

## Tech Center News

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## TARDEC Forum Works to Protect U.S. Warfighters

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an Abrams tank's fuel consumption by between 22 and 25 percent, Huffman said. And that's just one project.

Rick Marcone, director of GDLS's MC2, said it's important for events like the symposium to be held.

Money is going to be tight for the military because of budget considerations, Marcone said, adding that by having the government meet with contractors, people can get on the same page faster.

And, Marcone said, it also gives contractors a chance to meet with their suppliers and academics to discuss the state of military systems.

"What I've learned most from talking with people here is that times are tough and money is tight, but that we're also all in this together," Marcone said.

"Relationships are more important than ever and it's relationships that will help us all get through these tough times.

"Right now, we're about speed and agility. We can't do things the way they've been done in the past and it's symposiums like this that make possible the changes in the way things are done. The MLS APU is an example of collaboration done right."

## Kelley Blue Book Says Truck Sales Getting Stronger

Kelley Blue Book reported that in August, the growth in the truck segment appears to have no end in sight, thanks in large part to the rise in new home construction taking place across the United States, said Alec Gutierrez, senior analyst at Kelley Blue Book.

In addition to gains attributed to the housing market, the auto industry is heading into the time of year where truck sales tend to ramp up, Gutierrez said.

With seasonal demand predicted to increase during the next few months, Kelley Blue Book expects growth in the full-size pickup truck segment to continue unabated. August full-size pickup sales saw a market-share increase of about 1 percent over 2012.

Also worth reporting is that Ford has seen sales volume improve nearly 13 percent so far this year, benefitting from its own batch of well-received redesigns, Gutierrez said. The bar is raised to new heights with every passing model year and with so many fuel-efficient, stylish alternatives available today, it has never been a better time to buy a new car.

Gutierrez said Ford could have been up even more, but the company has been hampered with production issues from both the Escape and Fusion.

# Concept Elmiraj Has Streamlined Design – Cadillac VP

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ward rather than simply exaggerating or "teasing" future production models. Elmiraj, he added, was created from this mindset, and therefore suggests new territory for Cadillac Art & Science.

"This concept is the second chapter, following the Ciel Concept, of our exploration of the personas of true luxury," said Clay Dean, executive director of advanced design.

"This project originated around the simple persona of 'the drive,' or the visceral experience of driving a great luxury coupe. It's an expression of the confidence and poise you feel driving a high-performance car, which we feel is an essential element of top-level luxury."

The dramatic proportion communicates power and performance, Dean said. A long dash-to-axle front profile, a Cadillac signature, gives the coupe a performance-oriented form.

The long wheelbase and clean body side characterizes the car's spacious dimensions and elevated status.

"Elmiraj is about poise and

proportion," said Niki Smart, lead exterior designer. "We wanted a mature statement for Cadillac, where simplicity and subtle adornments create a purposeful presence."

Elmiraj contains design elements emphasizing Cadillac's capabilities for engaging driving performance in its production portfolio, Ferguson said.

Two vents in the car's long hood are functional, acting as hot air outlets for the twin turbo engine.

Elmiraj has 22-x-9-in. aluminum wheels backed by large ceramic brakes with Cadillac monoblock calipers. The car's blue exterior finish wears the brand's Vsport designation, Cadillac's new level slotting directly under the high-performance V-Series.

The interior of Elmiraj blends elegantly crafted luxury and generous space with driver-focused performance elements, said Gael Buzyn, lead interior designer.

The upper section of the instrument panel is a single piece extending across the full width of the car, while the lower forms a cockpit space tailored for performance.

"A concept provides not only



Cadillac Elmiraj Concept Car

an opportunity to explore new design ideas, but to pursue new techniques for elegant craftsmanship and materials," said Buzyn.

Many of the most celebrated automotive designs through history have been luxury coupes, Ferguson said.

"We were influenced in particular by the 1967 Eldorado," said Dean, "both its actual design and the fact that in its time that car was a very stark contrast and a new direction."

