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GM is Lead Sponsor of SAE 'Convergence' This Year

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"We are really looking forward to Convergence 2012 because it is going to have a new look and be much more interactive than previous events," said John Calabrese, vice president of Global Vehicle Engineering for General Motors, who will serve as general chair of Convergence 2012.

"It's critical that we have programs that attract younger engineers to SAE, and also keep our long time members engaged, excited and enthused."

The two-day program has a half-dozen or more initiatives and events that should keep everybody engaged.

First, the Future Leader Program is designed to attract younger engineers to SAE and geared for those who are within the first five years of their chosen transportation engineering careers

The ultimate goal of the Future Leader Program is to assist young engineers in the management of their careers, which includes mentoring opportunities with executives together with peer-to-peer networking.

Next is the Innovative Start-up Marketplace. This new addition to the show floor is designed for small companies trying to get established in the mobility electronics industry. The Marketplace offers entrepreneurs high visibility and access to leaders of the mobility industry.

Then there is Mega Trends and Their Effect on Automotive Electronics. This session will explore mega trends in the marketplace, technology, urbanization and leadership that will affect automotive architecture in 2020 and beyond.

Norimasi Kishi of Nissan will deliver the opening remarks at the Mega Trends session and that will be followed by Thilo Koslowski of the Gartner Group, who will deliver a talk on "The Dawn of a New Automotive Era – Key Trends and Innovations that will Impact the Automotive Industry.'

Also look for EcoCAR2 - Plugging into the Future. Attendees will hear from engineers working

on this project, which is a threeyear competition involving 15 universities across North America, which are all redesigning 2013 Chevrolet Malibus with hvbridization and super fuel economy in mind.

Convergence 2012 promises to have more than 70 auto, electronic and industrial exhibitors on the show floor. For info. visit sae.org/events/convergence.

Ouicken Loans President Farner To Receive Leadership Award

The Marketing & Sales Execu- ing one of the company's top tives of Detroit group is holding its 2012 Annual Black Tie Gala on Thursday, Oct. 18, at the Roostertail in Detroit beginning at 6 p.m.

Jay Farner, president and CMO of Quicken Loans, will be presented the MSED Executive Leadership Award.

In addition to his duties as president and CMO, Farner also serves as Portfolio manager for Quicken Loans' family of companies. He is instrumental in leveraging the synergies between Quicken Loans' marketing and mortgage origination operations, which played a key role in the company's record \$30 billion in retail home-loan volume in 2011.

Farner, a graduate of MSU with a finance degree, joined Rock Financial in 1996, quickly becom-

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mortgage bankers. In 1997, he became a director of Mortgage Banking and played a significant role in training and development for Rock Financial, the company's former Michigan-only brand.

He was promoted to vice president of Web Mortgage Banking in May 1998, helping to establish Quicken Loans as the largest online lender in the country.

Outside of Quicken Loans, Farner lends support to Bizdom, serving on the entrepreneurial boot camp's appropriations board, which determines funding for proposed startup businesses in Detroit.

He is on several board of directors, including Cellerant, a biotechnology company focused on developing human therapeutics for blood-related disorders.

'Henkel Day' Centered Around Chevy Volt

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He talked about the Volt's various attributes with Henkel employees as well.

So there you go, behold the Chevy Volt and Henkel employees supplier moths to the OEM flame, in a manner of speaking.

Meanwhile, the Volt has had an interesting history from its concept to launch.

The Volt first appeared as a concept vehicle at the 2007 Detroit auto show. The concept Volt looked more like a spaceship than the production version, but of course dealers needed a version of the car they could sell.

Hence its very stylized exterior shape today.

Thanks to exceptionally strong public and critical acceptance of the car at the Detroit show, it became a live car production pro-



GM Hamtramck's Richard Smearman, left, with Henkel's Pat Apsey.

gram just two months later, in really has been on the market al-March of 2007, according to GM.

It was launched in December. 2010 as a 2011 model, so the car has a buzz – just ask Henkel.

most two years now. It's probably reassuring to GM that the car still

30th Annual Historic Fort Wayne Flea Market Is Oct. 6-7

gain hunters will find collectibles, contemporary treasures and a variety of arts and crafts at the 30th annual Historic Fort Wayne Flea Market, taking place Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 6-7. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at 6325 W. Jefferson (at the foot of Livernois).

The event is co-presented by

DETROIT - Antique and bar- the Detroit Historical Society Guild and the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition.

> Returning by popular demand, tours of the Historic Fort Wayne complex will be offered each day. The guided tours will include the Star Fort built in the 1840s and the Spanish-American War Guard

Secure parking is \$5 per vehi-

cle, admission is free for the Flea Market and the site tours are

priced at \$3 per person. Refreshments and baked goods will also be for sale. Vendors can still purchase tables for only \$30 or three tables for \$75.

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