Detroit Auto Scene

"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT"

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'Bigger in Texas' – 451 Rams Break Record

states and Canada helped the Ram Truck brand set a new Guinness World Record title for the largest parade of pickup trucks, April 18, in Arlington, Texas.

There were 451 Ram trucks that participated in the "Ram Truck Round-up," breaking the trucks, said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Eileen Wunderlich.

Ram, the "Official Truck" of the Academy of Country Music (ACM) Awards, invited its customers to help break the record in honor of the 50th anniversary of the ACM Awards, which was

Ram truck owners from seven previous world record of 438 broadcast live for the first time ever from AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, April 19, Wunderlich said

"Our hard-working Ram truck owners are passionate and loyal, and today they proved once

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



This Ram truck convoy set a world record at the 2015 Amercan Country Music Awards.



Each 2016 Buick Cascada undergoes water testing before being sold.

Cascada Endures Rigorous Water Shower Test - Passes

2016 Cascada convertible will stay dry when April showers come calling? By making it rain on the assembly line, assuring cloudbursts will be no match for Cascada when it hits dealerships in early 2016.

"Convertibles are best enjoyed when it's warm and sunny, but Cascada has been designed and engineered to be used yearround, regardless of the weather," said John Dolch, program

How does Buick ensure the quality manager for Cascada. "Not only is Cascada's top engineered to be weatherproof in extreme conditions, but each and every Cascada built will also be put through a rigorous water test.

Specialized water test booths, located at the end of Cascada's assembly line, will allow freshly built cars to roll off the line and into testing. Each booth has no

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Michael Tschirhart, Kristin Kolodge, Tim Nixon and Brian Radloff.

Auto Panel Discusses OEMs' Technology Needs, Concerns

by Jim Stickford

The question of just what year old.

people to say their latest software is outdated when it's just a

Delphi Works to Improve Mileage, Safety

by Jim Stickford

For automotive supplier Delphi, there are a couple of ways the company can help OEMs meet their goals of better mileage standards and lower CO2 emissions, while making cars safer.

Dr. Andrew Brown, Jr., vice president and chief technologist for Delphi's Innovation & Technology Office, speaking at the 2015 Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) World Congress on April 21, said one way Delphi can help make cars safer is through the use of cameras.



Delphi's Andrew Brown before display touting its newest technology. CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Magna Frames Lighter, but Still Strong

by Jim Stickford

Magna was able to make a frame

"But that's only half the story,"

kinds of technology automakers should invest in was the topic of discussion at an Automotive Press Association event held at the Detroit Athletic Club on April 22

J.D. Power executive director of Driver Integration & HMI Research Kristin Kolodge presented J.D. Power's 2015 U.S. Technology Choice study. This was followed by a panel discussion on OEM technology needs and concerns.

Kolodge began by saying that J.D. Power recognized the influence of consumer electronics on people's automotive choices.

"People want to be connected," Kolodge said. "But there are a lot of choices, so the question is what do customers want?"

And, Kolodge said, one element in the whole process that is uncontested is the rate of change. It's not uncommon for

"The purpose of this study is to provide objective measures of what people want," Kolodge said. "We measured both preferences and perceived values. The benefit of this study is that it provides automakers with clear road maps for research and development so they can decide what to work on, and perhaps just as importantly, what not to work on."

Technologies that reduce the overall burden of driving and enhance the safety of the vehicle and its occupants receive the most consumer attention, Kolodge said. Among the technologies consumers express most interest in having in their next vehicle are blind spot detection and prevention systems, night vision and enhanced collision mitigation systems.

These findings demonstrate

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

The topic of lightweighting was one of the major themes at this year's Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) World Congress in Detroit April 21 and 22 was lightweighting.

'We even wrote and presented a paper on the subject at this year's congress," said John Zalewski, Global Product manager -Driveline Systems for Magna. "And one way Magna is able to reduce the weight of vehicles is through unibody construction that has the body made of different materials used in different places, depending on the requirements. So in high stress parts of the body, we use lightweight, but strong steel. In less stressed areas, we can use aluminum, which is a third the weight of steel, but can be almost as strong.'

But, said Zalewski, the takeaway from all of this is that helps OEMs achieve two of their how Magna can improve mileage most important goals - improve through improvements to the mileage and reduce CO2 emissions.

that is both light and strong. This Zalewski said. "The other half is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



John Zalewski and Rachel Delaurier show off Magna's new frame.

View This Week's Edition at http://DetroitAutoScene.com

GM Donates \$200K from Auctioned CT6 to Karmanos

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Warren Approves Tax Abatement for **GM Tech Center**

The Warren City Council unanimously approved a request from General Motors on April 21 for a 50 percent reduction of the new property tax revenue that would be generated for construction at the Tech Center in Warren.

Word of the project reached the public earlier in April after Warren mayor Jim Fouts promoted a major industrial project in the city in a press release announcing his state of the city address

This announcement alerted the media to General Motors' plans for the Tech Center. GM spokesman Daniel Flores said at the time that GM was looking at all its facilities and did have plans for the Tech Center, but would not make any comments until all the plans were approved and would be ready to be put into place.

On April 21, the Warren City Council met in a special session and approved granting GM its request for a 12-year, 50-percent abatement on up to \$419.4 million in investment and construction at the Tech Center.

Flores said that the project is still tentative, but now that the city council has approved the abatement request, it will be up to senior GM leadership to decide whether the company will go forward with the construction project.

The Warren City Council received a letter from GM stating that if the project went forward, about 2,600 new jobs would be created and about 3,800 current iobs at the Tech Center would be retained.

