology both inside and under the vehicle.

A new 200,000 square-foot Faurecia Interior Systems plant in Louisville is producing the Escape's instrument panel with advanced techniques that contribute to improved fuel economy.

The Escape is the first Fau-



The Detroit Symphony Orchestra perform for Chrysler employees.

recia program that employs Mucell injection technology, a production methodology in which gas is added into the molded plastic part during injection. The result is an instrument panel that is 10 percent lighter, since less plastic is used, while retaining top-quality performance.

The instrument panel for the Escape is the largest automotive component molded using the Mucell process and has earned Faurecia and Ford

and individuals.

Rewarding high-achieving employees with DSO concert tickets is just one more way the automaker is seeking to lift the morale of its local staff, much less connecting Chrysler to the downtown Detroit cultural community at the Max concert hall.

Meritor Launches Mobile Lab for Field Test Work

TROY – Meritor, Inc., a major player in the heavy duty truck market, has launched a Vehicle Dynamics Mobile Lab to bring back real-world data about how Meritor products and systems are performing in the field.

Traveling throughout North America, the tractor-trailer mobile-lab rig is capable of testing various products and capabilities on location including:

- Truck and Trailer: SMAR-Tandem axle, tire inflation systems and drum and air disc brake development;
- Specialty and Off-Highway: Adaptive damping systems for Off-Highway seats, as well as bus and firetruck suspensions;
- Defense: the ProTec High Mobility Independent Suspension with adaptive damping systems, tire inflation systems and suspension height control are tuned for best performance in the specific com-

bat environment in which they will be used.

"Meritor's remote testing capabilities are critical to product development," said Tim Burns, vice president & general manager, Defense & Specialty at Meritor.

"The lab allows us to provide on-site support at U.S. government and independent sites across North America."

"The lab's vehicle test data acquisition capability reduces development time by allowing

immediate optimization of ride-and-handling characteristics so we can tune the products to best fit real world environments.

Meritor's Vehicle Dynamics laboratory is outfitted with advanced chassis development equipment including two shock dynamometers, a 50-ton press, a coil-spring compressor for oversized military high-rated springs, a large wet bench and industrial alignment equipment.

Orchard Lake Art Show is July 27

The public is invited to attend the 2012 Orchard Lake Fine Art Show, scheduled for the weekend of July 27-29.

The fair runs from 5-9 p.m. on Friday, July 27; 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Saturday, July 28 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 29.

On display will be high quality and juried fine art & fine craft show with all work

for sale to the public including sculpture, paintings, clay, glass, fiber, wood, jewelry, photography and more.

The event will be held at 6800 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield, located on Powers & Daly Roads, south of Maple, west of Orchard Lake Road.

The event hotline is (248) 685-3748.

Milosch Puts Cars on Display at Senior Golf Tourney

By Gerald Scott

If you want to see a local connection to a national event as far as the 2012 U.S. Senior Open went, look no further than the display of vehicles that Milosch's Palace Chrysler Dodge Jeep dealership had on display there at the function last week.

Milosch actually had their circle of vehicles on display at Friendship Park in Lake Orion, which is the transit point for thousands of golf fans to park their rides and hop on school buses for the transit to the Indianwood Golf and Country Club, host sire of this year's Senior Open.

"We have a relationship with Indianwood," explained Donnie Milosch, Jr., a sales manager at the dealership on Lapeer Road, north of the Palace.

At the dealer display, fans were filling out forms for the chance to win \$45,000 toward the purchase of a new car, as well as to try their hand on a portable putting green for prizes. There were Mopar coupons for \$16.95 oil changes and more.



Carey Torrice and Mark Gunkle.

Chrysler product representative and site manager Jeff Bebbler said he was thrilled that the Milosch dealership loaned out not just a Town & Country minivan, but also sedan and convertible versions of the Chrysler 200 as well as the souped-up SRT8 version of the Chrysler 300.

"The display is open from 6:45 a.m. to 4 p.m., each days of the (July 9-15) golf tournament," Bebbler explained.

Last Friday morning, for example, hundreds of golf fans arrived seemingly all at once around 8 a.m., about a half-hour ahead of the tee-times for golf legends Tom Watson and Fred Couples in particular.

That gave those fans a chance to fill out forms for prizes and kick the tires on the Milosch vehicles prior to hopping on a bus for transport to the site.



Chevrolet Sonic with a Z-Spec package at Detroit's Eastern Market.

Diamond-Like Coating Reduces Friction, Improves Economy on Ecotec Engines

DETROIT – The diamond-hard technology that enables razor blades to shave closer and last longer also allows the piston rings of the Ecotec 1.4L turbo engine, available on the 2012 Chevrolet Sonic and Cruze, to operate with less friction for better fuel efficiency and durability.

This use of diamond-like carbon coating, or DLC, on a General Motors powertrain component marks a first for Chevrolet.

Although the advanced synthetic surface treatment is relatively new to automobiles, it can be found on a variety of high-end products, such as computer hard drives, orthopedic implants and semi-conductors. GM also is testing its use on machining tools.

In general, piston rings seal an engine's combustion chamber, support heat transfer from the pistons to the cylinder wall and regulate engine oil consumption. In the Ecotec 1.4L turbo engine, the slick, synthetically hardened steel rings do these things with minimal wear and tear.

"Thanks to diamond-like carbon coating, we can use lower tension on the Ecotec's piston rings to reduce friction, which improves fuel economy," said Rich Ricchi, GM Powertrain technical specialist.

"DLC also reduces oil consumption in high-mileage driving, due to the favorable

wear properties associated with the DLC coating."

With the Ecotec 1.4L turbo engine and six-speed transmission, Sonic delivers an EPA-estimated 29 mpg in city driving and 40 mpg on the highway. When similarly equipped, Cruze delivers up to 26 mpg in the city and 38 mpg on the highway.

Depending on its intended use, diamond-like carbon coating can be chemically engineered to resist wear, control friction or avoid adhesion.

In industrial applications, such as those being tested at a GM powertrain facility, a specially formulated DLC coating on metal hole-drilling tools helps avoid aluminum adhesion that can "gum up" machinery and cause production delays.

Oxford Schools Opens 'College'

OXFORD – Oxford Community Schools announced recent that it would be opening a new school this fall, the Oxford Schools Early College (OSEC).

A five-year high school, OSEC students can earn not only a high school diploma, but also up to 60 transferable credit hours from Oakland Community College or Rochester College.

OSEC students make a five-year commitment to jump-

start their futures and begin to prepare for the rigors of higher education or the workforce.

With extremely flexible course options – virtual or traditional – OSEC offers a customized learning plan for every student.

Virtual courses are supported by an academic mentor teacher and a highly qualified content teacher. Most of the coursework in the 5th year is actually college level.

Having "cracked the code" of diamond-like carbon coating chemistry on Ecotec's piston rings, GM is looking to use DLC on other powertrain components, such as rocker arms, as early as 2014.

"Through years of lab research, we've acquired an understanding of how to work with DLC at the atomic level," said Michael Lukitsch, GM senior researcher.

"It holds great promise for future applications, both in advanced manufacturing processes and improved production parts that save our customers money."

Founded in 1911 in Detroit, Chevrolet is now one of the world's largest car brands, doing business in more than 140 countries and selling more than 4 million cars and trucks a year.