

Tech Center News

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Ford Reports September Sales Up 6 Percent

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September Ford Fiesta sales of 5,043 are up 29 percent over last year, marking Fiesta's best September sales performance ever, said company spokesman Erich Merkle.

Through the first nine months of this year, Fiesta's largest retail sales market is in the West, which is growing at the fastest rate of all of Fiesta's markets – up 41 percent.

Posting a 26th consecutive monthly sales increase and its fifth straight month above the 60,000-vehicle sales mark, F-Series sales were 60,456, up 10 percent, Merkle said.

The new Lincoln MKZ posted its best-ever September with 2,874 sold, up 12 percent compared with September last year. MKZ has reported record sales for five of the last six months.

Sales by brand, September 2013 compared with September 2012:

- Ford – 178,693 vs. 168,174 for a 6.3 percent increase;
- Lincoln – 6,453 vs. 6,802, which equals a 5.1 percent decrease.

Sales by type, comparing September 2013 figures with September 2012 numbers:

- Cars – 57,584 vs. 50,694, a 13.6 percent increase;
- Utilities – 54,299 vs. 56,625, a 4.1 percent decrease;
- Trucks – 73,263 vs. 67,657, an 8.3 percent increase.

Sales highlights 2013 vs. 2012:

- Fiesta – 5,043 vs. 3,923, a 28.5 percent increase;
- C-MAX – 2,182 vs. 969, a 125.2 percent increase;
- Fusion – 19,972 vs. 12,300, a 62.4 percent increase;
- F-Series Truck – 60,456 vs. 55,077, a 9.8 percent increase.

Engineers Bring Clean Water to South America Towns

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and Las Glorias, Honduras.”

This latest project, Taylor said, will have the advantage of the chapter's experience in building the two previous systems.

“The first time we started on a water project, we came to the realization that perhaps our skill sets as mostly auto engineers didn't translate directly into being able to design a water system,” Taylor said. “We found out you really need to

have civil and environmental engineers on the project.”

Fortunately, Detroit has quite a number of both, Taylor said.

“We reached out to our colleagues in civil and environmental engineering, and they really helped us learn the skills we needed for our water projects.”

Once they actually design the water system, Detroit EWB members will go down to Nicaragua next year to help with its construction.

One of the things they learned was that any project they design must be able to be constructed using local labor and local materials, Taylor said.

It does no one any good to design a system using parts they can't get and requiring construction workers with skills that aren't available.

What's great about the chapter's latest project is that people who want to help out don't have to be

trained engineers, Taylor said. They just have to like looking at classic cars and buy tickets to the “A Pint With the Past” fundraiser, a beer-tasting event.

General admission tickets are \$75 apiece if ordered in advance, Taylor said. They are \$100 if bought at the door.

To learn more about the event and to order tickets, go to eventzilla.net or contact Taylor at MichelleZTaylor@gmail.com.

Chrysler Sales Paint Rosy Picture, ‘Lose’ Selling Days

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of year-over-year sales gains, Kisiel said. It was the brand's best September sales since 2007.

Sales of the Ram pickup truck also were up 8 percent, its 41st consecutive month of year-over-year sales gains and its best September sales since 2007.

Dodge brand sales were up 3 percent in September, the brand's best September sales since 2005 and its 28th consecutive month of year-over-year

sales gains, Kisiel said.

The Dodge Challenger and Dodge Dart compact sedan each recorded their best sales for the month of September.

Sales of the Dodge Durango full-size SUV were up 66 percent for its 11th consecutive month of year-over-year sales gains. Sales of the Dodge Charger were up 49 percent, its best September sales in three years.

Chrysler recently introduced special 30th-anniversary editions of the Dodge Grand Caravan and

the Chrysler Town & Country minivans. The 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan 30th Anniversary Edition will be available on both the SE and SXT models.

Chrysler brand sales were up 2 percent, its best September sales since 2007. Sales of the Chrysler Town & Country minivan were up 4 percent, its best September sales since 2006.

Sales of the flagship Chrysler 300 full-size sedan were up 6 percent, its best September sales performance in six years.

Mark Fields Lights United Way's 2013 Campaign Torch

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“Working together, we have a tremendous opportunity to make this a better place to live and work. United Way's work to prepare children for college and careers is important for families, and for every business looking to grow in Greater Detroit.”

United Way President and CEO Michael J. Brennan attended the event, along with many commu-


nity members, civic, business and community leaders and other supporters.

One of the newest members of the Detroit Lions, Glover Quin, spoke about his support of the campaign. “I don't want to just play a sport in Detroit, I want to be of Detroit,” he said.

The lighting of the United Way torch symbolizes a public- and private-sector collaboration to achieve a common goal – making

Greater Detroit one of the top five places in the country to live and work by the year 2030. Supporting United Way ensures that positive, lasting community change will continue at a grass-roots level.

The last few years have been financially difficult for the organization, which relies on a combination of individual and corporate contributions, as well as grants, to survive, Brennan said.



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