Flores noted that should management approve the project, GM would then work with Warren to get the appropriate building permits and work on any potential variances that might be needed.

"This is just the first step in a very long process that, if approved, will take years to complete," Flores said.

"Any plans for construction still have to be drawn up. There's still a lot of work that has to be down before construction could begin." Flores said that one reason why GM is considering renovations at the Tech Center is to bring the facility well into the 21st century. When the Tech Center first opened up in the mid-1950s, it was a state-of-the-art facility that really caught the attention of people around the world," Flores said.

The first new retail production Cadillac CT6 sold for 2016 \$200,000 April 17 at the 13th Annual Barrett-Jackson Palm Beach Auction in Palm Beach, Fla.

All proceeds from the sale to David Flynn from dealer Columbiana, Ohio, will benefit the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, said GM spokeswoman Laura Toole.

The auction extends General Motors' long-standing support of the Karmanos Cancer Institute, one of 41 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the country.

All proceeds from the CT6 auction will support the expansion of Karmanos' Intensive Care Unit and develop a 24-hour Acute Care Clinic to support the continuum of specialized care for Karmanos patients, said Karmanos Cancer Institute spokeswoman Patricia Ellis.

GM senior vice president of Global Public Policy Bob Ferguson and his wife, Debra, chaired the annual dinner on April 25, at the GM Design Dome in Warren. This is the fifth consecutive year that a member of GM senior leadership has chaired the event. Toole said.

"General Motors has a long history of giving back to the communities in which we live and work," said Ferguson. "We are thrilled to continue that tradition by donating our time, funds and assets to support the Karmanos Cancer Institute's world renowned patient care and research.'

Earlier this year, the GM Foundation donated \$500,000 to directly support cancer research at Karmanos. To recognize the combined philanthropic contributions of GM and the GM Foundation over the years, the Karmanos Cancer Institute named one of its laboratory floors the **GM** Foundation Cancer Research Floor, Ellis said.

"We are extremely grateful for our long-standing partnership with GM and the GM Foundation whose philanthropic contributions continue to support our mission to do all we can to end cancer," said Gerold Bepler, M.D., Ph.D., president and CEO, Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. "GM is constantly perfecting and advancing its vehicle engineering, as shown in the exciting Cadillac CT6. So too is our team of expert oncologists and researchers relentless in their commitment to advance discoveries that can lead to new treatments for those battling cancer.

'Together, our two Detroitbased institutions' innovations are improving lives for the better, right here in our hometown and across the globe."

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute is located in mid-town Detroit, and is a subsidiary of McLaren Health Care, is one of 41 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the United States, Ellis said.

Through the commitment of 1,000 staff, including nearly 300 physicians and researchers on faculty at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, and supported by thousands of volunteer and financial donors, Karmanos strives to prevent, detect and eradicate all forms of cancer, Ellis said. Its long-term

cancer care. Gerold Bepler, www.karmanos.org.

partnership with the WSU M.D., Ph.D., is the Institute's School of Medicine enhances president and chief executive the collaboration of critical re- officer. For more information search and academics related to call 1-800-KARMANOS or go to



Debra and Bob Ferguson

Cascada Endures Rigorous Water Shower Test – Passes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fewer than 124 individual nozzles, which will quickly immerse the Cascada in a miniature rainstorm for 10 minutes.

Each nozzle emits 1.9 gallons of water every minute. Cascada's test is designed to produce nearly the equivalent of 1.23 inches of rain in a minute, which matches a world record set in Unionville, Md. in 1956.

Additionally, two Cascadas will be randomly selected daily to undergo another water test, known as the "deluge." While this test is designed to last only eight minutes, each nozzle blasts roughly three gallons of water each minute.

Much like actual rain clouds, Cascada's water testing booths are also part of a water cycle. While nearly 132,000 gallons of water - or nearly 5,500 full bathtubs – will be used daily, only 1.5 percent of that volume is lost to evaporation.

The other 98.5 percent of the water used will be collected, filtered and recycled for use in later tests.

These tests may seem extreme, but they're especially important given April showers are more than an old proverb, Dolch said.

As winter gives way to spring, rain showers are bound to splash cities across the U.S. with more than a little precipitation, at least according to weather experts.

'Typically, April sees weather patterns bring in more moisture from the Gulf, especially in the eastern half of the United States," said Jim Piro and Allan Reppert, AccuWeather climatology supervisor and meteorologist, respectively. "Rainfall for the spring looks to be wet along much of the East Coast, from New York south into northern Florida, and stretching along the Gulf Coast into eastern Texas."

Some spring showers may take drivers by surprise on an otherwise sunny day, but Cascada engineers came prepared. Its power-folding top will be fully deployed in as little as 17 seconds, and at speeds up to 31 mph.

Beginning in early 2016, Cascada owners in arid corners of the U.S. may not have to worry about facing those showers, but they may still appreciate all th effort General Motors engineers put into these tests, Dolch said.

"Chances are good you'll still clean the car with a pressure washer, or run it through an automated car wash," Dolch said. "The same watertight concerns will still apply, even under clear blue skies.



Learn How To Get The Most From Your Retirement Savings

PAGE 2

"But that was about 50 years ago and a lot has happened since then. Right now GM is competing with a lot of companies for engineering talent.

"By making improvements to the campus, really bringing it up to date for the 21st century, we can make both more user friendly and attractive for our current employees and use it as a recruiting tool for potential future employees," Flores said.



Detroit Auto Scene

APRIL 27, 2015

"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT SINCE 1933"

Chrysler Congratulates its Best Suppliers

Fiat Chrysler celebrated its the Year – RR Donnelley; best and brightest suppliers at the company's annual awards event held at Sound Board at MotorCity Hotel on April 21.

