

## Tech Center News

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## General Dynamics Awarded Contract Worth \$1 Billion

Rona Ambrose, Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women, announced on Nov. 9 that the Government of Canada has awarded a contract modification valued at \$133.5 million to General Dynamics Land Systems – Canada to upgrade an additional 66 LAV III vehicles.

This award modifies a contract previously announced in October 2011 to upgrade 550 LAV III vehicles, valued at approximately \$1 billion.

The LAV III Upgrade Project will now modernize 616 vehicles, significantly enhancing their survivability, mobility and firepower and extending the fleet's life-cycle to 2035. Survivability upgrades will include the introduction of double-V-hull technology, an innovative enhancement developed by General Dynamics Land Systems – Canada engineers, as well as add-on armour protection and energy-attenuating seats.

These improvements will provide crew members greater protection against mine blasts, IEDs and other threats.

The LAV III's automotive performance, handling characteristics and payload capacity will be optimized with mobility system upgrades including a more powerful engine, more robust driveline and suspension, and a height management system (HMS).

## Delphi Device Wins Telematics Challenge

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through an exclusive partnering agreement with Aftermarket Telematics Technologies LLC (ATT), and was picked on the basis of how it links consumers to independent aftermarket service providers as well as supporting independent car care and traditional parts distributors.

Chris Slesak, director of telematics for DPSS, said the company's connected car telematics solution is a device that is plugged into a vehicle's OBDII plug connector, which is usually located under the dashboard. These connectors have been placed in all cars built after 1996.

The actual device, Slesak said is smaller than the average smartphone.

"We've been using similar technology for the past several years," Slesak said. "What's different about this device is where the information collected is sent. It can go to the end user, but it can also go to a designated service center."

So if a warning light goes on in a car with a DPSS device, the driver is notified by email or through an app on his or her phone. But that information can also be sent to the driver's service garage so the driver now has an expert to talk about what to do.

It may be possible to wait be-



The GM Tech Center Car Show Committee donated three checks to local charities at UAW Local 160 on Oct. 7. Money for the donations was raised in July at the annual Tech Center Car Show. (From left, back row) Mike Oginsky, Biff Hilliker, Richard Cyr, Steve Darling, Ken Corrigan and Bud Dunn. (From left, front row) Bob Mayer, Dale Deaton, Connie Walton of Goodfellows, Darin Weiss of Grace Centers of Hope, and Bill Duncan.

## Goodfellows, Grace Center, JDRF Benefit from GM Show

The Tech Center Car Show Committee, a joint effort organized by the UAW and GM, donated the proceeds of its 2012 car show to three local charities on Nov. 7.

Bill Duncan, systems engineer – GM Powertrain, serves on the committee and said they were proud to give money to Warren Goodfellows, Grace Centers of Hope, and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

"This year, we managed to raise \$1,600 from the car show," Duncan said. "It was held on the last Wednesday of July, and we had about 800 cars shown in the 2012 show."

Money from the show was raised in a couple of different ways, Duncan said, adding, "Those who brought vehicles to display were asked to donate \$2. Cars Inc., a supplier of parts for older cars, also donated a pedal car, which was raffled off."

The committee has been making donations to the three chari-

ties for the past several years, Duncan said. Warren Goodfellows received the largest check – \$800 – because their need is so great. Connie Walton was on hand to accept the committee's donation on behalf of Goodfellows.

"We're so grateful for the donation and we really appreciate the effort everyone put into the car show," Walton said. "They help us every year."

"With Christmas coming up, we can really use the money. We're almost out of everything. We're talking about diapers, things for teenagers, items for kids at Christmas, food."

"Anyone who wants to make a donation should contact Darrel Nieporte at 586-651-5716."

Paul Dupire is a GM employee who volunteers with the JDRF.

"I've been involved with the charity since 1978," Dupire said. "I volunteered because I was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. I am also a GM team captain at the

GM Tech Center Walk to Cure Diabetes in September.

"I have to say it's wonderful to receive money from the car show because it will go toward finding a cure for children with type 1 diabetes. That's important."

Richard Cyr, a GM employee design engineer, is also involved with the JDRF and a past president of Club GM, formerly known as the GM Men's Club.

"We've helped set up the walk for a cure for more than 20 years," Cyr said. "This is a good

cause and we're glad for the money."

Darin Weiss, COO of Grace Centers of Hope, was on hand to receive his group's donation. He also thanked everyone and said Grace maintains a facility in Warren, a thrift store at 11 Mile and Dequindre.

Dale Deaton, manager of Cars Inc., said they donated the pedal car because they had been associated with the car show for years and decided to help out this year.

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