

Mullaly to Retire; Mark Fields Takes the Reins

Alan Mulally is retiring from Ford Motor Company and Mark Fields will take over as president and chief executive officer on July 1. Fields also will become a mem-

ber of Ford's board of directors. "From the first day we discussed Ford's transformation eight years ago, Alan and I agreed that developing the next generation of leaders and ensuring an

orderly CEO succession were among our highest priorities," Executive Chairman Bill Ford said. "Mark has transformed several of our operations around the

world into much stronger businesses during his 25 years at Ford. Now, Mark is ready to lead our company into the future as CEO." Mulally, 68, is retiring after

nearly eight years of leading Ford and capping a 45-year business career. Mulally has led Ford's transfor-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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GM Adds 2015 Silverados to Police Lineup

Chevrolet has made it possible for police forces around the country to keep on truckin'. The 2015 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Crew Cab Special Service Vehicle (SSV) joins the brand's growing police vehicle portfolio, said GM spokesman Robert Wheeler. It goes on sale this summer, offering the same capabilities, efficiency and durability as the award-winning Silverado 1500, with special features designed for police use. The SSV package is available on Silverado 1500 Crew Cab in 1WT or 1LS trims. It includes the 5.3L EcoTec3 V8, rated at 355 horsepower and delivering the highest EPA-rated fuel economy, said Wheeler, for a 2WD V8 full-size pickup: 23 mpg highway. The engine is available with E85 capability. Police agencies can choose 2WD or 4WD models with the

standard 6'6" pickup box or a shorter 5'8" box. "Last year, the Silverado 1500 was awarded for its low cost of ownership, a key purchasing factor for municipalities and government agencies," said Ed Peper, U.S. vice president for GM Fleet & Commercial. "The EcoTec3 engine," he said,

"provides the best fuel economy of any V8 and still gives agencies the power and capability they need from a full-size pickup." The Silverado SSV is equipped with a standard 170-amp high-output alternator and 730-CCA auxiliary battery, which allows

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



The 2015 Silverado 1500 Crew Cab Special Service Vehicle



WCM teacher Wendy Santure shows off the mobile training center.

Chrysler Expands Its WCM Training Center in Warren

by Jim Stickford

Over the years, different manufacturing methodologies have come and gone at Chrysler, but World Class Manufacturing (WCM), first introduced in 2009, is here to stay, say Chrysler officials. The automaker just added 15,000 square feet to its WCM efforts at the UAW-Chrysler Technology Training Center in Warren to help expand its training capabilities. "When Chrysler came out of bankruptcy and Fiat bought the company, we were told that we were going to learn WCM techniques," said Marcel Breault, head of WCM for Chrysler. "Sergio (Marchionne) said that was not negotiable and that we'd use the WCM techniques at the factories." And it worked, Breault said. Chrysler paid back the taxpayers and joined with Fiat to become a company of one. The use of WCM reflects Marchionne's view on inefficiency. While showing the new WCM facility to the media, Breault played a video of Marchionne

talking about waste. In the recording, he said that WCM is designed to deliver an ethical product. He called WCM ethical because he believes that a wasteful manufacturing system is fundamentally unethical. "WCM is one of the highest examples of integrity that I can find," Marchionne said. "I support this and I want our house to be known as the one that set up WCM." The WCM system, Breault said, has added a dynamic feeling to the plants. "The WCM Academy has become a critical resource in furthering our employees' understanding of the WCM methodology," Breault said. "The more people we can train and the more classes we can offer, the faster we are able to accelerate the pace of change across our North American facilities and continue to deliver measurable results in our operations." Scott Tolmie, lead at the WCM Academy, said they have trained

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Overall Vehicle Sales Up in April

GM April Sales, Led by Cadillac, Up 7 Percent

General Motors dealers delivered 254,076 vehicles in the United States in April 2014, up 7 percent compared with a year ago. Fleet sales were up 5 percent and retail sales – vehicles sold to individual buyers – were up 8 percent. "Retail demand was steady in April, and truck sales and transaction prices were especially strong," said Kurt McNeil, U.S. vice president of Sales Operations. "As we expected, the economy continues to strengthen. In addition, our award-winning new

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Jeep Brand Paces Chrysler's April Sales Increase

Chrysler has reported U.S. sales of 178,652 units, a 14 percent increase compared with sales in April 2013 (156,698 units), and the group's best April sales since 2007. The Jeep, Dodge, Ram Truck and Fiat brands each posted year-over-year sales gains in April compared with the same month a year ago. The Jeep brand's 52 percent increase was the largest sales gain of any Chrysler Group brand during April and its best sales month ever. "Strong consumer demand for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Despite Decline, Some Ford Models Remained Strong

Ford Motor Company total U.S. sales of 211,126 vehicles last month declined 1 percent from a year ago. Retail sales of 141,950 vehicles are off 1 percent compared with a year ago. Commercial and government fleet sales were up 16 and 21 percent, respectively, while daily rental sales declined 24 percent. "F-Series and Explorer showed considerable strength in April, posting their best results in almost a decade," said John Felice, Ford vice president, U.S. Marketing, Sales and Service. "We also saw another breakout month for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Artist's rendering of the new GM Performance and Racing Center soon to be built in Pontiac.