Now in its fifth year, the awards event recognizes suppliers that have shown extraordinary commitment in key areas such as quality, innovation, continuous improvement and the company's "Foundational Principles," said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Katie Hepler.

Purchasing leaders Tom Finelli, head of North America Group Purchasing, FCA US, and Scott Garberding, head of Group Purchasing, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles N.V. (FCA), Hepler said, addressed an audience of more than 1,000, discussing the event's theme – "Quality Makers: Design a Better Way.'

"It is extremely important to us to celebrate the achievements of our suppliers," said Finelli. "Their success is our success. Our goal is to cultivate a thriving, innovative supply base that shares our values and can grow alongside us."

Other Fiat Chrysler leaders, including Mark Chernoby, chief operating officer Product Development, head of Product Portfolio Management and Head of Quality, FCA, and Olivier François, chief marketing officer and CEO, Fiat Brand, FCA, who also spoke to the group, Hepler said.

The Qualitas Awards recognize both production and nonproduction suppliers that not only demonstrate operational excellence, but that also demonstrate strong corporate values with leadership in areas such as diversity, innovation and sustainability, Chernoby said.

The 2014 FCA US Qualitas Award recipients are:

• Supplier of the Year - HS R&A (HWASEUNG RUBBER & AU-TOMOTIVE);

Principles Foundational Award (Indirect) - Hanwha;

• Foundational Principles Award (Direct) - US Farathane;

• Metallic Quality Supplier of the Year - Prime Wheel Corporation:

• Electrical Quality Supplier of the Year – Panasonic Automotive Systems Company of America;

• Powertrain Quality Supplier of the Year - F.C.C.; • Chemical Quality Supplier of

the Year - Bridgestone;

• MOPAR Quality Supplier of the Year – NSI:

 Capital Equipment Quality Supplier of the Year – GROB;

• Services Quality Supplier of

• Diversity Supplier Development Supplier of the Year - Barton Malow Company and Johnson Controls, Inc.;

• Sustainability Supplier of the Year - Continental Automotive Guadalajara Mexico S.A. de C.V.; • Tooling Supplier of the Year

HS Die & Engineering, Inc.;

• Supply Chain Management Supplier of the Year – Vari-Form;

• Logistics Supplier of the Year - Hansen & Adkins Auto Transport;

• Technical Cost Reduction Supplier of the Year - Johnson Controls, Inc.;

• Innovation Supplier of the Year – Alpine Electronics, Inc.

Award recipients were determined based on an evaluation of each company's External Balanced Scorecard performance in 2014 – a rating system that evaluates supplier performance in areas such as quality, delivery, cost, warranty and partnership and input from Fiat Chrysler senior leadership, Hepler said.

Suppliers were able to nominate themselves to be considered for the Innovation, Sustainability and Diversity Supplier Development award categories. Awards for Supplier of the Year and adherence to FCA Foundational Principles were added this year. Winners received a trophy that was custom designed and crafted by FCA vehicle designers.

Fiat Chrysler has had a renewed focus on supplier relations since 2009, Hepler said. Ac-

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tivities, such as regular supplier town hall forums, dedicated supplier advisory councils and focused dialogue with the supply base, have helped the company foster more positive, mutually beneficial supplier relationships.

> "It is extremely important to us to celebrate the achievements of our suppliers"

The company also has instituted programs that enhance collaboration and earlier supplier engagement in vehicle program development, foster supplier innovation, drive implementation of supplier generated ideas to optimize the value of purchased components and has executed many process and system improvements to help suppliers work with the Company more effectively, Hepler said.

According to the annual Planning Perspectives survey, the Company has improved working relations with suppliers by an industry-best 51 percent since 2009, Hepler said.

'Bigger in Texas' - 451-Ram **Convoy Breaks Record**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

again that everything is always bigger in Texas," said Robert Hegbloom, president and CEO, Ram Truck Brand, FCA - North America. "Ram is the fastest growing truck brand in Texas, where trucks are king, and it was great to see 451 Ram owners travel far and wide for this oncein-a-lifetime opportunity to be a part of a special record-breaking rally and pickup parade.'

The Ram Truck Round-up parade route started on the east side of AT&T Stadium in Arlington and traveled approximately 3.2 miles around the stadium and neighboring Globe Life Park grounds, Wunderlich said.

Participants in the Ram Truck Round-up parade were treated to a special morning of activities including car-crushing appearances by the Raminator monster truck, music performances by the Austin, Texas-based Midnight Social, appearances by country music artists Kix Brooks, Thomas Rhett and Easton Corbin, and giveaways from Ram brand partners. Participants also received free tickets for the ACM Party for a Cause Festival, taking place at Globe Life Park.

Wunderlich said more Texans drive pickup trucks than any other state (20 percent of motor vehicle registrations versus 12 percent national average) and Ram

of Lake Orion

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is the fastest growing truck brand in Texas.

Ram's current market share of 20 percent has risen 2.52 points (15 percent) in the past five years and the brand sells twoand-a-half times as many pickup trucks in Texas as it does in the next highest volume state, Wunderlich said.

Ram Truck Round-up participants received tickets for the ACM Party for a Cause Festival. The two-day outdoor music event, took place April 17 and April 18, at Globe Life Park in Arlington. The venue, Wunderlich said, included multiple stages for ongoing live country music performances and interactive experiences.

This is the sixth consecutive year that the Ram Truck brand has partnered with, and been, the "Official Truck" of the ACM Awards, Wunderlich said. Ram Trucks' involvement has evolved over the years.

