

Ed Rinke Chevrolet Sells First of Stingray Coupes

by Jim Stickford

The wait is over. Sports car fans no longer have to count the days before the 2014 Stingrays arrive at local dealerships.

Chevrolet began shipping the new 2014 Corvette Stingray Coupes to dealers on Sept. 18.

"It's an amazing sight to see the transporters filled with Stingrays heading to customers in all corners of the country," said Dave Tatman, plant manager of GM's Bowling Green Assembly plant.

"The pride at Bowling Green is overwhelming and it shows in the tremendous quality and attention to detail going into each one of these new Corvettes."

Bowling Green Assembly has produced approximately 1,000 Corvette Stingrays for customer deliveries. Most of these vehicles are expected to be delivered to dealers within the next few weeks, said Chevrolet spokesman Monte Doran.

To expedite delivery, vehicles may be shipped out of build sequence, which is a normal part of any new vehicle launch.

The Bowling Green facility underwent a \$131 million upgrade to support production of the Corvette Stingray, including approximately \$52 million for a new body shop to manufacture the car's all-new aluminum frame in-house for the first time, Doran said.

Ed Rinke Chevrolet Buick GMC in Center Line received its first 2014 Stingrays on Sept. 20, just

two days after the first ones were shipped from the factory.

Sales Manager Art Kurgin said the dealership received two – one went straight to a customer.

"The interest in the 2014 Stingrays is huge," Kurgin said. "There's a lot of demand for this car. We sold our first one a couple of months ago. Chevrolet didn't open up the orders for quite a while."

Kurgin said that because they were able to get only one Stingray that they were allowed to sell in the first orders, there is still a waiting list of prospective customers. He doesn't know how long it will take for the dealership to get enough Stingrays to eliminate the list.

"We haven't received any sense of the production of the vehicles," Kurgin said. "But we've gotten a lot of interest from the public about them. The Stingray is an exciting car that people want to buy."

According to GM specs, the lightweight aluminum frame is the foundation for the most powerful standard Corvette ever, with an SAE-certified 455 horsepower and 460 lb.-ft. of torque – and 460 hp and 465 lb.-ft. with the available performance exhaust system.

It is also the most capable standard Corvette ever, with Z51-equipped models able to sprint from 0 to 60 in 3.8 seconds, run the quarter-mile in 12 seconds at 119 mph, achieve 1.03 G-force in cornering grip and stop from 60 mph in 107 feet, Doran said.



Factory-fresh, the first 2014 Stingrays began arriving at dealerships nationwide last week.

Complementing its performance capability with efficiency, said Doran, the Corvette Stingray delivers the best fuel economy of any sports car on the market – an EPA-estimated 17 mpg in city driving and 29 mpg on the highway. No other car, he said, offers more than 455 horsepower and greater than 29 mpg on the highway.

The 2014 Corvette Stingray is the seventh generation of the sports car, which has been built exclusively at the Bowling Green plant since June 1981.

Pricing for the 2014 Corvette Stingray Coupe starts at \$51,995 including destination.

The convertible is priced at \$56,995, including destination. Production of the Stingray Convertible will begin by the end of this year.



Tim Koczara of Grosse Pointe Woods, left, purchased Ed Rinke Chevrolet's first 2014 Corvette Stingray Coupe from salesman Mark Sly.

Speaker to Offer Financial Advice

The Warren Public Library is helping residents learn more about maintaining their financial health, thanks to a program that will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 6 p.m. in the conference room next to the Civic Center Library branch.

The speaker, Heidi L. McCarroll, regional vice president of Primerica, will discuss how people "can build a solid financial house," and speak on the value

of paying off debt years sooner.

McCarroll will also discuss how life insurance policies really work and the three do's of investing.

Space is limited, so those who wish to attend are asked to register in advance by calling 586-574-4564.

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