

GM's McBride Earns NAFE 2013 'Excellence' Award

The National Association for Female Executives (NAFE) has named Katie McBride, currently executive director of GM Community Connections, as a recipient of one of its 2013 Women of Excellence Awards.

McBride was given the award for her "exceptional business achievement and acumen," said Betty Spence, president of NAFE.

"The NAFE Women of Excellence are notable as leaders at their companies and in their communities for innovating products and projects and for improving the health and well-being of those they serve," Spence said.

"We recognize them not only for their accomplishments and talents, but also for ensuring the success of other women."

Among the reasons McBride was selected as this year's Corporate Women's Champion is "her proven ability in gaining trust with unions and other business partners to lead communications through negotiations; keeping employees motivated

and focused on their jobs while General Motors was reinventing itself as a company; and establishing credibility as the youngest – as well as the only female – executive on several senior-level staffs early in her career, Spence said.

Before her current position, McBride had been executive director of GM Global Product Operations and Environment and Energy Communications since Feb. 15, 2010. Before that, she held key leadership roles in Regional and Grassroots Communications and Global Internal and Executive Communications, said GM spokesperson Connie Burke.

McBride began her GM career in 1983 in Public Affairs for Fisher Body Division, Burke said.

She held a wide variety of communications positions at various GM business units and functions, including Labor and Manufacturing, Policy and Washington D.C., Chevrolet-Pontiac-GM of Canada (C-P-C) Group, Service and Parts Operations, GM North American



Katie McBride

Operations, GM Powertrain Group, GM Truck Group, GM Product Development, and Global Internal Communications.

"Katie McBride has been a tenacious advocate for diversity

and inclusion at General Motors," said GM Communications Vice President Selim Bingol.

"She has set a very high standard for professionalism that everyone respects and admires."

Delphi Connect Offered Through U.S. Cellular

Delphi Automotive is now offering its car-to-cloud/cloud-to-car connectivity system to U.S. Cellular customers. Delphi Connect provides drivers with fast, cloud-connected information about their vehicle over the U.S. Cellular network.

Sold through U.S. Cellular, this system allows car owners to remotely control, monitor and track their vehicle in real-time via a smart device or computer.

"Delphi Connect is real-time vehicle connectivity," said Jeff Owens, Delphi chief technology officer. "This system instantly provides drivers with seamless interaction and connectivity to their vehicle."

Among the features available are:

- Virtual key fob – Lock or unlock vehicle doors, open the trunk, start or stop the engine and operate the panic horn with a smart device;
- Vehicle health – Diagnose the vehicle's engine health, vehicle performance issues or monitor overall vehicle status.

Aerodynamics Increase Downforce for High-Speed Stability on Camaro Z/28

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role in airflow management, Doran said. It is based on the Camaro SS, but the fog lamps, air dam and the upper-base grille are replaced with covers for deleted fog lamps (to reduce weight), an air duct support bracket, an airflow-optimized upper grille for enhanced cooling and a modified fascia lower inlet that incorporates provisions for the brake cooling ducts. They funnel air from the splitter/lower grille through the ducts to the brake rotors and calipers.

The aerodynamically optimized design helped the Camaro Z/28 log a lap on Germany's legendary Nürburgring road course that was four seconds faster than the Camaro ZL1's, and beat published times for the Porsche 911 Carrera S and the Lamborghini Murcielago LP640.

"Most production cars are designed with some lift at speed in order to slip through the air for greater fuel economy, but the all-new Camaro Z/28's track-oriented purpose dictated an entirely different take on airflow management," said Tom Froling, lead development engineer – Aerodynamics.

"Its carefully tailored aerodynamics package generates downforce for greater handling stability at speed, and the grilles are optimized to meet stringent cooling flow and brake-cooling requirements."

The new Camaro Z/28 is the fastest factory-produced Camaro ever on a track, with improved speed coming from three areas:

- Increased grip – The Z/28 is capable of 1.08 g-force in cornering acceleration, due to comprehensive chassis revisions;
- Increased stopping power –

The Z/28 features Brembo carbon ceramic brakes capable of 1.5 g-force in deceleration, and consistent brake feel, lap after lap;

- Reduced curb weight – The naturally aspirated Z/28 weighs 300 pounds less than the supercharged Camaro ZL1, with changes ranging from lightweight wheels to thinner rear-window glass.

Power comes from the 7.0L LS7 engine, rated at an SAE-certified 505 horsepower and 481 lb.-ft. of torque. A close-ratio six-speed manual transmission is the only transmission offered and power is distributed to the rear wheels via a limited-slip differential featuring a helical gear set, rather than traditional clutch packs, for optimal traction.

"It's a track-proven, uncompromising collection of hardware that generates the Z/28's power and channels it to the ground,

but it's the way the Z/28 manages airflow that truly helps it stick to the track to make it fast and stable at speed," said Froling.

"None of the car's unique exterior elements is without a performance-enhancing purpose. In fact, it shares several racing-inspired aero features from various Camaro and Corvette race cars."

The 2014 Camaro Z/28 arrives in dealerships next spring.

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