"More recent design like the CTS-V Coupe and the ELR are provocative."

Both of these cars were major statements of performance and luxury and drove Cadillac for-

ward into new territory."

Designers at General Motors' advanced design studio in North Hollywood, Calif., under the direction of Frank Saucedo, led the development of the car's interior and exterior. Elmiraj was hand-built by in-house craftsmen in Michigan, Ferguson said.

## GM Golfers Will Scramble to Play Fieldstone Course

Club GM's annual Southeast Michigan Charity Golf Outing is set for 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10, at the Fieldstone Golf Club in Auburn Hills.

The event is open to the public and men's, women's and mixed teams will participate.

The cost is \$85, which gets participants brunch before tee-off and 18 holes of golf with a cart in a scramble format. Those who want to attend brunch only pay \$10.

Also featured will be check-in prizes, a prize for the lowest net score, a long drive contest, a closest-to-the-line contest, a closest-to-the-pin contest, a skins contest and a 50/50 raffle.

Money raised at the tournament goes to Tomorrow's Child - Michigan SIDS, as well as other Club GM charities.

To reserve a spot, call Lorenzo Jones at 313-720-4438 or Mike Jaffke at 248-701-7326. Spots are limited.

## Got News?

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We always like hearing from our readers, and like hearing your story as well. So, don't hesitate to contact us.

## Space Communications Help Ford's Telematics Systems

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The development of connected vehicle communications has the potential to reduce traffic accidents and ease congestion by enabling vehicles to communicate with each other, and to communicate with buildings, traffic lights, the cloud and other systems to deliver a message or detect and respond to imminent collision warnings, Daitch said.

"Ford has been committed to the research and development of connected vehicle communications for more than a decade," said Paul Mascarenas, chief technical officer and vice president, Ford Research and Innovation.

"Our participation in this research can aid in the development of next-generation Ford driver-assist technologies. These technologies will globally benefit Ford customers, other road users and the environment."

One promising development from Ford's research project with St. Petersburg Polytechnic University is the advancement in emergency vehicle communication methods, Daitch said.

Ford is analyzing how emergency messages should be sent to ensure delivery if network failures were to occur, identifying the systems and methods that provide redundancy in case of primary delivery failure.

For example, if an accident were to cause vehicle-to-cloud communications (V2C) to be broken, a vehicle may still have access to a vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V)

communications network. An emergency signal message could potentially be sent through V2V to a vehicle nearby, and then between vehicles and infrastructures until it reached EMS, Daitch said.

"The research of fallback options and robust message networks is important," said Oleg Gusikhin, technical leader in Systems Analytics for Ford. "If one network is down, alternatives need to be identified and strengthened to reliably propagate messages between networks."

Telematics - the long-distance transmission of digital information - developed for use on space stations, provide excellent potential for improving the reliability of future vehicle-to-cloud, vehicle-to-infrastructure, vehicle-to-vehicle and other forms of communication (V2X), Daitch said.

The communications blend multiple networking technologies including dedicated short-range communication (DSRC), cellular LTE wireless broadband and mesh networking to ensure robust and reliable connectivity for optimum signal strength for

critical messages.

Using the knowledge accrued from analyzing the space robots, Ford engineers could then develop an algorithm that is integrated into the V2X system, which would result in a message that would route through the appropriate network depending on the level of its importance, Daitch said.

An emergency message, for example, may be communicated through the faster mesh network, whereas an entertainment-related message would route through a vehicle-to-infrastructure application, an embedded device or a brought-in device network.

"We are analyzing the data to research which networks are the most robust and reliable for certain types of messages, as well as fallback options if networks were to fail in a particular scenario," said Gusikhin.

"In a crash, for example, a vehicle could have the option to communicate an emergency through a DSRC, LTE or a mesh network."

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BINGO 3PM-11PM

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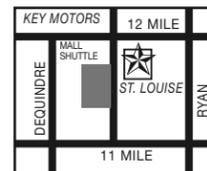
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