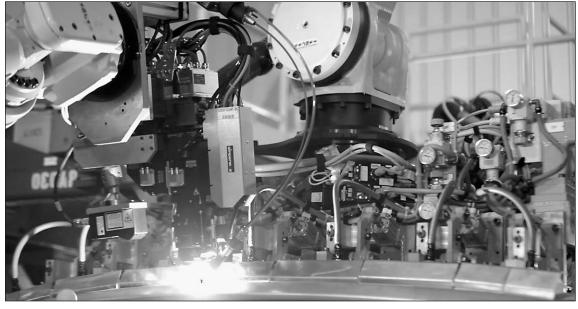
Detroit Auto Scene®

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JANUARY 26, 2015



GM's special robotic systems weld together dissimilar materials - like these - for the upcoming Cadillac CT6.

Cadillac Uses New Construction Techniques To Produce Large Luxury Sedan – the CT6

Cadillac will use the auto industry's most comprehensive and advanced mixed-material manufacturing techniques to build its new CT6 sedan, allowing creation of a top-of-range large luxury sedan with the agility and efficiency of a smaller vehi-

The CT6, which goes on sale in the fourth quarter of 2015, will be built at the Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly plant, using a unique combination of joining techniques, a first for any General Motors model, said Cadillac spokesman David Caldwell.

A new body shop with new tooling and advanced technologies – including 205 robots – has been added to the plant. The fully automated, roughly 138,000square-foot shop is dedicated to the manufacturing of the high-end luxury sedan.

When it launches, the CT6 will expand the Cadillac range upreplacing a current product, Caldwell said. Positioned above today's CTS and XTS product lines, the CT6 aims to join the elite group of top-class large lux-

"For the Cadillac CT6, we have developed additional new body construction techniques and technologies allowing various types of advanced and lightweight materials to be combined within the manufacturing environment like never before," Cadillac President Johan de Nysschen said last week at the Washington Auto Show.

"We have invested \$300 million in the Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly plant to make this possible," he said. "These actions will allow us to advance the art of manufacturing and take craftsmanship and manufacturing technology to a new level."

This is important, Caldwell said, because lighweighting has wards - adding rather than been a major priority for auto-

makers over the past several years. In the past, engineers and designers had to decide if a vehicle was going to be constructed predominantly of either steel or aluminum. That's because it's very difficult to join unlike mate-

That meant that engineers faced a challenge in manufacturing the advanced mixed-material vehicle structure for the CT6. Combining different types of joining methods, the team overcame previous manufacturing difficulties involving the joining of traditionally dissimilar materials, while still allowing the engineering team to optimize every panel for its desired purpose.

Material-joining techniques prominent in the body construction of the CT6 include:

- Patented Aluminum Spot Welding Technology;
- Aluminum Laser Welding,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Mustangs Selling Globally for First Time

gan," now has a worldwide meaning with the new Mustang officially going global.

For the first time in its 50-year history, Mustang will be available to customers around the world Ford spokeswoman Amanda mand for Ford cars and trucks."

First shipments of the "highlyanticipated Mustang" are headed for Asia, with vehicles arriving in Europe midyear.

Ford spokesman Said Deep said in an email that the 2015 rear-wheel-drive Mustang has a new platform but does not have a name for it that the company uses externally.

The new Mustang – assembled in Flat Rock - now joins other Ford and Lincoln vehicles exported to countries abroad.

In 2013, Ford Motor Company shipped more than 380,000 vehicles from the United States, making the automaker a top U.S. exporter of vehicles.

"Henry Ford exported the sixth Model A assembled in 1903 and we continue this legacy today," said Joe Hinrichs, Ford president of The Americas.

"The success of our One Ford

The phrase, "made in Michi- plan presents opportunities for growth in global markets. Exporting Ford and Lincoln vehicles to Asia Pacific and beyond is an important part of Ford's global growth story.

"Mustang is just one more exin more than 100 markets, said ample of the international de-

> thousands of jobs across the United States, Hinrichs said.

The new 2015 Mustang is supported by U.S. suppliers in 25

In 2013, Flat Rock Assembly Plant, the car's production home, celebrated the 1 millionth Mustang built there.

