

Cadillac Engineers Use Microphones, Sound Enhancement System to Tune Exhaust Notes to Match Driving Mode

Cadillac engineers applied the principles of psychoacoustics, the science of sound perception, and a car guy’s instinct to create special exhaust notes for the 2014 CTS midsize luxury sedan and CTS Vsport.

Knowing that engine sound communicates throttle response to the driver, CTS engineers uniquely tuned each selectable driving mode – tour, sport and track – to provide the driver with a specific sound impression of what’s happening under the hood. The track mode is only available on the CTS Vsport, which is Cadillac’s first twin-turbo engine.

The team drew upon its knowledge of what tones sound the most pleasing to human ears – based on the study of psychoacoustics – then surveyed the sounds made by competitor models and relied on their own ears when selecting final tones.

Engineers strategically placed microphones in the CTS cabin and used an integrated electronic sound enhancement system to execute the sound designs. The microphones listen to the roar of the engine and the enhancement system selects preferred tones to come through CTS’s Bose audio system. No artificial sounds are used.

“The sound enhancement system acts like a choir conductor, calling forth certain engine sounds to sing the loudest depending on the driving mode,” said Dave Leone, CTS executive chief engineer, Performance Luxury Vehicles. “We used our ears to tell us what sounded the best

and programmed the system to listen for those tones. It is Cadillac’s art and science design philosophy applied to engine sound.”

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, higher structural stiffness and more horsepower than its primary competitors.

According to company spokesman Brian Corbett, the new CTS is engineered from the ground up to deliver a driving experience that combines sport-tuned handling with world-class comfort. The CTS includes segment-exclusive magnetic ride control and electronic limited slip differential, which constantly monitors rear-wheel rotation from one side versus the other to ensure optimal handling on a variety of road conditions, Corbett said.

GM has announced that pricing for the 2014 CTS standard model starts at \$46,025, including \$925 destination. Three option packages are available – Luxury, Performance and Premium. They 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 a \$925 destination charge, and features the new Cadillac Twin-Turbo 3.6L V6 420 hp in RWD only with Cadillac’s first eight-speed transmission.

Art Van Furniture Turns Warren Showroom into ‘Pink’ Ballroom

“Dancing With The Survivors” will be held at Art Van Furniture in Warren Thursday, Sept. 26, to benefit The Pink Fund.

The Art Van showroom will be transformed into a ballroom dance floor for two reasons: first, to benefit the nonprofit organization that provides short-term financial aid to breast cancer patients in active treatment, and secondly, to celebrate patients’ recovery.

The three-hour event, which starts at 6 p.m., will feature entertainment, food, cocktails and, of course, ballroom dancing.

Breast cancer survivors will be partnered with professional dancers from the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

Participants include Roz Fantich, a community volunteer; Jan Jones, a breast cancer survivor; Sheri Mark, board president of North Star Reach; Sue Ray, personal assistant to former Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer; and Irma Slimko, Ford Warriors in Pink Model of Courage.

“These women (survivors) are an inspiration, and we are delighted to celebrate their

courage,” said Gary Van Elslander, president of Art Van Furniture. “This will be a spectacular evening for The Pink Fund, whose mission Art Van Furniture supports wholeheartedly.”

Besides Art Van Furniture, other sponsors of The Pink Fund’s “Dancing With The Survivors” event include Charity Motors, Ford Warriors in Pink, The Original Life Chest, Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy, Celgene Corporation, Employee Health Insurance Management, and The Law Offices of Kelman & Fantich.

Tickets for the event are \$100 per person and can be purchased at www.dancingwiththesurvivors.eventbrite.com.

The Art Van Furniture store in Warren is located at 6500 E. 14 Mile Road.

For additional information, contact Emily Paraskevin at eparaskevin@jrtturnbull.com or 586-219-4014.

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