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Impala Feature Lights Way

As winter approaches and daylight hours are getting shorter, more people will be driving in the dark.

For those uneasy with night driving, the 2014 Chevy Impala can help brighten the task, said spokesman Chad Chevrolet

Impala headlamps, said Lyons, provide enhanced visibility that can help drivers avoid crashes after dark, the riskiest time of

According to a study by the Federal Highway Administration, the risk of a fatality at night among drivers not impaired by alcohol is more than two times higher than in daytime due to less visibility.

According to a 2009 study conducted by the Lighting Research Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, high-intensity charge, or HID, headlamps like those on the new Impala can help drivers see objects in the road sooner than other types of headlamps, allowing for greater stopping distance.

Impala's new headlamps are a key to one of the most comprehensive collections of standard and available safety features in the segment, Lyons said.

In conjunction with that, he added, Impala received the highest possible 5-Star Overall Vehicle Score for safety as part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's New Car Assessment Program.

"This is something we like to call a 'surprise and delight' feature," Lyons said.

"People don't necessarily think of headlight features when buying a car. But when they bring the vehicle home and see how well they work, they are surprised and delighted."

All 2014 Impala models are equipped with projector beam headlamp technology, a first for the redesigned flagship sedan, Lyons said.

The LS and LT models use halogen projectors, while the uplevel LTZ uses HID bi-functional xenon projectors that offer crisper and brighter illumination than regular headlamps.



2014 Impala

Both types of projector distribute light evenly across the front of the car, providing a wider range of visibility than other headlamps.

Impala's new headlamps use curved reflectors and "prescription" lenses designed to project brighter light farther and with more directional accuracy.

They also feature a light shield designed to reduce glare for oncoming traffic, Lyons said.

To further enhance the vehicle's appearance, the designers placed an inner lens over the turn signal cavity.

"Safety and customer satisfaction drove design and development of Impala's new headlamps," said Todd Pawlik, Impala chief engineer. "We benchmarked them against the best in the industry.

Lyons said that technology first appeared in the 2011 Cadil-

"Our engineers like to imagine what people need and want on their cars," Lyons said.

"Putting this LED technology in the Impala can be seen as a safety issue.

"The farther you can see in the dark, the earlier you can stop. Safety has always been a big part of the decision-making process when determining what goes into the Impala.'

Lyons said it's not unusual for luxury vehicles to lead the way with new features.

For example, anti-lock brakes and keyless vehicle entry were once features only available on the more expensive vehicles.

Now they're pretty much standard, Lyons said. The LED lighting is another example of that phenomenon in action.

Advocating for STEM, GM VP Calabrese Says Engineers Are Just People Doing Cool Things

you apply basic principles.

Q. What is the goal of your STEM education outreach advo-

A. My goal is to ignite the interest and advocacy of the entire ecosystem of support, which consists of government officials, educators, communities, parents and industry members. This issue is not fiscal, it is focus- and alignment-based. If we could combine the energy and interest in making positive strides in STEM education, we could truly make a difference.

GM is more than just a consumer of STEM. We are responsible for communicating our needs for the future generations. We are doing our part in contributing to talent development because we are involved in outreach programming from nearly cradle to professional and also with developing STEM educators through various corporate and industry partnerships.

Q. Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder declared October STEM month in the state. What role does government leaderSTEM education outlook?

A. We need more government leaders and government bodies to take these types of stands to encourage the majority to support local initiatives. What Governor Snyder did was help us raise the awareness level, and we need to take these efforts seriously. Because the government helps dictate our educational programs, we need them to want to provide more experiential learning opportunities, not just equations and theories.

Q. You've made it clear that you and other OEMs need to be involved with STEM education to make a difference. What outreach programs is GM currently involved with?

A. GM and the GM Foundation, have helped multiple STEM programs including SAE Foundation's A World in Motion and the FIRST, or For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, robotics competition, which reach students from kindergarten through secondary school. We have a number of corporate partnerships in collegiate programs such as EcoCAR2 and

ship play in improving the target our secondary school educators with training through Project Lead the Way.

> In 2011, the GM Foundation began funding the Buick Achievers Scholarship, focused on high school and college students planning to study engineering, technology, design and some business curriculum. Counting this year's scholarships, Achievers has awarded nearly \$16.5 million to about 3,300 students since the program began.

Q. What message do you have for current or future science, technology, engineering and math students?

A. I want students to know that engineers are just people doing cool things. We are problemposers, problem-solvers, designers and future innovators. We get to predict what customers will want in the future and provide solutions for socio-economic issues that we can see developing 20 to 30 years into the future. Technology is rapidly changing and you must constantly evolve your skill set and continue learning, but there couldn't be a more exciting time to become an engi-

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