The facility has approximately 3,000 employees working two Making Ford vehicles available shifts at full capacity to produce to global consumers supports Mustang and Fusion. In addition,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



A Michigan-made Mustang getting ready for export

Fiat Chrysler Outsells All Other Minivans in 2014

Fiat Chrysler minivans came van in 2014 increased 8 percent out on top in 2014, with the Chrysler Town & Country and the Dodge Grand Caravan ranked as the two highest-selling minivans for the year.

Their combined sales of 272,192 units accounted for nearly one-half of all minivans sold in the United States.

The Chrysler Town & Country was the best-selling minivan in the United States in 2014, with 138,040 units sold, an increase of 13 percent from 2013. The Town & Country also had its best annual sales since 2007.

Sales of the Dodge Grand Cara-

from 2013 to 134,152 units.

The 272,192 units of combined minivan sales in 2014 is an 11 percent increase from the previous year, beating the 5 percent increase for the entire minivan segment in 2014.

2014. Overall. for Fiat Chrysler's minivans had 49.9 percent of the total minivan market, said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Angela Bianchi.

"This is something we're very proud of," Bianchi said. "After all, Chrysler invented the minivan

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



2015 Town and Country

Johnson Controls Debuts Vehicle Interior Concepts

Global automotive industry trends like urban mobility, comfort, fuel economy and autonomous driving are the leading forces behind Johnson Controls' innovations in seating, interior and batteries that saw their debut at the 2015 North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit earlier this month.

Johnson Controls showcased two vehicle interior concepts for the first time at NAIAS that address these global trends.

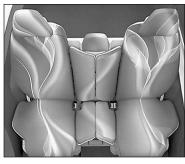
"The 2015 Automotive Seating Demonstrator 'SD15' and the Automotive Interiors Demonstrator 'ID15' display innovative new products that offer enhanced comfort, personalization options and other unique features adson Controls spokeswoman Mary Kay Dodero.

The company also unveiled a new battery that Johnson Controls says will help automakers meet increasing fuel efficiency and emission reduction regula-

"At Johnson Controls, we are always thinking ahead to ensure we're offering the right solutions for vehicles that meet drivers' expectations today and in the future," said Beda Bolzenius, president of Johnson Controls Automotive Experience and vice chairman of Johnson Controls Asia Pacific.

"Our seating, interior and battery solutions help advance our automaker customers' brands as well as enhance the overall driving experience."

In addition to the debut of



SD15 Seat

SD15 and ID15, Johnson Controls lists these highlights of its 10,000-square-foot exhibit of Detroit's Cobo Center:

- Automotive seating systems that achieve lighter weight, allow for customization and improved performance through products dressing the megatrend of such as the new Loft rear seat autonomous driving," said John- and protective FreshPer4mance seat coating and its innovative carbon-fiber-based seat back
 - · Interior materials and flexible designs for door panels, instrument panels, floor consoles and overhead consoles that increase the consumer's perception of value across all vehicle segments through mass reduction and enhanced functionality;
 - A full spectrum of battery systems for conventional, Start-Stop, Micro Hybrid, hybrid and electric vehicles that meet the evolving needs of the global mar-
 - The new Recaro Sport Seat Platform, an innovative, lightweight and highly modular sport car seat platform concept for original equipment manu-

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Mustangs Are Now Selling Globally

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

100 jobs at the Port of Portland (in Oregon) have now been added to support Ford exports bound for Asia Pacific and other

"Serving as a gateway for exports of new Ford vehicles to China and Korea has helped boost employment and bolster our local economy," said Bill Wyatt, executive director for the Port of Portland.

"Auto exports and imports support more than 500 jobs at our marine terminals, and they have been an important part of our diverse cargo portfolio since 1953.

Mustangs exported from the United States undergo a series of steps to ensure compliance with vehicle standards in the destination countries, Hinrichs

At each port's homologation center, Ford and Lincoln vehicles receive finishing touches that follow specific engineering work completed in production at the

Zusman said vehicles undergo proper customs documentation and tracking so Ford can ensure their progress and delivery. Certain vehicles receive an underbody coating and documents in the destination country language.

"Preparing these vehicles for shipment to their final destination is critical to satisfying both customer and regulatory requirements for our markets around the world," said Gerald Schoenle, director, Ford Trading Company.

We want our customers globally to know that their Ford vehicles will meet emissions, safety and road-worthiness requirements.'

The addition of a right-handdrive Mustang to Ford's global vehicle lineup will allow the iconic pony car to be exported to more than 25 of these markets around the world, including the United Kingdom, Australia and South Africa, Hinrichs said.