This year, Ram was the sponsor of the Ram Lone Star Stage at the ACM Party for a Cause Festival and ran a national radio promotion where winners received trips to Dallas for the ultimate ACM weekend experience.

In addition, Ram promoted the ACM Awards and ACM Party for a Cause Festival through social media, as well as television and digital advertising, Wunderlich said.

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- Tom Finelli, FCA US





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Mopar Offers Teen Driving Classes May 2-3

Ask any parent about which of Ariel Gavilan. their childrens' rights of passage worry them, it's likely that getting his or her driver's license and being a teen motorist is high on the list.

Well Mopar and the FCA Foundation, in collaboration with NHRA Motorsports Museum and B.R.A.K.E.S. (Be Responsible And Keep Everyone Safe), are doing something to ease parents' minds.

They are offering an advanced driving program called Mopar Road Ready for teen drivers. It will be held in the Detroit area Saturday and Sunday, May 2-3, said Fiat Chrysler spokesman

The program is designed to teach safe and defensive driving techniques and is available to voung drivers between the ages of 15-19 with a learner's or driver's license and at least 30 hours of driving experience, Gavilan said. The cost is \$99

The program will be held at Mopar's world headquarters, located at Mopar Center Line Complex, 26000 Lawrence Avenue, Center Line, Gavilan said

This will provide the media and the public with an inside view of the Mopar Road Ready program, Gavilan said. It is designed to teach teens defensive

driving techniques on a closed course in a controlled environment, including a companion experience for a parent or adult guardian who will actively participate.

The goal is to prevent injuries and save lives by training and educating teenage drivers and their parents about the importance of safe and responsible driving.

Through this collaborative effort, the three Mopar Road Ready events (Pomona, Calif., Gainesville, Fla., Center Line, Mich.) hope to impact more than 1,000 young drivers and their parents, Gavilan said. To register, register@putonthebrakes.org.

Chinese-Made Volvos to Hit U.S. Markets

verge of exporting the first "Made in China" cars to the United States, Volvo is determined to show they are as good as vehicles it produces in Europe.

In contrast to its European factories that check a few completed cars from each batch, every vehicle that rolls off Volvo's 3year-old assembly line in this city China's southwest goes in through a five-hour battery of tests on a driving track. Once a month, or three times as often as in Europe, Volvo tears apart a finished car in Chengdu to examine the quality the work.

The effort to persuade Americans to buy a premium car from China is a new step up in Volvo Car Corp.'s campaign to establish itself as a global luxury brand following its 2010 acquisition by Chinese automaker Geely.

"I have heard no customer ask me where his car is built. It is built by Volvo and is Volvo quality, and of course Chengdu will be exactly the same," said CEO Hakan Samuelsson. "I am quite

CHENGDU, China (AP) – On the confident that we will demonstrate that."

> The sedan due to be exported from Chengdu is the S60 Inscription, based on Volvo's S60L, a version of the S60 sedan designed for China with an extra eight centimeters (three inches) of rear seat legroom for buyers who have a driver and ride in back. Volvo follows automakers including Cadillac and Mercedes Benz that sell extended sedans for the distinctively Chinese market of "rear seat customers."

> In June, the first U.S.-bound S60 Inscriptions are to be shipped down the Yangtze River to Shanghai, then across the Pacific to the U.S. Volvo expects to send about 5,000 per year to the United States, according to Samuelsson. He said Volvo has no plans to "massively export" but, since that model will be produced only in China, will send a few to add to its U.S. lineup.

> The decision follows a string of product quality scandals in the U.S. over faulty or tainted Chinese goods ranging from tires to

toothpaste.

Still, Americans are comfortable enough buying Chinesemade products that the location of Volvo's factory is unlikely to matter so long as the company maintains its quality standards, said industry analyst Yale Zhang of Auto Foresight, a Shanghai research firm.

"Many things sold in America are made in China," said Zhang. "Now it's just another one, a foreign brand that is a car.'

Exports of Chinese-produced cars to the U.S., even under a European brand, are a milestone for the ruling Communist Party, which wants its auto industry expand into global markets.

A handful of China's young but ambitious auto brands have announced plans to export to the United States or Western Europe only to find they could not meet emissions and safety standards.

For its part. Volvo has been exporting to the U.S. since the 1960s from its European factories in Gothenburg, Sweden, and Ghent, Belgium.

Auto Panel Discusses OEMs' Technology Needs, Concerns

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growing customer acceptance toward the concept of the vehicle taking over critical functions such as braking and steering, which are the foundational building blocks leading to the possibility of fully-autonomous driving, Kolodge said.

The only non-collision protection technologies to crack the top five are camera rearview mirror, which falls into the driving assistance category, and selfhealing paint, a comfort and convenience category.

The study, Kolodge said, used advanced statistical methodologies to measure preference for and perceived value of future and emerging technologies. A total of 59 advanced vehicle features were examined across six major categories - entertainment and connectivity, comfort and convenience, collision protection, driving assistance, navigation, and energy efficiency.

"There is tremendous interest in collision protection technologies across all generations, which creates opportunities across the market," Kolodge said. "In contrast, there is very little interest in energy efficiency technologies such as active shutter grille vents and solar glass roofs. Owners aren't enthusiastic about having these technologies in their next vehicles because of other efforts automakers are taking to improve fuel economy, as well as relatively low fuel prices at the present time."

Kolodge said that Gen Yers are willing to spend the most for technology.

"Across all generations, price is the most important consideration for technology accounting

show the greatest price sensitivity, and Pre-Boomer are willing to spend only \$2,415 and \$2,067 respectively.'

