

Tech Center News

31201 Chicago Road South
Warren, Michigan 48093
586-939-6800

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William Springer II, publisher
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Lisa A. Torretta, operations

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Cadillac CTS Tops
Domestic Brand
In CR Survey

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David Caldwell, manager, Cadillac Communications for GM, said the news coming from the *Consumer Reports* survey was most heartening.

"This is quite an achievement for Cadillac," Caldwell said. "There's been a consistent effort on GM's part to elevate the Cadillac portfolio by adding more entries, improving engineering and improving performance quality overall. It's great to see those efforts acknowledged and reflected in improved ratings from an outside body."

Caldwell said he wasn't an expert in how *Consumer Reports* comes by its figures, but he knows it uses data gathered from vehicle owners who drive their cars and trucks in the real world.

"This is the ultimate legitimization," Caldwell said. "When owners report good experiences over a long period of time, you know you've done something right. I would say anytime you have this kind of data and conclusions coming from authentic owners, you have to consider what it said important."

Caldwell said the people at Cadillac were especially pleased to learn that *Consumer Reports* singled out the Cadillac CTS for its quality.

Chevrolet Brings Memories to Life
By Offering Special Production
Models of '13 'Hot Wheels' Camaros

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model that real enthusiasts can build themselves. The other is the completed kit, as it were."

The Hot Wheels Camaro will be produced in the first quarter of 2013. Like the collectable toy on which it is based, production will be limited and once it is gone, that's it, Perry said.

The Hot Wheels Camaro will have the Hot Wheels badge on the vehicle and its appearance echoes the cues that Hot Wheels enthusiasts recognize, including a bright graphics-accented metallic paint scheme and red-lined wheels.

The Hot Wheels edition will be available in coupe and convertible models – in 2LT (V6) and 2SS (V8) trims, blending exterior

cues of the high-performance Camaro ZL1 with a Kinetic blue exterior color and unique graphics.

The exterior model highlights include ZL1 rear spoiler, SL1 front upper grille, a ground effects package that features a front splitter and rocket treatment, black 21-inch wheels with red outline stripes, two-tone matte hood graphics and rear taillight panel "blackout" graphics, fender "flame" graphics and Hot Wheels grille and decklid logos.

The interior will feature black leather trim that is accented with red-and-black seat stitching with the Hot Wheels logo embroidered on the front seats. The instrument panel and door inserts are black, with the Hot Wheels style flame decal on each door.



Camaro Hot Wheels edition and '67 concept Camaro Hot Wheels

SS models feature a 6.2L V8. LT-based models feature the "LFX" 3.6L V6 engine, with dual-overhead camshafts, variable-valve timing and direct injection. It's rated at 323 horsepower at 6,800 rpm.

The original Custom Camaro 1:64-scale Hot Wheels model toy car from 1968 was one of the original 16 Hot Wheels issued and remains one of the most valuable models among collectors.

Center Line Boasts Its Right to Say It's Home to Mopar

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reach around the world. She also said that the Jeep brand is becoming a stronger global brand and can be serviced by Mopar parts and service centers.

Hanselman said that he has been a car guy all his life. He watched the area around Center Line develop over the years, going from an almost rural atmosphere to a more urban, developed part of metro Detroit.

"When my friends and I were young, we were car guys," Hanselman said. "We fixed and rebuilt cars to race, so Mopar was a big part of our lives when we were young. You can't do that now, but that's what we did in those days."

Chrysler is also proud to call Center Line home to Mopar.

"Mopar has enjoyed a major presence in Center Line since 1953, and we're very proud to call it our home," said Pietro Grolier, president and CEO of Mopar Chrysler

Group LLC's service, parts and customer-care brand.

"We sincerely appreciate the mayor making it official by sharing the moniker with the rest of the city and its visitors."

Hanselman said having Mopar headquarters in Center Line is

more than just a matter of bragging rights.

"It wasn't too long ago that about 600 people were employed at their office and warehouse," Hanselman said. "But recently they've added more people, so about 1,000 now work there."

"That means something to the city because those additional 400 people go to lunch, they shop at local stores, they support our local businesses. Having Mopar in Center Line makes a difference in the city, and we want to acknowledge that."

EPA Tells Kia, Hyundai to Change Stickers

Testing by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found discrepancies between agency results and data submitted by Hyundai Motors America and Kia Motors America.

Because of the test results, the two automakers will lower their fuel economy mpg estimates for the majority of their model year 2012 and 2013 models, according to a Nov. 1 EPA announcement.

The two auto companies plan for cars currently on dealer lots to be re-labeled with new window stickers reflecting the corrected mileage estimates.

The mileage on most vehicle labels will be reduced by one to two mpg, and the largest adjustment will be six mpg highway for the Kia Soul.

"Consumers rely on the window sticker to help make informed choices about the cars they buy," said Gina McCarthy, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Air and Radiation. "EPA's investiga-

tion will help protect consumers and ensure a level playing field among automakers."

The EPA routinely tests vehicles – 150 to 200 a year, or about 15 percent of the possible vehicle configurations – to ensure that their performance matches the mileage and emissions data required to be submitted to EPA by automakers.

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