Mustang joins a lineup of Ford Motor Company vehicles produced in the United States and exported around the world, Zusman said.

GM Clay Sculptor by Day, Detroit Tour Guide by Night

by Jim Stickford

Who said the history of Detroit is a dry topic?

Not the people at Detroit History Tours, who will stop at some $\,$ city bars on the new tours they're hosting.

The tour company will cover the city, employing history experts to explain backgound about the stops at major and minor Detroit locations - including many storied drinking spots.

The idea for the business started with Bailey Sisoy Isgro, an interior sculptor for Cadillac. She earned her degree at the Center for Creative Studies and works at the GM Tech Center.

She is also getting her PhD in women's studies from Sarah Lawrence College in New York.

She and a friend, Dennis Borawski, both had an interest in Detroit history and she told him she'd like to have given more detailed tours of the history of the city when she worked for the Detroit Bus Company and he suggested immediately that they make that happen.

The end result was the creation of Detroit History Tours (www.detroithistorytours.com, a company that will take people on a bus tour of Detroit.

Customers will visit some of the city's most interstesting historical sites. And, cocktails will be a part of the tours because a lot of Detroit's history took place in bars.

Right now, three tours are planned, Isgro said, each with a particular theme. The first tour is titled, "Wild Women of Detroit."

It's set for 6:15-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7. The cost is \$40.

"Detroit may have been founded in 1701 by the French explorer Antoine Laumet de La Mothe Sirur de Cadillac, but it was his wife Marie who decided much of the town's original layout," Isgro

"From the very beginning, Detroit has been a dame's town.

The tour will take customers to various Detroit sites, including two bars, that will tell the history of the city from the female per-

The next tour, titled, "Tales of Detroit Cocktail Bus Tour," is set for Saturday, March 7, starting at 6:15 p.m. The cost is \$100.

Isgro said this tour looks at Detroit's drinking history. The city has been home to brewers and distillers and played a major role in Prohibition. Five stops will give those taking the tour a sample of "the booze that shaped the city's history," she said.

The final tour scheduled is the Belle Isle Walking Tour and Picnic, Isgro said.

The cost is \$40 and it takes place on Saturday, April 4, starting at 10:30 a.m.

One of the women that will be talked about at this tour is Ann Scripps Whitcomb," Isgro said.

"She was an heiress of the Scripps newspaper fortune and at one time had the largest private collection of orchids in



A 1943 photo shows some of the women who came to Detroit from across the U.S. to learn skills like welding.

the world. She donated that collection to the city of Detroit and, as a result, the Belle Isle Conservatory was named after her."

Isgro said one of the things that makes Detroit History Tours different is that the people behind it, as well as those conducting the tours, have a profound knowledge of the city and its history.

"Our guides won't be people who are just reading off a script," Isgro said. "They will be experts in the particular topics of the tour. They will be speaking using their knowledge and will be able to answer questions and talk about the city's history."

One thing that surprised Isgro when she began setting up the tours was just how much of the city's physical history is still standing.

"Not all of it is in great shape," Isgro said. "But there are buildings around that people still use.

"For example, there is a bar called Abick's in Detroit which opened up 100 years ago. It was run for decades by a woman everyone called Manya.

'We just lost her at the age of

"She was born in the apartment above the bar that's now run by her grandson. It's the oldest continuously run bar in the

"During WWII, when there was rationing, Manya would collect all the stray food ration coupons people had, and use them to buy food on Sundays.

"Then, she would use that food to feed the people in the neighborhood at her bar on a Sunday

'That's a great story and a great piece of Detroit's history that shouldn't be lost."



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"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT SINCE 1933" **JANUARY 26, 2015**

Fiat Chrysler Outsells All Minivans in 2014

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and it's a niche that we've remained strong in."

"After creating the segment in 1983," said Reid Bigland, head of U.S. Sales, "FCA US has more than 30 years of minivan leadership and nearly 80 minivan firsts, including class-exclusive Stow 'n Go seating and segment-leading Blu-ray rear-seat entertainment system.