Kolodge then joined a panel where she and three other industry experts discussed technology and its effect on the auto industry. Michael Tschirhart, development manager – Human Factor for Visteon, said that one thing companies should avoid is focusing on technology for technology's sake.

"Consumers want real value for the new technology being offered," Tschirhart said. "As time goes on both OEMs and consumers can learn about technology and what's really important to drivers."

Brian Radloff, director of Automotive Strategy Accounts for Nuance, said one thing he's noticed is that a lot of young people want their cars to perform well as cars, and not smart phones.

"Once people get the performance they want from their cars, then maybe they get interested in the tech side of things," Radloff said. "This doesn't mean they don't want tech, but at the end of the day, they first look at quality, reliability and safety of a vehicle.'

Tim Nixon, Global GCCX director Engineering and Development for GM, said that what he and his colleagues have found is that things like quality and performance are taken for granted. That makes it more difficult to differentiate vehicles, so technology becomes important.

It was noted that Henry Ford has been quoted as saying that if he gave people what they thought they wanted, he would have given them a faster horse.

Tschirhart said that he thought waving a foot under a trunk to pop it open automatically was an extravagance until he used it for the first time when his hands were full.

"A lot of this technology is so new," Nixon said. "People might not really understand what it does. So we have to talk about it and show people more so they understand technology more. There is technology out there people don't know that they

Nissan Expands Car Recall

with Takata air bags should be recalled, her lawyer, Kevin Dean, said in a statement.

The recall expansion covers Sentra compacts from the 2004 through 2006 model years in high-humidity states mainly along the U.S. Gulf Coast. Nissan spokesman Steve Yaeger said the cars were added when Nissan found out about Wilson's injury



while analyzing field data.

"Certainly it was a concern to us, and we've moved pretty quickly to expand it," Yaeger said

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Belvidere Plant Honored for **Green Efforts**

The Fiat Chrysler Belvidere (III.) Assembly Plant's new body shop was awarded a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environ-mental Design) Gold Green Building System certification for meeting the highest environmental standards, said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Jodi Tinson.

LEED, administered by the United States Green Building Council, is a comprehensive system to define, measure and validate green buildings, Tinson said. Certification in the national recognition program is based on strict standards in five key areas: site planning, water management, energy, material use and indoor environmental quality. Based on the number of points awarded in each category, a project can achieve a LEED certified silver, gold or platinum status.

We are very proud of the Belvidere body shop's LEED certification as it reflects the Company's commitment to creating a sustainable footprint throughout our operations, including manufacturing," said Brian Harlow, vice president – Manufacturing, FCA North America. "When we have the opportunity to build a new facility, our goal is to design it in a manner that will save money and resources, while having a positive impact on the health of our employees and a minimal impact on the environment."

Belvidere's new 638,000square-foot body shop was built on a brownfield site, connected to the existing assembly plant, with an investment of \$700 million. The new facility was needed to accommodate the unique architecture of the Dodge Dart, the first vehicle produced highlighting the partnership between the former Chrysler Group and Fiat. Belvidere also builds the Jeep Compass and Jeep Patriot.

When it launched in 2012, Tinson said, the Belvidere body shop became the benchmark for future Chrysler body shops in terms of design, efficiency and flexibility. During the building's construction, 95 percent of construction waste, about 14,681 tons, was recycled and diverted.

FCA US to Sponsor The USA Pavillion At World's Fair

Fiat Chrysler US and CNH Industrial are supporting the USA Pavilion at the upcoming world's fair in Milan from May through October 2015.

Expo Milano 2015 is expected to draw close to 20 million visitors during its six months' worth of performances, meetings, conferences and gatherings, all converging around the theme of



"Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life," said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Shawn Morgan.

Fiat Chrysler will serve as the exclusive automotive sponsor of the USA Pavilion, Morgan said.

"It's a partnership that demonstrates the automaker's core values including innovation, sustainable mobility, and community, while at the same time, showcases the vital role trucks play in the everyday life of those in agriculture," Morgan said. The USA Pavilion will feature

multimedia screens throughout the building will feature images from the Ram's award-winning "Farmer" campaign, a tribute to American agriculture and the brand's long-standing commitment to supporting those who work in family farming, agriculture and other farming-related industries, Morgan said. CNH Industrial will be featured as the exclusive agriculture and construction equipment sponsor of the USA Pavilion.

DETROIT AUTO SCENE



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Lower Fuel Prices Help GM's First Quarter Truck Sales

DETROIT (AP) – First quarter profit at General Motors rose nearly eight times above a year ago as U.S. consumers spent big on pickups and SUVs and the company didn't have to set aside a huge stack of money to pay for recalls.

The Detroit automaker said it made \$945 million, as consumers got used to lower gasoline prices and decided to buy bigger vehicles. That's right in GM's sweet spot, with trucks such as the Chevrolet Silverado pickup and Cadillac Escalade large SUV. Profit margins on the trucks are sizeable, with analysts estimating that GM makes more than \$10,000 per vehicle.

In the U.S., where GM still makes most of its money, the company sold more than 198,000 pickups, the best first quarter for the vehicles in eight years, according to Ward's Automotive. The company also sold nearly 55,000 big SUVs, the best January-through-March period in seven years. It's cheaper to fuel a big vehicle. Gas prices have now been \$3 per gallon or lower for six months. Regular was around \$2.49 April 23, according to AAA, compared with \$3.67 a year ago.

The increased profit on trucks is "clearly a favorable tailwind," chief financial officer Chuck Stevens said, boosting GM's bottom line by \$500 million during the quarter.

For the quarter, the average price of a Chevy Tahoe SUV rose 8 percent to more than \$57,000, Kelley Blue Book said. Other truck-based SUVs saw similar or even larger increases.

