

## Chrysler's Bell Recognized for Leadership In the Development of Minority Suppliers

Kevin L. Bell, senior manager – diversity supplier development for Chrysler Group, received the Minority Supplier Development Leader of the Year Award from the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC).

The award read: "In recognition of his exceptional leadership in improving the overall participation of Asian, African American, Hispanic and Native American suppliers in the company's corporate supply chain."

Bell was presented the award at the NMSDC annual awards event in Denver Oct. 30. Earlier in the month, Bell was named the 2012 "National Advocate of the Year" by the Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council for his leadership in promoting the growth of minority supplier spending and business development at Chrysler.

Under Bell, the company supplier diversity goals require that 10 percent of a Tier I supplier's procurement buy is sourced to certified minority suppliers.

Chrysler announced early this year that it spent \$2.1 billion with approximately 200 minority suppliers in 2011, representing 8.5 percent of its total annual purchasing.

Women-owned businesses, which are tracked separately, accounted for \$301 million of the company's spending.

Overall, Chrysler purchased \$1



Left to right: Chris Jose, reporter for Fox31 News Denver, who served as Master of Ceremonies; NMSDC President Joset B. Wright, Kevin Bell, and NMSDC Vice Chairman Shelley Stewart, Jr.

billion in direct and indirect parts, materials and services in 2011.

Since 1983, the company has purchased more than \$47 billion from minority-owned suppliers. Chrysler Group continues to support several organizations that assist Tier I suppliers with achieving their minority-owned and women-owned goals.

These organizations also include the Canadian Aboriginal and Minority Supplier Council and the Women's Business Enterprise National Council.

Over the years, a long line of Chrysler Group employees have

received important professional recognition from various diversity organizations, including Black Engineer of the Year, Women of Color, HENAAC Great Minds in STEM, and others.

### Interim Prez Named At OCC AH Campus

The day after six-year President Patricia Dolly retired from her post at Oakland Community College's Auburn Hills campus, Dr. Gordon May stepped in to fill the position, albeit temporarily.

Dr. May is also the president of OCC's Highland Lakes Campus, and will hold both positions concurrently until a permanent replacement can be found. He started in the new post Nov. 1.

OCC Chancellor Tim Meyer would like to fill the Auburn Hills position with a permanent president by January.

## Deadline Approaching for Achievement Nominations

The Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce is looking for more nominees for its upcoming Silver & Gold Awards ceremony, to be held on Wednesday, Dec. 5, from 4:40 to 7 p.m. in the Hilton Suites Auburn Hills, 2300 Featherstone Road in Auburn Hills.

Denise Asker, executive director for the Chamber, said that the original deadline for nominations was Nov. 15, but they decided to extend that time.

"We really wanted to give our member businesses as much opportunity as we can to promote the excellent work they do, so the nomination process has been extended from Nov. 15 to Nov. 19," Asker said.

The Chamber is doing something a little different this year, Asker said. They are combining their Silver Awards ceremony with their Gold Awards ceremony.

"The chamber has one or another awards events over the years," Asker said. "We realized that we liked the Silver Awards and the concept behind them. The awards relate to the achieving of business goals. Our Gold Awards honor people who volunteer their time to the Chamber and others who make big contributions."

Asker said there are five categories in which a business could win a Silver Award:

- Crittenton Home Care Community Builder Award commends the member who is noticeably involved in supporting the goals and values of the Auburn Hills community.

- Cornerstone Community Financial Best Business Award recognizes the business of any size that has shown the most growth and accomplishment

throughout the year.

- dbusiness Emerging Leader Award. This celebrates an individual who is making significant contributions to his/her field and showing great promise within the business community.

- Baker College Education Advocate acknowledges the member who embraces and promotes education, training and development.

- Oakland University and OU Inc. Innovator of the Year applauds the company providing the best example of innovation through cutting-edge technologies, processes or products.

"The Silver Awards are our more serious awards," Asker said. "The Gold Awards honor volunteers and contributors."

"We are looking for nominations in the Silver category. People interested in nominating a business can visit our Web site at [www.auburnhillschamber.com](http://www.auburnhillschamber.com).

"We have simplified the process and it should only take about 10 minutes to fill out the form. We've really tried to take the stress out of it. Those who nominate a business will also have to give two referrals."

Gold Award winners are selected by the Chamber's board of directors. The Chamber is not taking public nominations.

So far, all the Silver nominations have been on behalf of other businesses, but the Chamber does not mind a business nominating itself.

"We want as many nominations as we can get," Asker said. "We believe in healthy competition and want to see as many businesses as we can competing for awards."



Heather Osip, left, and Kaylyn Buzzell

## Puppies, Decoys Aid Orion Lions Club Efforts to Help Needy at Christmas

The Lake Orion Lions Club recently raised \$20,000 at its "A Christmas for Everyone" charity auction Nov. 3, in Milosch's Palace Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram dealership in Lake Orion.

