

# Visteon's e-Bee Concept Vehicle Shows Off New Electronics and Heads-Up Displays

Southeast Michigan auto supplier Visteon presented its new technology to the world at the 2012 Electronica show in Munich, Germany, on Nov. 13.

Among Visteon's displays was the e-Bee concept vehicle, which demonstrated the company's intelligent mobility technology as they see it in the year 2020.

E-Bee's innovative technology includes display-based controls and cloud-centered profile storage in an effort to create personalized driving experiences.

"Increasingly, motorists expect their vehicles to deliver the same rich experience they enjoy with their consumer electronic devices," said Steve Meszaros, Visteon product group president, Electronics.

"Our automotive electronics solutions are designed to bridge the gap between consumer electronics and the driving experience, making it easier and more enjoyable for consumers to stay connected to their vehicles and the outside world while mitigating distraction."

Visteon showed off its extensive electronics portfolio, which consists of audio and infotainment systems as well as information and control systems.

The company's premium driver information platform, for example, delivers consumer electronics-quality graphics and provides real-time image-rendering capability in automotive-grade products.

Visteon's heads-up display systems also help drivers manage their cognitive workload by displaying different kinds of critical information directly in the driver's line of sight.

Their initial development projects include both combiner and windshield heads-up display systems using a TFT image source.

"Visteon's latest technologies are designed to address vehicle manufacturers' need for support of global platforms and affordable mass-manufacturing, as well as consumers' desire for seamless connectivity and personal-

ization," Meszaros said.

"In the rapidly-evolving consumer electronics market, we provide vehicle manufacturers with flexible solutions that allow for quick and easy feature upgrades."

Tim Yerdon, Visteon's global director of innovation, said that the e-Bee concept challenges conventional vehicle architecture by rethinking the position of the climate system, resulting in an integrated climate module, which brings about reduced weight and substantially increased cabin space.

This integrated climate module combines the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) unit with the refrigerant system, including an energy-effi-

cient heat pump.

Its position outside the cabin allows for new interior design options, including an easy user experience with the vehicle's electronics and comfort features, all of which are designed to mitigate distraction.

"From its driver interface to its compact and innovative climate system, the e-Bee is an exercise in efficient, forward-looking design for new mobility uses," Yerdon said.

"The vehicle will be showcased at customer and industry events throughout Asia, the U.S. and Europe, where it will be the centerpiece in Visteon's discussions with customers and partners about future technology trends and needs."



The redesigned 2014 Chevrolet Impala LTZ

## Chevy Announces Prices for Impala

In 2011, the Chevy Impala was the best-selling full-size sedan in America, selling more than 170,000 units. Next spring, Chevy will begin selling the all-new 2014 Impala with a starting price tag of \$27,535.

The new Impala will have several new features, including Adaptive Cruise Control and crash-avoidance technologies like Rear Cross Traffic Alert and Side Blind Zone Alert.

The 2014 Impala will also debut Chevrolet's latest MyLink radio, with a customizable eight-

inch color display screen and natural voice recognition.

The all-new Impala will be the 10th generation of the popular nameplate, and will be offered in LS, LT, and LTZ trim levels. The 3.6L, 305-horsepower engine will hit dealer showrooms first, with a starting price of \$30,760 for the LT and \$36,580 for the LTZ. The 2.5L engine will be \$27,535 for the LS, \$29,785 for the LT, and \$34,555 for the LTZ; pricing for the 2.4L engine will be announced later.

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