New Center 'Will Improve Customers' Powertrains'

General Motors began construction of a state-of-the-art facility for race engine design and development, as well as an electric motor laboratory and gear center last week. GM's continued investment in motorsports comes from "the time-tested belief that racing is the ultimate proving ground" for much of the technology that applies to the vehicles the company sells, said GM powertrain spokesperson Tom Read. "The GM Performance and Racing Center, or GMPRC, will continue to develop some of the world's winningest race engines

for Chevrolet and Cadillac," said Steve Kiefer, vice president of GM Global Powertrain. "Connecting our race engineers with our global powertrain engineering teams will improve our customers' powertrains in terms of efficiency, reliability and durability." "The center will also provide exciting career opportunities for our engineering organization." Engineers and technicians from GM's race engineering center in Wixom will move to the new facility in mid-2015, Read

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Mulally Retires; Mark Fields To Take the Reins in July

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mation and strengthened its position as one of the world's leading global automakers, company spokesperson Susan Krusel said.

Under Mulally and the company's One Ford plan for profitable growth, Ford has achieved 19 consecutive quarters of profitability, developed the strongest product lineup in Ford's history and embarked upon the company's most ambitious global expansion in the past half-century.

"Alan deservedly will be long remembered for engineering one of the most successful business turnarounds in history," said Ford.

"Under Alan's leadership, Ford not only survived the global economic crisis, it emerged as one of the world's strongest auto companies.

"We always will be grateful to Alan for his leadership, compelling vision and for fostering a culture of working together that will serve our company for decades to come."

The transition in July is approximately six months earlier than previously anticipated, following Mulally's recommendation to accelerate the timetable based on the readiness of Ford's leadership team, Krusel said.

"Alan and I feel strongly that Mark and the entire leadership team are absolutely ready to lead

Ford forward, and now is the time to begin the transition," said Ford, who recruited Mulally from Boeing in 2006.

Fields, 53, was named Ford's chief operating officer in December 2012. He has been leading all of Ford's global business operations and most skill teams, including Product Development, Manufacturing, Purchasing, and Marketing, Sales and Service.

Fields' role as COO has included leading the company's weekly Business Plan Review meeting, which Mulally established to track the progress of the One Ford plan and to monitor the global business and competitive environment.

The Thursday meetings are credited with driving a reliable and transparent process for running Ford's global operations and enabling Ford's senior leadership to work closely together and act decisively on its plan.

Before serving as COO, Fields was executive vice president and president – The Americas since October 2005.

There, he led the transformation of Ford's North American business – turning it from record losses several years ago to record profits in each of the last four years.

Earlier, Fields guided the product-led transformation of Ford's European operations and formerly held European luxury brands,



From left, Alan Mulally, Bill Ford and Mark Fields

as well as the relaunch of Ford's independent operations in Argentina and a major restructuring and product renaissance at Mazda.

"It has been an honor to serve and contribute to creating a viable, profitably growing company for the good of everyone associated with the Ford Motor Company," Mulally said.

"By working together with all of our stakeholders around the world, we now are accelerating Henry Ford's original vision to open the highways to all mankind.

"Ford's future is so bright, and Mark – supported by an experienced and dedicated senior lead-

ership team – is absolutely the right leader to continue to deliver on our compelling vision."

"It is a true honor to lead this great company and this talented team into the future," Fields said.

"Under Alan's leadership, we have seen the power of One Ford and what a culture of positive leadership and working together can accomplish.

"My commitment is to build on that success by accelerating our pace of progress.

"All of us at Ford are committed to delivering even more of the great products and innovations that will deliver growth and define our company going forward."

Despite Decline, Some Ford Models Remained Strong

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fusion, with continued strength in the Western region. Overall, industry sales continued the rebound from January and February and are on a path of steady growth."

F-Series sales totaled 63,387 vehicles last month, making for the truck's best April since 2006. EcoBoost continues to play a big role in F-150 sales, comprising 42 percent of the truck's overall retail engine mix. Combined, Ford's V6 engines – EcoBoost and the 3.7-liter – represented 55 percent of F-150 sales in April.

Explorer had its best April sales performance since 2005 with 16,629 vehicles sold, an increase of 17 percent, as America's best-selling midsize utility.

