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2014 Cadillac CTS Crowned Motor Trend Car of the Year

The 2014 Cadillac CTS sedan has been named *Motor Trend* magazine's Car of the Year for 2014.

"The all-new 2014 Cadillac CTS prevailed over one of the most competitive fields in recent memory because it best met our award's key criteria," said *Motor Trend* editor-in-chief Ed Loh.

"Our judges were particularly impressed by the CTS's responsive powertrains and masterful balance of smooth ride and sporty handling."

Cadillac spokesman David Caldwell said, "We are absolutely excited to win this award. It's just sensational, and it's quite a difficult award to win. The selection

process is a grueling one in which every significant new car in the world is tested 'in battle.'

"We knew we had a compelling design and it's great news and validation of the work done by the people in Lansing and in Warren."

Caldwell said the Cadillac designers took lessons they learned from around the world and applied them to the CTS. It won the same award in 2008, but Cadillac didn't rest on its laurels.

"The 2014 CTS is upgraded in every way," Caldwell said. "I am talking about performance, luxury, technology and efficiency. Basically, it's a whole new car where we wiped the slate clean."



2014 Cadillac CTS

And, the ATS is competing with some legendary European vehicles, such as the BMW 5 Series and the Mercedes E Class. This is possible, said Caldwell, because Cadillac upgraded the ATS, making it Cadillac's point of entry for

new buyers. Now, he said, the CTS has moved up in class and competes with the best in the business.

"The CTS is the first American

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New Tahoe PPV Helps Police With Speed, Safety – Peper

Fleeing offenders will have a tougher time getting away now that Chevrolet is producing a special version of the 2015 Tahoe, said GM spokesperson Emily Moran.

The Tahoe lineup will expand with the addition of a police patrol vehicle, or PPV, version, which is basically an automatic

4WD pursuit vehicle that's being added to the existing 2WD pursuit and 4WD special service models.

The 2015 Tahoe PPV features an EcoTec3 powertrain, which provides 355 horsepower and 383 lb.-ft. of torque and improved



2015 Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicle

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Cadillac Names Ellinghaus Head Of Marketing

Cadillac has named Uwe Ellinghaus chief marketing officer, Global Cadillac.

In his new position, Ellinghaus will lead global strategic marketing and brand building. His appointment is effective Jan. 1, 2014.

"The addition of Uwe is another important step in the global growth of Cadillac and our leadership team," said Bob Ferguson, General Motors senior vice president, Global Cadillac.

"Cadillac today is the fastest-growing full-line luxury auto brand, driven by new products that are attracting new buyers to Cadillac. Uwe's expertise in marketing and luxury brand building will help us extend our growth globally."

Ellinghaus, 44, was most recently executive vice president, Marketing and Sales at Montblanc International, a luxury design and accessory brand, in Hamburg, Germany.

Ellinghaus served in a number of marketing leadership positions at BMW AG, from 1998 to 2012. From 2010 to 2012, he was BMW's chief marketing officer, responsible for the BMW brand's strategy, and marketing services

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Aftermarket Custom Builders Turn Ford's Transit Connects into Some Wild Rides

Not everyone wants to drive a muscle car or a crossover or a minivan, but that doesn't mean there aren't vehicles out there for people who want to personalize their rides.

The industry's top aftermarket custom builders transformed four Ford Transit Connect wagons and six vans, expressing their creativity through elaborate interior reconstructions, blazing graphics and eye-catching exteriors, Ford spokesman William Mattiace said.

This reimagining of Transit

Connect, he said, showcases the lineup's versatility and creative potential – especially for commercial use.

"When asked why Ford brought these vehicles to the SEMA show, the explanation is pretty simple," Mattiace said. "SEMA is the largest collection of small businesses in the world. We see a lot of what we call impassioned customers who don't want to jump on the crossover express or drive a minivan."

By bringing vehicles that have been personalized by some of

the best customizing shops in the country, Ford is able to show these business owners just what can be done.

"We're showing a new class of vehicle that can be modified in flexible and versatile ways," Mattiace said. "Our SEMA-inspired modifications show that we've come to play. Of course, we've brought other vehicles like Mustangs and such, but we thought it would be fun to do something different and show what can be done with the Transit Connect."

Ford Transit Connect, named



Decked-out 2014 Ford Transit Connect

2014 International Van of the Year, has been a smart choice for small business owners since it launched in North America in 2009, Mattiace said.

The compact van earned the 2010 North American Truck of

the Year title, adding to its global reputation for durability and toughness that dates back to its launch in Europe in 2003.

As Ford launches the newest

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Mopar CEO Pietro Gorlier and Jeep Wrangler's SEMA award

Mopar Accessories Keep Jeep Wrangler a 'Hot' SUV

The Jeep Wrangler was recognized as the "Hottest 4x4-SUV" for a fourth consecutive year at the 2013 Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) trade show in Las Vegas last week.

The SEMA Award recognizes vehicle models that specialty equipment manufacturers believe are the best platforms for accessorization and that showcase the year's coolest products, said Chrysler spokesman Bryan Zvilbleman.

SEMA President and CEO Chris Kersting presented the award to Pietro Gorlier, president and CEO of Mopar, Chrysler's service, parts and customer-care brand, at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

"Consumers are increasingly interested in customizing vehicles, so having an accessory-friendly platform is important,"

said Kersting. "The Jeep Wrangler has consistently ranked Number One as the Hottest 4x4-SUV since the inception of the SEMA Award, a clear reflection of its versatility."

"It's amazing to have the Jeep Wrangler recognized for a fourth straight year by SEMA with this award," Gorlier said. "The Wrangler is our most accessorized vehicle and to see it consistently winning accolades is a demonstration of the quality of the vehicle and the work that Mopar has put in to develop accessories and quality Jeep Performance Parts."

"Enthusiasts will be happy to know we have just added new offerings to our more than 300 performance parts and accessories already available for this vehicle

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