Auction chairman Jim Leach, Jr., said the event was a big success.

"I would say that about 190 people attended," Leach said. "In addition to money from ticket sales, we had a live auction. We're looking at about \$20,000 raised."

All funds generated at the charity event go toward the Lake Orion Lions Club's Christmas basket program, Leach said. Last year the club served more than 240 families and seniors in the Lake Orion Community Schools area.

"We sent them food baskets," Leach said. "When I say baskets, I mean it's more like five boxes that contain about a month's worth of food. We also try to take care of special needs. If the family has kids, that might be toys for Christmas or maybe scarves or hats, things like that."

Leach said the auction was particularly successful thanks to a couple of interesting donations.

"We had a couple of chocolate lab puppies that were 12 weeks old and donated by a local breeder," Leach said. "They fetched a high price."

"We also had a panama jack bicycle that was donated and it sold for \$700. And we had four carved duck decoys that were made in the mid-1980s that brought a lot of money as well. They were carved by a man named Jim Harkness. I looked him up and he was quite a remarkable man."

Leach also wanted to thank the folks at Milosch's Palace Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram for donating their space.

"This is now the fourth year in a row that we have been able to hold our fundraiser at their dealership," said Leach.

"They've been so generous, and in addition to letting us use their space, they also made a nice cash gift as well."

Leach said there's still time for people to make a donation to the Lake Orion Lions Club Christmas basket program by visiting their site at [www.LakeOrionLions.org](http://www.LakeOrionLions.org).

## AH Suppliers Are Award Finalists

by Jim Stickford

Five Auburn Hills-based auto suppliers were named as finalists for the 2013 *Automotive News* PACE awards.

The award is meant to honor superior innovation, technological advancement and business performance among automotive suppliers.

It is now in its eighteenth year, and is recognized around the world as the industry benchmark for innovation.

The 2013 *Automotive News* PACE Awards will be presented on April 15, 2013, at the Max M. Fisher Music Center in Detroit.

Hirotec America, Inc., of Auburn Hills, was named a finalist in the category of manufacturing process for the company's innovations in its rear wheelhouse roller hemming system.

"It is truly an honor to be recognized as a PACE award finalist by *Automotive News* for our rear wheelhouse robotic roller hemming system," said Jim Toeniskoetter, president and COO of Hirotec America, Inc.

"As a company, we strive to continuously develop innovative and cost-effective solutions for the automotive market and this system is an excellent example of 'if it's not broke, let's make it better' mentality."

BorgWarner was the big winner in terms of nominations. The company ended up being nominated three different times in the product category.

BorgWarner Emissions system

received a nomination for its advanced compact brushless actuator (CBA). BorgWarner Thermal Systems received a nomination for its Visctronic high-speed reservoir system (HSR) and BorgWarner Turbo Systems was nominated for its regulated 3-turbocharger system (R3S).

The CBA is a patented electronic rotary actuator that precisely controls a variety of functions, including exhaust gas recirculation valves, wastegate valves, variable turbine geometry turbochargers and exhaust throttle valves.

HSR systems provide faster response, increased durability and more precise fan control. This technology augments the engine power used in the cooling system, allowing for better performance and improved fuel economy.

The R3S combines the benefits of two-stage turbocharging for high specific power output and parallel sequential turbocharging for best drivability.

"BorgWarner's first-to-market innovations are driving the auto industry forward with technologies engineered to improve fuel economy, reduce emissions and enhance performance," said Timothy Manganello, chairman and CEO, BorgWarner.

Alby Berman, vice president, corporate planning for T.K. Holdings in Auburn Hills, said their nomination in the product category for their front center airbag was exciting because it is a joint win for T.K. Holdings and GM.

"T.K. Holdings works hard to be

a leader in safety technology," Berman said. "This is the fourth time in five years, with two wins, that we've been named a PACE finalist. It is a real honor to be evaluated on a global scale, not just local, on our new technology."

The company's front-center airbag is smaller and weighs less and matches all the criteria customers are looking for.

"Collaboration awards are important," Berman said. "They say not only are we developing new technology, we are doing it with our customers. In this case, GM. There's nothing better than that."

Dean McConnell, director of passive and driver awareness systems for Continental Automotive Chassis & Safety Division's ADAS Business Unit, said they were named as a finalist for the company's 24GHZ ISM band short-range radar.

"This provides the function of blind spot protection," McConnell said. "What's new is it also has the rear-cross traffic alert function that alerts you if a vehicle crosses the path behind you. Very useful when backing up."

"We're really proud to be named a finalist. We're passionate about designing and building products that make driving safer and more comfortable."

"Being named a finalist really validates what we're doing with a product that the public has embraced."

Brose North America also was a finalist for its hands-free liftgate opener.