Fehan's Custom Camaro 1-LE Inspires Brand Confidence

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which he cites as "By far the most affordable and best from the dealer to the track pony car available to-

Builder: Bob Fehan Motorsports Inc.; Driver: Bob Fehan; Vehicle **Sponsor**: GM Chevrolet Chevrolet Performance - Vehicles-Parts-Racing; Show, Race Tires and Ve**hicle Sponsor:** Continental Tire; Racing Brakes and Rotors by: Brembo Race Technologies; Suspension: Bob Fehan Inc.; Camera, in Vehicle: GoPro be a Hero, HD **HERO2 Motorsport Edition:**

Engine: 569 hp Billy Briggs Racing Engine; Racing Seats by: Recaro; Racing Headers and Exhaust by: Boria Exhaust; Motorsport Wheels by: BBS; Roll Cage by: RPM Engineering; Racing Gauges by: Auto Meter; Air Induction System by: K&N Engineering; High **Performance Body Parts** utilizing the World's lightest fiber (Carbon Fiber/Innegra-S) by: Bob Fehan -Hood, Under Hood Trim, Interior Trim, Front Splitter Blade, Rear Spoiler Extension, Truck Floor.

Fehan couldn't be happier about contributing to the brand's suc-

"Even as a child, I truly believed in keeping Detroit alive, and the way you do that is by designing the most interesting vehicles in the country," Fehan said in an interview.

Warming quickly to his favorite topic, Fehan exuded the youthful excitement and enthusiasm of someone who's spent his career doing what he loves, starting when he got his early training in working on cars at his father's body shop in

dealership in downtown Birmingham in 1955 when Fehan was 3.

"I've always been around cars from the time I could walk. My dad always dabbled in race cars. so we were always working on unique, performance-type vehicles and it has continued throughout my entire life," he

When his grandfather sold the dealership, his father, Robert Fehan, kept the body shop portion of the business.

"The body shop was always building race cars . . . At a young age, I was helping out any way I could, till I got to the point where I started building my own hot rods and race cars," said Fehan. "I got behind the wheel of a 1975 (hot rod) and never stopped."

Over the years, Fehan has won 12 road race championships. And, at SEMA, he has captured the Design Excellence Award five times and won eight other associated awards for his custom cars, a total of 13 major awards.

Now, as then, Fehan is constantly drawing, designing, envisioning future-oriented vehicles and automotive body styles. He has been contracted many times over the years to construct his one-of-a-kind vehicles, and has won multiple awards.

For example, right around 2002, when the PT Cruiser first came out, Fehan made a 500-horsepower Chrysler PT/10 pickup.

"Obviously, over the years, I try to create new packages that are so unique it catches the judges' attention," he said. "In 2002, when the PT Cruiser first came out, I made it into a little pickup truck.'



Bob Fehan, designer, builder and driver of race cars, draws a suspension system for the Gibbs Quadski amphibious vehicle.

The odd-looking but unique vehicle won a Design Excellence award at SEMA that year.

"I had to make it into a pickup because you couldn't put that into a normal four-door PT Cruiser," he said.

Fehan has been a SEMA regular for nearly three decades and continues to garner praise from automotive enthusiasts for his unique vision and style.

"I turned an Impala into an El Camino one year . . . The El Camino is a car with a pickup box on the back, in the '60s and '70s. They were really popular . . . performance Camaros, Firebirds, Monte Carlos, Grand Prixs, Ram pickups, Dakotas, Vipers . . . so, after 35 years of building specialty vehicles, I've pretty much touched everything that's out there. ... It's been a great career, you know, and once you're a gearhead, you're always a gearhead."

He still loves to race when given the opportunity, while continuing to design and build cars.

"I'm 60 years old and I'm still

Fehan summed up the challenges and duties of someone in charge of a campaign vehicle.

"You build it. You take it to SE-MA, you get it into publications, and you race it - that's how you're awarded the vehicle," said Fehan. "You've got to be very creative to be awarded one of these vehicles.'

"When I submitted my proposal last year to build the red Camaro, I sent a 165-page presentation that had all the vehicles (I have built) in it, and they could not believe it. They called it 'Volume-itious.'

"They could not believe I had built that many vehicles, but it's been a great career.'

Fehan explained Chevrolet's objective is for that car to go to track events and be the dominant vehicle.

"So the goal is to basically get it out there, get public awareness, and when you're at the track, you're proving to consumers that you're the king of pony cars," he said.

GM and Honda Collaborate on Clean Mobility

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and create an advanced system that will be both more capable and more affordable."

GM's Project Driveway program, launched in 2007, has accumulated nearly 3 million miles of real-world driving in a fleet of 119 hydrogen-powered vehicles, more than any other automaker.

Honda began leasing of the Honda FCX in 2002 and has deployed 85 units in the U.S. and Japan, including its successor, the FCX Clarity, which was named the 2009 World Green Car.

Honda has delivered these vehicles to the hands of customers in the U.S. and collected valuable data concerning real-world use of fuel cell electric vehicles.

As already announced, Honda plans to launch the successor of FCX Clarity in Japan and the United States in 2015, and then in Europe. GM will announce its fuel cell production plans at a later date.

Fuel cell technology addresses many of the major challenges facing automobiles today – petroleum dependency, emissions, efficiency, range and refueling times.

Fuel cell vehicles can operate on renewable hydrogen made from sources like wind and biomass. The only emission from fuel cell vehicles is water vapor.

Additionally, fuel cell vehicles can have up to 400 miles of driving range, can be refueled in as little as three minutes, and the propulsion technology can be used on small, medium, and large vehicles.

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