Lincoln sales were off 11 percent, with 6,803 vehicles sold in April – against a strong year-ago comparison. Lincoln sales are up 21 percent for the year to date through April, with the new MKC coming this summer.

In a conference call held the day the sales figures were released, Ford financial spokesperson Erich Merkle emphasized that Ford's fleet sales to rental car companies and others were down.

But Merkle said that is part of Ford's long-term sales strategy, to depend less on fleet and rental sales.

Google Tests Self-driving Automobile

LOS ANGELES (AP) – Google says that cars it is programming to drive themselves have started to master the navigation of city streets and the challenges they bring, from jaywalkers to weaving bicyclists – a critical milestone for any commercially available self-driving car technology.

Despite the progress over the past year, the cars have plenty of

learning to do before 2017, when the Silicon Valley tech giant hopes to get "autonomous driving" technology to the public.

None of the traditional automakers has been so bullish. Instead, they have rolled out features incrementally, including technology that brakes and accelerates in stop-and-go traffic, or keeps cars in their lanes.



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"I've been here at Chrysler for almost 20 years," Breault said. "In that time, there were probably four or five different manufacturing methodologies. There was a sense of 'flavor of the month' when we first started using WCM. Well, it's here to stay."

"The minute we stop looking for new things, we become a museum," Tolmie said. "And the instant that happens, we are done."

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Jeep Brand Sales Surge

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our Jeep sport-utility vehicles and Ram pickup trucks continued in April as Chrysler Group extended its streak to 49 consecutive months of year-over-year sales gains," said Reid Bigland, head of U.S. Sales.

"The spring selling season is heating up as our Jeep brand had its best monthly sales ever. Both of our minivans had a strong April and the Ram pickup truck had its best April sales ever."

Seven Chrysler Group vehicles set sales records in the month of April. The Jeep Compass recorded its best sales month ever. The Ram pickup truck, Jeep Patriot, Jeep Wrangler, Dodge Challenger, Dodge Journey, and Ram Cargo Van each posted their best sales for the month of April.

Both minivans had a good month. Sales of the Dodge Grand Caravan were up 36 percent in April, the largest year-over-year percentage sales increase of any Dodge brand model in April, while sales of the Chrysler Town & Country minivan increased 16 percent.

Chrysler Group finished the month of April with a 74-days supply of inventory (505,965 units). U.S. industry sales figures for April are internally projected at an estimated 16.3 million units Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate (SAAR).

Jeep brand sales were up 52 percent in April, the brand's best monthly sales ever and the largest percentage sales gain of any Chrysler Group brand for the month. Sales of the Patriot compact SUV were up 44 percent.

Sales of the Ram pickup truck were up 17 percent in April, the truck's best ever April sales performance and its 48th consecutive month of year-over-year sales gains.

Ram Light Duty sales increased 7 percent, while Ram

Heavy Duties were up 32 percent.

Fiat brand sales were up 10 percent in April, the brand's best sales performance ever in the month of April and its fifth consecutive month of year-over-year sales gains. With its 60 percent year-over-year increase, the Fiat 500 Cabrio Abarth posted the largest percentage sales gain of any Fiat 500 model in April.

Dodge brand sales were up slightly in April, compared with the same month a year ago. It was the Dodge brand's best April sales since 2008.

The Dodge Challenger and the Dodge Journey mid-size crossover each posted their best April sales ever, while the Dodge Durango full-size SUV recorded its best April sales in nine years.

Durango sales were up 4 percent in April compared with the same month a year ago, extending its run of year-over-year sales gains to 18 consecutive months.

Chrysler brand sales were down 21 percent in April, reflecting the end of production of the 2014 Chrysler 200 mid-size sedan and convertible, said Chrysler spokesman Ralph Kisiel. Shipments of the 2015 Chrysler 200 to dealers is expected to begin this quarter.

TRW Announces Strong Earnings

TRW Automotive Holdings Corp. reported first quarter 2014 financial results with sales of \$4.4 billion, an increase of 5 percent compared with the prior year period.

The company reported GAAP first quarter net earnings of \$199 million, or \$1.68 per diluted share, which compares with net earnings of \$162 million or \$1.29 per diluted share in the prior year period.

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2015 Chevrolet Silverado Added to Police Lineup

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

engine turned off, preserving the charge of the vehicle's primary battery, Peper said.

The SSV pickup also is equipped with a 110-volt outlet for equipment, and comes standard with electrical power supply for four upfitter switches located on the center stack for easy control and accessibility.

The crew cab offers a vinyl rear seat along with large rear doors for easy entry when transporting passengers, Peper said.

Other available interior options include front center seat delete, which provides an open center console space for police equipment, an auxiliary dome lamp and an electronic four-wheel-drive switch located on the dash.