"We'll continue to listen to our customers and innovate to remain the minivan segment

Bianchi said Fiat Chrysler has worked hard to differentiate the two minivans. The Chrysler Town & Country is more expensive and more luxurious, said Bianchi. It has things like available leather seats and more amenities than the Dodge Cara-

"The Dodge Grand Caravan minivan has the Dodge 'vibe' and is really affordable, with prices starting at \$20,000," Bianchi said. "It's got a lot of value and is for people who need to do some hauling. It's real value at a lower price point."

For 2015, Fiat Chrysler is making a couple of adjustments to help better position the two minivans in the marketplace, Bianchi said.

For example, the Chrysler Town & Country is adding two additional models for 2015, providing customers with comfort, safety and innovative features at any budget, Bianchi said.

Chrysler Town & Country offers the most innovative seating and storage system with standard Stow 'n Go Seats.

Town & Country's award-winning powertrain, said Bianchi, delivers best-in-class horsepower without sacrificing fuel efficiency

The 3.6-liter Pentastar V6 engine is a three-time "Ward's 10 Best Engine" winner and produces 283 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft. of torque.

Chrysler Town & Country achieves an EPA-estimated 17 mpg in the city, 25 on the high-

Ånd, Bianchi said, the 2015

Dodge Grand Caravan is offering new Plus Packages for 2015 to give customers the most desired features at a significant value.

The Grand Caravan offers industry-exclusive Super Stow 'n Go seating that can be easily operated with one hand, allowing users to convert from carrying seven to hauling cargo in a matter of seconds.

The Pentastar 3.6-liter V6 engine provides best-in-class 283 horsepower, said Bianchi, without a penalty at the gas pump, getting up to 25 mpg. The Grand Caravan is equipped with more than 55 safety, security and technology features, she said.

The Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan are built at the Windsor Assembly Plant in Windsor, Ontario, Cana-

The vehicles are built on the company's RT platform, which was first introduced at the 2007 Detroit auto show for 2008 model year vehicles.

A version of the Town & Country is sold in Europe as the Lan-

Two Jeeps, Town & Country, Challenger Earn IHS Awards

Fiat Chrysler kicked off 2015 by winning four IHS Automotive Loyalty Awards.

The Chrysler Town & Country received its 14th consecutive Loyalty Award in the non-luxury mid-size van category, extending its own record of consecutive

The Jeep Grand Cherokee nabbed its sixth award in the Non-Luxury Mid-size SUV category and the Dodge Challenger was honored in its category for the third time.

Jeep Wrangler won the Non-Luxury Compact SUV award for the second consecutive year.

"FCA continues to demonstrate superior performance in owner loyalty across their vehicle segments," said Michael Gingell, vice president, global market analysis solutions and corporate development at IHS.

"The fact that they have won loyalty awards for consecutive vears with a number of their products shows that they give consumers a reason to remain with their brands."

The IHS Automotive Loyalty Awards recognize manufacturers for superior owner-loyalty performance, said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Angela Bianchi, which is determined when a household that owns a particular vehicle returns to market to purchase or lease another new vehicle of the same model or make.

The 2014 awards are based on an analysis of personal new vehicle registrations during the 2014 model year, which ran from Oct. 1, 2013, to Sept. 30, 2014.

The Chrysler Town & Country, Bianchi said, with the 3.6-liter Pentastar V6 engine is a threetime "Ward's 10 Best Engine" winner and produces 283 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft. of torque.

Chrysler Town & Country achieves an EPA-estimated 17 mpg in the city, 25 highway.

The Jeep Grand Cherokee, Bianchi said, has a host of advanced user-friendly technology and safety features. It also delivers best-in-class 30 mpg highway, she said, courtesy of an available 3.0-liter EcoDiesel V6 engine and standard eight-speed transmis-

The Jeep Wrangler is equipped with a 3.6-liter Pentastar V6 engine delivering 285 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft. of torque and up to 21 miles per gallon.

It is one of the few mid-size SUVs that offers a six-speed manual transmission – in addition to its five-speed automatic transmission, Bianchi said.

The Dodge Challenger, Bianchi said, has achieved record sales since the reintroduction of the Challenger in 2008.

And the new 2015 Dodge Challenger SRT Hellcat is the most powerful muscle car ever, said Bianchi.

Trade School Group Donates \$750,000 to LTU

Alumni Association has donated \$750,000 to Lawrence Technological University.

The funds are to be used to create an endowed scholarship fund for under graduate mechanical engineering students.