Although pickup and SUV sales were strong, they were nowhere near the peaks of the previous decade. Pickup sales last quarter were the best since 2007, when GM sold almost 243.000. Big truck-based SUV sales were the best since 2008 at nearly 107,000.

GM's profit amounted to 56 cents per share, compared with only \$125 million, or 6 cents per share a year ago. In last year's first quarter, a \$1.3 billion charge for an embarrassing series of recalls - including one for a deadly ignition switch problem - diluted the profit.

The company did take a onetime pretax charge of \$100 million to add to its compensation fund for victims of crashes caused by faulty ignition switches. It also incurred a \$400 million charge to cut operations in Russia. Excluding the one-time items, GM would have made 86 per share. That fell short of Wall Street expectations. Analysts polled by FactSet expected earnings of 95 cents per share. Revenue for the quarter fell nearly 5 percent to \$35.7 billion on weakness in foreign currencies and sales declines in South America and Russia.

The miss drove GM shares down 3.1 percent in premarket trading to \$36. Shares are up about 4 percent so far this year.

There were some other rough spots as well. GM's global sales rose only 2 percent for the quarter, and its U.S. passenger car sales were down nearly 19 percent at just under 92.000.

GM has now set aside \$550 million to pay victims of crashes caused by defective small-car ignition switches. So far compensation expert Kenneth Feinberg has deemed 87 deaths eligible for compensation, as well as 157 injuries. GM had previously set aside \$400 million, but said it could go as high as \$600 million.





- Early Bird Check-in
- Loaners available
- Convenient Business Hours
- Same Day Service
- Factory Trained Service Advisors
- Online Express Checkout
- Mobile App Service
- Complimentary Loaner Car
- GM Quality Parts

Certified Service

ular vehicle.

Brown said.

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DETROIT AUTO SCENE **Delphi Develops** WE DO HOUSE CALLS OR COME SEE US... 1977 **Methods to Help** Before You Trade-In or Sell Your Car **CORVETTE** Automakers CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 "We have what we call Racams," Brown said. "It's radar technology integrated with a camera that allows the vehicle to better determine what is around it. This allows the driver to operate the vehicle safer by alerting $\overline{\mathrm{FO}}$ FOR SALE • FOR SALE the driver to trouble and even di-Buyer & Seller of Clean Vehicles Since 1975! recting the car away from danger. That last part depends on 1977 Corvette with 59,000 miles, Cooper red line tires, the OEM architecture in a particdark blue with light blue accent stripe, black interior, Delphi is able to help OEMs T-tops, A/C, power windows, power brakes, with their green issues through new sound system and battery, better fuel injection technology, Excellent condition; cruise ready. Asking \$15,500 This creates better fuel combustion," Brown said. "This (248) 622-4923 works by having sophisticated oxygen sensors, the engine can optimize the oxygen mix to have the best fuel combustion. So the car makes the appropriate adjustments in combustion protocols, which gives better mileage and less CO2 production." One of the paradoxes that comes with improving combustion is that because is less CO2 to measure, Brown said, improved CO2 detections sensors had to be developed. "The federal government has NEW TRAX NEW CRU NEW V Π set stricter emission standards," Brown said. "That means that 015 OEMs have to have ways to 2 measure just what gasses their S vehicles are producing and they have to measure the quantifies LEASE FOR PURCHASE A 2014 B6 MONTHS FOR LEASE FOR 24 MONTHS LEASE 1LT 39 MONTHS PURCHASE so they can demonstrate compli-FOR ance with regulations.' **\$113 \$106** \$<mark>289</mark> \$15.514^{*} ^{\$18.997} \$25.995 That has required Delphi to develop better sensors to measure emissions components. And NEW EOUINOX NEW NEW these improved sensors have allowed Delphi to develop systems 2015 that can better adjust the combustion process to maximize mileage and minimize emissions. "An engine needs to determine LEASE A LT 24 MONTHS PURCHASE FOR LEASE FOR 24 MONTHS PURCHASE **PURCHASE A LS** LEASE if it is off spec," Brown said. "If THS FOR FOR its off spec, it then needs to be \$125 \$131^{*} \$76 \$999 DOW \$19,676^{*} ^{\$}18.657 able to make the right adjustments so that it is operating at SPRING So basically, success builds on success. It's through improvements in technology that Delphi ENCORE 'ERAN U NEW NEW NEW is able to help OEMs do what they have to do in a competitive 2015 015 market to meet ever stricter fuel and emissions standards, Brown said. Suppliers that can do that have a bright future in the auto-LEASE FOR 4 MONTHS PURCHASE EASE FOR 4 MONTHS PURCHASE **EASE FOR** PURCHASE **\$99** \$239 \$**gg**

Magna Invents New Aluminum Stamping Ways CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

peak efficiency."

motive industry.

powertrain. One way we were able to make our powertrain more efficient was by making it lighter through the use of an alu-



minum oil pan.

Magna created this oil pan through stamping techniques instead of casting techniques.

"Being able to stamp out the pans means that we were able to make them lighter than if we used casting techniques to create them," Zalewski said. "The new pans are lighter."

The reason why Magna hadn't used stamping techniques before, Zalewski said, is because stamping aluminum is hard.

'To be able to stamp out the oil pans, we had to create new stamping technology," Zalewski said. "That took about three years. To reduce the weight of the oil pans, going with aluminum was really the only option. It's reasonably price and has a great weight to strength ratio. The end result is that we are now able to manufacture an aluminum oil pan that is about three pounds lighter than one made of steel without sacrificing critical factors such as strength.'



GM's Kokomo pumps capture heat to warm water for manufacturing.