An available common key option allows municipalities to use one key to operate all of their Silverado SSVs and 2015 Tahoe police vehicles, Peper said.

Chevrolet will offer ship-through options for the upfit of light bars, sirens, partitions and additional aftermarket equipment.

The SSV package at a glance has such standard features as:

- 5.3L EcotTec3 V8 engine;
- Auxiliary transmission oil cooler;
- High-capacity air cleaner;
- 170-amp high-output alternator;
- 730-CCA auxiliary battery 110-volt outlet;
- Four upfitter switches with electrical power supply.

Available features that buyers might also be interested in include:

- Spotlamp – driver or driver and passenger;
- Wiring for grille, lamp and sirens;
- Flasher system for headlamps and taillamps;
- Common key package;
- Vinyl rear seats;
- Front center seat delete;
- Auxiliary dome lamp;
- Electronic four-wheel-drive switch;
- Daytime running lamps delete;
- Rear-vision camera.

The 5.3L EcoTec3 V8 engine is certified at 355 horsepower and 383 lb.-ft. of torque.

It combines direct fuel injection, Active Fuel Management (cylinder deactivation) and continuously variable valve timing to achieve EPA-estimated fuel economy of 23 mpg highway (2WD models), Peper said.

Silverado 1500 is also equipped with Duralife brake rotors that offer up to double the service life, which can result in maintenance cost savings for municipalities, Peper said.

"Nearly two-thirds of the Silverado SSV's cab is made of high-strength steel, and inlaid triple-sealed doors create a strong, quiet mobile workspace to conduct daily business," said Peper.

Shaggy to Sing at Grand Prix 2014

Jamaican-born reggae artist Shaggy will headline the musical lineup on the MotorCity Casino Hotel Entertainment Stage on June 1. He will perform at approximately 12:30 p.m. before the second Chevrolet Indy Dual in Detroit presented by Quicken Loans Verizon IndyCar Series race during the Detroit Grand Prix weekend.

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UAW's Ashton Nominated for GM Board

UAW Vice President Joe Ashton has been nominated for placement on the General Motors Board of Directors.

Ashton, designated for nomination to the GM board by the UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust, or VEBA, plans to retire from his current position in June following the UAW constitutional convention, said GM spokesperson Tom Henderson.

If elected, he will begin his board term in August.

General Motors on April 29 filed the proxy statement, including the Ashton nomination, for its 2014 annual meeting of stockholders with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Steve Girsky, formerly GM vice chairman, was previously designated for nomination to the GM board by the VEBA Trust and has served as a director since the new company began operations in July 2009. GM's board nominated him to remain a director.

"Joe (Ashton) brings a wealth of knowledge from his work across many industries, especially his deep understanding how labor strategy can contribute to a company's success," said GM board chairman Tim Solso.

"Steve has 25 years of experience in the automotive sector and has served the GM board well. Because of his extensive experience with the company, his expertise will continue to be invaluable to GM."

Ashton and Girsky will stand for election at GM's Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be held on Tuesday, June 10, at GM's Global Headquarters in Detroit's Renaissance Center.

Ashton, who joined the UAW in 1969, has been a member of the UAW International staff since 1986, serving in a variety of leadership roles.

Active in labor and civic affairs, he is executive vice president of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Executive Council, executive vice president of the New Jersey AFL-CIO and a former director of the Western New York Federal Reserve Bank.

From March 2010 to January 2014, Girsky served as GM vice chairman and was responsible for global corporate strategy, new business development, global product planning and program management, global connected consumer/OnStar and GM Ventures LLC and global research and development. He also served as chairman of the Adam Opel AG Supervisory Board. Girsky also oversaw Global Purchasing and Supply Chain from 2011 to 2013.

Girsky is currently serving as chairman of the Focus: HOPE Capital Campaign and is a member of the Downtown Detroit Partnership Board.

The election of the board's slate of nominees would bring GM's Board of Directors to 12 members, 10 of whom are non-employee directors.

During the annual meeting, stockholders will be asked to reelect GM's incumbent directors, ratify Deloitte & Touche LLP as the company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2014, vote on an advisory resolution on executive compensation and on the frequency of future advisory votes on executive compensation, approve short-



Joe Ashton



Steve Girsky

and long-term executive incentive plans and vote on two stockholder proposals.

Stockholders of record of GM Common Stock at the close of business on Friday, April 11,

2014, who wish to attend the meeting must request an admission ticket by Tuesday, June 3, by following the instructions given in the proxy statement, Henderson said.

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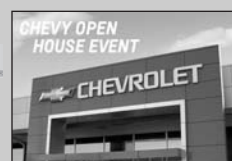


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