The donation is among the top 10 largest gifts ever received by the university to establish an endowed scholarship, Lawrence Tech spokesman Eric Pope, and the largest for scholarships from an organization.

Interest income from the endowment will provide needbased scholarship assistance to recipients.

'Through this permanent fund, we will perpetuate and celebrate Henry Ford's legacy in education and create new generations of highly skilled new engineers who are so essential to sustaining American ingenuity and economic leadership," said John J. Graf, president of the Henry Ford Trade School Alumni Associa-

LTU and the Ford alumni group have a long history dating back to Lawrence Tech's creation in 1932, when one of the first acts of LTU founder Russell Lawrence was to create a scholarship fund to attract Trade School graduates, Pope said.

Ford Motor Company founder Henry Ford, and his son, Edsel, then Ford president, helped provide the first classroom building for Lawrence Tech.

One of the early advisors to the university was Frederick Searle, director of education at Ford and director of the Ford Trade School.

President Virinder ITUMoudgil, in accepting the gift, said that numerous Ford Trade School alumni went on to also earn Lawrence Tech degrees.

They included Lewis C. Veraldi, Ford vice president of product and manufacturing engineering, who oversaw development of the 1986 Motor Trend Car of the Year - the first Taurus - and William D. Innes, who in the 1970s advanced to Ford executive vice president and led all of the Dearborn automaker's North American operations.

Henry Ford established several schools where he could offer a

The Henry Ford Trade School technical education that would but also included English, histoprepare young people for work in industry, Pope said.

> The Henry Ford Trade School opened in 1916. Classes emphasized the mechanical arts leading to apprenticeships and journeyman status in the skilled trades,

ry, drafting, chemistry, physics, metallurgy, and bookkeeping, with classwork alternating with shop practice.

The school produced 8,000 graduates before closing in July of 1952.

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Wrangler, Charger Keep Residual Values, Says KBB

Kelley Blue Book has named the 2015 Jeep Wrangler and 2015 Dodge Charger winners of its 2015 Best Resale Value Awards.

For the fourth consecutive year, Jeep Wrangler has been named Best Resale Value in its class and ranked on the Top 10 list for the fifth year in a row. The new-for-2015 Dodge Charger also earned a Best Resale Value Award in the Full-Size Car category.

"The entire list of Top 10 Best Resale Value vehicles is dominated this year by trucks, SUVs and crossovers, which is a testament to the strength these categories will carry in the future," said Eric Ibara, director of residual value consulting for *Kelley Blue Book*.

Kelley Blue Book's KBB.com
Best Resale Value Awards are
based on projections from the
Kelley Blue Book Official Residual Value Guide and determined
by a skilled staff of automotive
analysts, said Fiat Chrysler
spokeswoman Kristin Starnes.
These awards honor vehicles expected to maintain the greatest
proportion of their original list
price after five years of ownership, she said.

'The 2015 Best Resale Value Awards are based not on a feeling or a guess or a simple calculation, but instead on what we consider to be the best research and analysis process in the industry," said Kelley Blue Book spokesman Chintan Talati. "Our resale value projections take into account current vehicle data. sales data, market conditions for each vehicle, competition within vehicle segments, expectations of the future economy and the combined experience of Kelley Blue Book's team of market and pricing analysts. In other words, this data cannot be duplicated, and it can be your ticket to a low-cost ride.'

Jeep Grand Cherokee Earns Green Award

Green Car Journal has named the Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel its 2015 Green SUV of the Year. The announcement was made Jan. 23 at the Washington Auto Show in Washington, D.C.

"The Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel delivers what today's drivers really want in an efficient SUV," said Ron Cogan, editor and publisher of *Green Car Journal*. "It offers a do-everything nature with exceptional comfort, power, functionality and driving range, plus surprising efficiency that delivers lower environmental impact."

Green SUV of the Year finalists included SUVs and crossovers that feature notable environmental achievement while also providing all the attributes expected of this versatile class of vehicle, Cogan said.

The 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel was selected as a winner from five finalists by a jury made up of automotive experts and *Green Car Journal* staff members.

"We are truly delighted that the editors of *Green Car Journal* have named our full-size premium SUV – the 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel – the Green SUV of the Year," said Mike Manley, CEO – Jeep Brand.

"We take pride that Green Car Journal's jurors recognized the blend of efficiency, capability, comfort and performance that the Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel offers consumers. Jeep Grand Cherokee is the most awarded SUV in history, and we're pleased to add this significant award from Green Car Journal to the Jeep trophy case."

