

Buick Riviera Concept Wins Design Award

The new Buick Riviera concept vehicle, which was developed by GM's Shanghai GM and Pan Asia Technical Automotive Center (PATAC) joint ventures in Shanghai, won the 2013 Red Dot Award in the category of "Design Concept."

This is the first major international award for a Chinese automotive design, Buick stated in a news release.

The new Riviera concept made its global debut in April on the eve of Auto Shanghai 2013 to showcase the design direction of future Buick models. It incorporates many innovative design elements, as well as advanced propulsion, infotainment and safety technology.

Designers and companies from 56 countries entered 4,394 products in the 2013 Red Dot Award program, an internationally recognized quality label for design achievement and one of the world's top three design honors. The new Riviera concept was judged on innovation, functionality, ergonomics, environmental friendliness and durability.

The Red Dot Award jury commented, "This vehicle is futuristic and provides a preview of future vehicle development . . . it stands out among all other designs."



Buick Riviera Concept, recently shown at Shanghai Auto Show

According to PATAC Chief Designer and Advanced Design Director Cao Min, "In addition to signature Buick design cues, the Riviera design team drew inspiration from nature and traditional Chinese cultural elements."

"The latest intelligent vehicle technologies were integrated with avant-garde aesthetics and flexible functions, in line with Buick's bold vision for the future."

The new Riviera is the follow-up to the 2007 Buick Riviera concept, which was also developed by PATAC, Buick reported. Since 2008, new-generation Buick models – including the new LaCrosse, Encore, Regal and Regal GS –

have drawn inspiration from the initial Riviera concept.

The Red Dot Award has been given out annually since 1955 by Germany's Design Zentrum Nordrhein Westfalen.

It has evolved from a German award into a global honor that covers the automotive industry, architecture, home appliances, electronics, fashion, life science, medicine and other areas.

Its impartial jury is made up of authoritative experts from each of these areas. Members of the jury change every year. Discussions and debates are held on entries to ensure fair and objective results and the highest standards.

Malibu to Offer Stop/Start to Save Fuel

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

certain driving conditions, such as stop-and-go driving.

In addition to stop/start technology, Chevrolet engineers incorporated valve-actuation technology known as Intake Valve Lift Control into Malibu's 2.5L engine, which also contributes to improved fuel economy.

When the Intake Valve Lift Control system operates in low-lift mode, the engine pumps only the air it needs to meet the driver's demand.

The system switches to high-lift mode at higher speeds or under heavy loads, providing the full output capability of the engine.

The variable intake valve actuation enhances efficiency and helps lower emissions, while also

boosting low-rpm torque for a greater feeling of power at lower speeds.

A new six-speed transmission makes its first appearance in the 2014 Malibu 2.5L. The 6T45 transmission includes improvements that reduce the energy required to pump transmission fluid, which enables additional fuel economy savings.

The new technologies on the 2.5L model enable the Malibu to deliver a higher combined fuel economy rating than the base engines of several midsize sedan competitors, including the Toyota Camry, Ford Fusion, Kia Optima, Hyundai Sonata and Chrysler 200, according to a GM release.

"In this competitive midsize segment, there is no standing still," said Chris Perry, Chevrolet Marketing vice president. "In ad-

dition to fuel economy improvements, the 2014 Malibu is roomier and more refined than its predecessor."

Additional new features on the 2014 Malibu include:

- Revised front-end appearance;
- Roomier rear seat with 1.25 inches more knee room;
- Redesigned center console;
- Available Side Blind Zone Alert and Rear Cross Traffic Alert safety features.

The 2014 Malibu is available in LS, LT and LTZ trim levels. The 2.5L engine base powertrain starts at \$22,965 for the LS, \$24,335 for the 1LT, \$26,040 for the 2LT and \$28,515 for the top LTZ trim. All suggested retail prices include an \$825 destination charge, but exclude tax, title, license and dealer fees.

Cadillac Rides 'The Ring' – Germany's Toughest Track

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

braking, ride and handling," said Dave Leone, CTS executive chief engineer, Performance Luxury Vehicles.

"The new CTS models had a lot to live up to considering the nameplate's history of outstanding performance, and we were not disappointed."

Measuring 12.9 miles and including some 154 turns, the Nürburgring's Nordschleife ("north loop") is widely considered the world's most-demanding course for vehicle validation.

Cadillac vehicle dynamics performance engineers Kevin Zelenka and Jeff Grabowski drove full production models of CTS and CTS Vsport with no performance modifications, which they say validates the new 2014 CTS sedan that goes on sale this fall.

"The new CTS was an absolute riot to drive on the Ring," said Zelenka. "It's more athletic and refined, and the Vsport proved extremely capable. If a car performs well on the Ring, it will perform well on any road in the world."

The CTS has been the centerpiece of Cadillac's portfolio for more than a decade. The third-generation CTS is one inch lower, five inches longer and more than 200 pounds lighter than its predecessor.

The new car also has lower curb weight, greater structural stiffness and more horsepower than its primary competitors, said Corbett.

He added that the new CTS is engineered from the ground up to deliver a driving experience that combines sport-tuned handling with world-class comfort. Its segment-exclusive Magnetic Ride Control and electronic limited slip differential constantly monitor rear-wheel rotation to ensure optimal handling in a variety of road conditions, Corbett said.

GM officials announced that the 2014 CTS standard model will start at \$46,025, including \$925 destination.

Three collections of option packages – Luxury, Performance and Premium – will be offered with either the 2.0T turbocharged four-cylinder or 3.6L naturally aspirated V6 engine in either rear- or all-wheel drive.

The CTS Vsport model starts at \$59,995, including \$925 destination, and features the new Cadillac Twin-Turbo 3.6L V6 (420 hp) in RWD only with an eight-speed transmission.

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