

## GM, GDC Turn Scrap Material into Coats for Homeless

GM has recognized GDC, Inc., a Tier One component supplier based in Goshen, Ind., with the General Motors Environmental Excellence Award for its consistent collaboration in supplying recycled-content parts and contributing to community-based stewardship and recycling initiatives.

GDC was instrumental in helping insulate sleeping bags for the homeless and turning oil-soaked booms into parts for the Chevrolet Volt.

"We're striving to make effective and efficient products that also benefit the environment and society," said Chris Miller, vice president of sales and engineering, GDC. "We see opportunity for more recycled-content components within the auto industry. By connecting with automakers like GM, we can come up with new projects and opportunities, some with lasting societal impact."

GDC works with GM on such projects as enabling the donation of GM scrap vehicle material for coats that transform into sleeping bags for the homeless. The coats are the brainchild of humanitarian Veronika Scott, whom GM approached with an unconventional idea for their insulation – leftover sound absorption material from production of Chevrolet Malibu and Buick Verano sedans. The material is GDC's Sonozorb – manufactured in different shapes to fit within door



General Motors presents the GDC team with the GM Environmental Excellence Award. (Left to right): GM's Lee Hachigian; GDC's Chris Miller, Jeff Barber and Andy Kitson; GM's Wade Sheffer

cavities and vehicle compartments for sound absorption. GDC now reprocesses small pieces of that leftover scrap into large fabric rolls, used to enhance the coat's warmth.

Another joint project concerns developing a variety of nearly 100 percent recycled-content components to manage vehicle airflow. GDC worked with GM facilities to set up a program to collect and recycle used test tires from GM's

Milford Proving Ground and plastic shipping caps from its landfill-free Fort Wayne Assembly plant. It compounds these materials with other post-consumer plastics to make air and water baffles for a variety of Buick, GMC and Chevrolet vehicles.

GDC also is assisting GM in diverting 227 miles of Gulf of Mexico oil spill booms from the nation's landfills. GDC compounded the booms' plastic material to

create Chevrolet Volt air management baffles.

GDC is a member of the Suppliers Partnership for the Environment, a group GM helped form. It provides a forum for suppliers to work with automakers to share environmental best practices, while also providing economic value throughout the supply chain. GDC is the eighth supplier recognized with GM's annual Environmental Excellence Award.

## TI Introduces Six Fuel Modules for Mustang

TI Automotive has released six new replacement fuel module systems for Ford Mustangs.

The line includes three new Walbro-brand high-performance modules and three stock replacement modules and covers the 2005 through 2010 model years.

Each new module meets or exceeds OEM specifications relating to quality, flow and durability, and each features the DCSS 39/50 fuel pump.

The modules expand the TI Automotive and Walbro-brand Ford Mustang offerings to cover the 1985-2010 model years.

## MI Women in Defense Raise \$2K for Soldiers

Women In Defense, Michigan chapter (WID-Michigan) charity bowling fundraiser generated more than \$2,000.

RCO Engineering Incorporated of Pontiac sponsored this year's fundraiser. There were 73 attendees at the event.

Now in its fourth year, the WID-Michigan fundraiser benefits a non-profit organization that supports Michigan veterans.

This year's recipient is the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund.

Winner of the bowling tournament was RCO Engineering Incorporated and AM General, who achieved the "Best Team Score."

Team members were Paul Dowson, Craig Cieslak, Gerald Brown, and Larry Rink.

## DADA President Shuman Recognized As Strong Supporter of Mich. Schools

by Jim Stickford

Robert S. Shuman, president of the Walled Lake-based Shuman Chrysler Dodge Jeep and Ram new-car dealership, was recently honored by Northwood University for his contributions to local education.

Shuman was one of eight automobile dealers from across the United States, Germany and The Netherlands honored with the school's annual Dealer Education Awards. The dealers are recognized for their individual contributions and efforts to improve education at all levels.

Northwood has been doing this since 1972. This year's ceremony was held in conjunction with the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) convention to be held this year in Orlando, Fla. Shuman and the other seven winners received their awards at a special convention breakfast on Feb. 10.

"We have been recognizing outstanding dealers for 42 years and there has never been a time when their contributions have meant more to their communities than they do today," said Keith A. Pretty, president and CEO of Northwood University. "These leaders have made outstanding sacrifices of time and resources. We are proud of all the Dealer Education Award winners and commend them for their leadership."

Shuman said he was surprised when he first learned that he was to receive Northwood's Dealer Education Award.

"My first thought was that my wife Sherry wouldn't believe it," Shuman said. "I am truly honored to receive this award."

In addition to serving as president of the Detroit Auto Dealers Association (DADA), Shuman is a member of the Michigan Auto Dealers Association. Even though he graduated from Michigan State University in 1983 and received his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1986, he feels a strong connection to Northwood University.

"As a member of MADA (the Michigan Auto Dealers Association), I go up to the school every fall and attend their auto show,"



Robert S. Shuman

Shuman said. "It's put on by students, and they do a great job. So over the years, I've gotten to know the faculty and the students and so many of my colleagues went there. It's a good school and I am impressed by its quality."

Shuman said he didn't want to be a third-generation car dealer, and that's why he went to law school. He practiced law for 11 years. But during the mid-1990s, his father Richard Shuman was getting ready to retire or sell the store.

"I was the son of a second-generation dealer and I had so many good memories associated with the dealership, that I decided to be a third-generation dealer," Shuman said.

The Shumans first bought their dealership back in 1955 when it was a Ford store. It eventually switched over to Chrysler. They've always been in Walled Lake, but several years ago they moved from the original location to their present site on South Commerce.

"I always try to help the school district out in things like sports and music. But what I especially like to help out with are reading programs aimed at young students. I'm talking first and second-graders. That's so important."

Shuman said he's stayed in the area and his children attended and graduated from the high school that he graduated from.

"I'm a product of that school system as are my children," Shuman said. "I really believe in making the school system better. I think it's important."

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