Mon & Thurs 8:30-9:00

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Chevy's Amber Icon Warns: **Driver Following Too Closely**

ball games, but in traffic, not so much.

Rear-end crashes make up more than one in four of collisions reported to police each year, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Many are preventable, said GM spokeswoman Jennifer Ecclestone, through technology such as GM's Forward Collision Alert available in several 2015 Chevrolet models, including the Silverado, Malibu, Equinox and Traverse.

Forward Collision Alert warns customers in everyday car-following situations if they may be seconds away from a crash or following much too closely.

And that's not the only technology GM has to help prevent collisions, Ecclestone said.

In the 2015 Chevrolet Impala, Tahoe and Suburban, available Front Automatic Braking goes beyond an alert to automatically slow or stop the vehicle under certain conditions, for example, if the driver does not respond quickly to an alert.

"Many of us have been in driving situations where the car ahead of us suddenly slows - or we momentarily look away at the wrong time - and we have to slam on the brakes to avoid a collision," said General Motors Active Safety Technical Fellow Raymond J. Kiefer.

Front Automatic Braking provides a layer of driver assistance beyond Forward Collision Alert systems to help prevent this common crash situation."

Depending on the model, Chevrolet's Forward Collision Alert system uses a radar located in the front grille area or a

Tailgating is great before foot- camera mounted behind the windshield in front of the inside rearview mirror, Kiefer said. When activated, it produces a green icon when a vehicle is detected ahead and an amber one when a driver is following much too closely.

> A red "Collision Alert" warning will flash - along with rapid, high-pitched beeping – when the driver is approaching a vehicle too quickly and may be seconds away from a potential crash.

> In Chevrolet models equipped with the available Safety Alert Seat, the patented seat will quickly pulse five times on both sides instead of beeping.

> Low-speed rear crashes cost millions of dollars annually in repair costs, Ecclestone said. Higher-speed rear crashes are responsible for severe injuries and even fatalities.

> In a report earlier this year, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety estimated that forward collision alert technology applied across the entire passenger vehicle fleet could prevent 879 fatal crashes a year.

> The auto industry has focused on reducing rear crashes for decades. Systems such as the Center High Mounted Stop Lamp have been in effect since 1986 in passenger cars.

> Over the long term, these have helped reduce rear crashes by about 4.3 percent annually, according to NHTSA.

> GM's Forward Collision Alert technology is designed to encourage customers to accept and use it, Kiefer said.

> "Our goal," he said, "is that our customers leave safety systems on every trip so they can take advantage of the potential safety



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Cadillac's New Techniques Help to Produce CT6 Sedan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

which creates a seamless joining of exterior panels;

- Self-Piercing Rivets, which are able to join different types of materials together with a clean appearance:
- Flow Drill Screws, which are able to join different types of materials and used in conjunction with adhesive;
- Aluminum arc welding and structural adhesive are also separately used for CT6 body assem-

Among the five techniques, the CT6's engineers were able to select the best joining method depending on material combination and body location (for machine equipment access), Caldwell said.

To weld both the inner and outer vehicle frames, 28 robots descend on the vehicle body in two separate framing stations, joining the body-in-white together from all angles. The robots are mounted above and beside the vehicle and can also reach beneath it.

The two framing processes were choreographed to compensate for different microscopic vibrations, and CT6 body construction resembles an orchestra as the robotic arms move in and out around the vehicle.

"Never before has an automaker brought this combination of joining techniques together for a single vehicle," said Travis Hester, CT6 executive chief engi-

"The manufacturing team has enabled body engineers to optimize the vehicle for mass, safety, stiffness and materials with more precision than ever.

"The result is a top-level large

luxury sedan, with class-leading body stiffness that generates excellent driving characteristics and impressive fuel economy without compromises to safety, comfort or quality."

Once the body construction is complete, a large robotic arm lifts the entire vehicle from one part of the assembly line to an upper-level conveyer – unheard of for a vehicle the size of CT6, Hester said - to be transferred across the plant.

Using these advanced manufacturing techniques allows for the CT6 to meet the highest standards in vehicle build quality, and to allow Cadillac to use the most mass-efficient materials while reducing fuel consumption and enhancing safety and driving dynamics, said Caldwell.