GM Honored by the EPA For Energy Savings

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's 2015 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year award for Sustained Excellence for leadership in protecting the environment through superior energy efficiency. GM also received the ENERGY STAR Climate Communications award.

The ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year - Sustained Excellence award, said GM spokewoman Sharon Basel, is the highest recognition a corporation can receive from the EPA.

This year marks GM's fourth such award for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by setting and achieving aggressive goals and employing innovative energyefficiency approaches, Basel said.

"GM is demonstrating a strong commitment to energy efficiency..." - Gina McCarthy, **EPA**

"Achieving operational excellence in all we do extends to re-

General Motors earned the tracking 2.5 million energy data points per minute and providing real-time monitoring of energy per unit produced and facility heating and cooling systems.

 Invested \$34 million in more than 30 facilities for energy efficiency, water and carbon reduction projects, each with a return on investment of less than two years.

 Collaborated with utility companies on energy projects and funding.

• Eliminated the use of coal at Wentzville, Mo., and Detroit-Hamtramck, assembly plants.

 Remained the global leader of the ENERGY STAR Challenge for Industry with 70 GM facility achievers, resulting in \$196 million in energy costs avoided and 1.8 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions reduced, equivalent to adding 378,947 passenger vehicles without a greenhouse gas impact.

'Through its sustained participation with ENERGY STAR, General Motors is helping Americans save money, save energy, and do their part to reduce our nation's greenhouse gas emissions that fuel climate change," said EPA administrator Gina McCarthy. "General Motors is demonstrating a strong commitment to energy efficiency and to preserving a healthy planet for future generations.'

General Motors earned ENER-GY STAR Partner of the Year - Climate Communications for its commitment to educating employees, customers and other stakeholders about the importance of energy efficiency and the impacts of climate change,

Fiat Launches New Version of Classic 500

Just in time for the spring and summer top-down driving season, Fiat has introduced the new Fiat 500 1957 Edition Cabrio.

The Fiat brand continues to celebrate the "storied past of the historic Nuova 500," said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Angela Bianchi, with the addition of a cabrio version of the popular Fiat 500 1957 Edition, which was introduced in 2014.

The Fiat 500c 1957 Edition features a premium dual-layer power-operated cloth top - a contemporary solution to the famous canvas roof on the original Cinquecento - designed to deliver "all-season driving pleasure with the top up or down." Bianchi said.

We continue to expand the Fiat lineup," said Jason Stoicevich. head of Fiat Brand for North America. "The Fiat 500 1957 Edition celebrates the spirit of the original 1957 Nuova 500, and with the arrival of a cabrio version, we are adding open-air fun to the iconic Italian-designed Fiat 500 1957 Edition."

Pricing for the limited-production model starts at \$24,700 U.S. MSRP, Stoicevich said, just \$1,900 more than a base Fiat 500c Lounge. The Fiat 500c 1957 Edition is available for orders now and will arrive at studios this spring.

Stoicevich said that with just the push of a button, the Fiat 500c 1957 Edition's power-operated cloth top retracts up to the rear spoiler during speeds up to a best-in-class 60 mph (a midway point may be chosen by pressing the button anytime between). Press the roof button again, and the roof will neatly fold all the way open and tuck neatly behind the rear head restraints (up to 50 mph).

The power cloth top offers even more technology. When the liftgate is opened for trunk access, the power-operated cloth top automatically retracts back to the rear-spoiler position to avoid any obstruction.

Now available as either a hatchback or a cabrio, the 2015 Fiat 500 1957 Edition includes a sport-tuned suspension for improved handling, 16-inch forged aluminum wheels with a retro body-color design, throwback "FIAT" badging and a premium Marrone (brown) and Avorio (ivory) leather interior, Bianchi said. The model is available in three classic exterior colors: Bianco (white), Verde Chiaro (light green) and exclusive Celeste (celestial blue).

Stoicevich said there's a "romance about Italian cars, brands, fashion and design that make goods from this artisan nation among the most coveted around the globe. Since 1957, the Fiat 500 has embodied all four, empowering the Cinquecento to become one of the most iconic automobiles of all time."

Bianchi said the special edition is based on the Fiat 500 Lounge model, and the 1957 Edition enhances its iconic silhouette with a vintage look, thanks to classic exterior colors for this limitededition Cinquecento, including Bianco (white), Verde Chiaro (light green) or Celeste (celestial blue).

The Fiat 500 1957 Edition features the innovative 1.4-liter MultiAir engine and C514 five-speed manual transmission, delivering an EPA estimated 31 miles per gallon (mpg) city and 40 mpg highway, Bianchi said. The 1957 Edition includes a driver-selectable "Sport" mode on the instrument panel, Bianchi said, to unleash a more aggressive throttle map. Additionally, an optional

six-speed automatic transmission with driver-selectable gear changes is also available. In Sport mode, the automatic transmission offers a more aggressive shift schedule and throttle map for improved engine responsiveness.

The Nuova 500 was the fruit of a strategy designed to develop and revamp Fiat's product range, embarked upon by the company during World War II. Stoicevich said. While the city of Turin was still being targeted by Allied air raids, and the company's Mirafiori offices were occupied by German troops, Vittorio Valletta, Fiat Managing Director and later company Chairman (after the death of Fiat's founder Giovanni Agnelli), asked Dante Giacosa to start thinking of new cars that could go into production after the war.

The result would be the Cinquecento, an automobile that delivered on its mission to provide efficient and affordable mobility during Italy's period of rebuilding and economic recovery.