Details of the CT6 will be released to the media later this year, Caldwell said, but he added that the vehicle "is a larger car."

By using this new joining technology on the CT6, GM is able to build a bigger car that has the agility of a smaller vehicle.

Additionally, Caldwell said, the CT6 will be a premium car, and its buyers are the type of consumers that expect - and are willing to pay for - premium craftsmanship.

The CT6 marks the return of a full-size luxury sedan to Detroit-Hamtramck.

"It's kind of exciting that this 'hometown' invention of new building techniques will make their debut in the hometown Hamtramck factory," Caldwell said.

"These are 'made in Detroit' techniques GM created to be used in cars made in Detroit leading-edge manufacturing done right at home."

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Faurecia Displays New Technologies at Show

Faurecia returned to the North American International Auto Show in Detroit earlier this month with nearly three dozen new technologies and processes.

The new methods help reduce vehicle weight while enabling automakers to offer more capability and performance to consumers, said Faurecia spokesman Tony Sapienza.

Pursuing a "Less Is More" perspective, Sapienza said, Faurecia features systems and components that weigh less, helping improve mileage and decrease emissions.

said, these technology advancements provide more comfort and roominess for passengers, more flexibility for vehicle designers and more natural materials for improved sustainability.

"Faurecia is dedicated to driving well-being for vehicle occupants, the environment and the automotive industry by making 'less' a central goal and 'more' a consistent result,' Sapienza said.

A wide range of new approaches to fashioning vehicle systems were also exhibited and demonstrated at Faurecia's display in the Crowne Plaza Detroit Downtown Riverfront, directly across from Detroit's Cobo Center, Sapienza said.

New applications of technology and materials inside, outside and under the vehicle were highlighted in products from all four of the company's business groups: Faurecia Interior Systems, Faurecia Emissions Control Technologies, Faurecia Automotive Seating and Faurecia Automotive Exteriors.

"At Faurecia, we consider our 'Driving Well-Being' approach to be a reinvention of the way the auto industry views traditional components and systems," said Faurecia North America President Michael Heneka.

"We are harmonizing desirable technology for the vehicle with the advanced manufacturing processes that bring them to life, all with the goal of demonstrating that less really can mean more for our customers and consumers.

A centerpiece of the Faurecia exhibit was its "Less Is More' demonstrator that showed how Faurecia can integrate its innovations into a lighter, more comfortable vehicle.

The display had such inventions as:

- Thinner, roomier seats built on hybrid frames;
- A fiberglass composite rear floor and trunk;

2014 Car Sales Up In Europe, But **OEMs Cautious**

MILAN (AP) - Europe's automakers' association ACEA has confirmed that the industry's six-year decline ended last year, reporting a 5.7 percent increase in car sales in 2014 to 12.5 million vehicles.

That was the continent's first positive full-year result since 2007, with December marking the 16th straight month of growth.

Despite the upbeat performance reported last week, carmakers were cautious heading into 2015 amid new economic uncertainty

Carlos Ghosn, the CEO of Nissan and Renault, said at the Detroit Auto Show that he expects European growth this year to be slow, around 1 percent to 2 percent.

Jeff Schuster, executive vice president of forecasting for industry consultancy LMC Automotive, says the tamped-down forecasts are due in part to deflation concerns.

- A one-piece, injection-molded window lifter:
- A liftgate made entirely of carbon-fiber composites - that weighs only half as much as a conventional steel liftgate.

Other Faurecia exhibits introduced a full-size premium trunk floor surface composed of lightweight natural wood materials, an industry award-winning active glove box that replaces separate knee-impact airbags, and a rear seat that folds flat and fully reopens with just the touch of a button.

"Faurecia extends its leader-At the same time, Sapienza ship in the use of natural materials within vehicle interiors to incorporate highperformance natural fibers into the instrument panel, center console and door panels," Heneka

The company also exhibited

three new approaches to producing a lighter cross-car beam using composites, hybrid materials or cold-metal transfer welding techniques.

Other Faurecia recent automotive innovations, Sapienza said, include:

- A universal docking station with Bluetooth and near-field communication capabilities;
- A family of new technologies to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions from diesel engines;
- · A compact exhaust-heatrecovery system now extended from hybrids to all-gasoline en-
- Technologies to control the levels and types of sound emitted by exhaust systems.

Faurecia this year made its second appearance at the annual North American Auto



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