On July 4, 1957, the hatchback marked the rebirth of Fiat and its product range, Stoicevich said. Exactly 3,893,294 examples of the historic Cinquecento were built between 1957 and 1975, helping to provide an attainable car for Italians and numerous other Europeans.

After 18 years of production, the last Fiat Nuova 500 was built on August 4, 1975, at the SicilFiat plant in Termini Imerese (Palermo, Sicily).

Fiat



Ford Makes Splash at Shanghai Car Show

SHANGHAI (AP) – Ford showed off its new Taurus and Nissan unveiled a midsize sedan and a SUV designed for China last week at the Shanghai Auto Show that highlighted rising competition from lower-priced Chinese auto brands.

Competition in China is intensifying as economic growth slows and more manufacturers pile into the world's biggest auto market by number of vehicles sold. Global automakers are spending heavily to appeal to Chinese tastes and local brands are rolling out lower-cost version of SUVs and other popular vehieign rivals. Local competitors Ola Kallenius, head of marketing have spent heavily to roll out new models that are drawing buyers with lower prices at a time when China's economic growth is slowing.

Brands including SUV producer Great Wall Motor and Geely Holding, owner of Sweden's Volvo Cars, reported first-quarter sales gains of up to 70 percent. That helped to boost their market share so far this year to 43 percent from last year's 38 percent, according to LMC Automotive.

For global brands including Volkswagen AG, sales were flat or for Mercedes Benz, which unveiled an SUV Coupe concept on Sunday.

The abrupt deceleration in China's economic growth has dragged down auto sales growth and prompted buyers to shift to lower-priced models.

Economic growth slowed to 7 percent in the first three months of this year, its lowest quarterly expansion since the aftermath of the 2008 global crisis. That still is higher than the low single-digit growth forecast for the United States and Europe this year, but well below China's peak of 14.2

ducing the environmental impact of how we build our vehicles," said Greg Martin. GM executive director for sustainability. "We are leveraging our scale to conserve energy and resources throughout the manufacturing process."

GM joined ENERGY STAR as a partner in 1995, Basel said. Since then, the company has reduced energy intensity of its U.S. operations, or the amount of energy used per vehicle produced, by 40 percent. It has reduced carbon dioxide emission intensity 41 percent.

Combined, these savings are equivalent to the electricity used by 875,000 homes in one year and has allowed GM to avoid paying \$435 million in energy costs.

The EPA cited these GM achievements in 2014:

• Reduced energy intensity by 6 percent globally.

• Expanded Energy OnStar to GM powertrain facilities. Energy OnStar is the company's system

Specifically, the EPA recognized these communications initiatives:

McCarthy said.

· Published energy and climate-related posts on its environmental blog, making up more than half of the editorial content in 2014.

• Engaged college students as well as professors, non-governmental organizations and environmental leaders in a social media conversation via #CleanEnergyU as part of the voluntary Chevrolet Clean Energy Campus Campaign.

· Participated in energy efficiency discussions throughout the year, including a plenary session at the recent Clinton Global Initiative event during Climate Week.

cles.

Ford Motor Co. used the Shanghai show for the global debut of its latest Taurus, reflecting the event's rapid rise to become one of the global industry's most important showcases. General Motors Co., Mercedes Benz and other global brands also unveiled new models or versions modified for China.

Features on the Taurus include massage units in the back seat. That is aimed at buyers who have drivers and ride in back – a market niche that increasingly is driving automakers to design bigger, more comfortable rear seats.

"This new car represents everything you can expect in the growing portfolio of Ford vehicles in China," said Marin Burela, a vice president of Ford's joint venture with Chinese brand Chang'an.

The show highlighted the resurgence of Chinese automakers following two tough years spent losing market share to for-

even declined due to their emphasis on higher-priced brands for which growth was in low to mid-single digits. That was a sobering development for automakers that are counting on China to drive future revenue.

"Market growth has come to a halt for international brands." said Bernstein Research in a report.

On Monday, Great Wall debuted its H6 Coupe and showed its H8, the latest in a series of SU-Vs that have helped to transform the company into one of China's most successful auto brands. The company has said it hopes to sell 10,000 units of each of the two new vehicles per month.

SUVs, popular with Chinese drivers who value their image of safety in the country's chaotic traffic, accounted for 26 percent of all passenger vehicles sold in the first quarter, the highest proportion of any major market.

"We predict that this year will be an SUV feeding frenzy," said percent in 2007.

The deceleration to what Chinese leaders term the "new normal" of slower but more sustainable growth has cooled corporate profits and the real estate industry. The ruling Communist Party is pressing companies to boost wages in an effort to promote growth driven by consumer spending instead of trade and investment.

"This is driving sales growth in this (lower-priced) segment," said Dietmar Voggenreiter, president of Audi China.

Nissan Motor Co. unveiled the Lannia, a midsize sedan designed for Chinese buyers. The company, which has made China a pillar of its global turnaround strategy, calls the Lannia its first offering for the country's "youth generation."

For the SUV market, Nissan unveiled its Murano hybrid. GM, Ford, BMW, Ford's Lincoln luxury brand and other automakers also displayed SUVs, many of them offering hybrid-electric versions.

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Ford F-150 Loses Weight, Keeps Strength

The new Ford F-150 SuperCrew has earned the government's highest possible crash safety rating

This adds to the F-150's strengths as the toughest, smartest, most capable F-150 ever, said Ford spokesman Mike Levine.

Thanks to 31 new safety-related innovations developed by the Ford truck team, the 2015 F-150 SuperCrew has earned a five-star Overall Vehicle Score in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's New Car Assessment Program.

"The five-star safety rating is a terrific example of One Ford collaboration and innovation," said Raj Nair, Ford group vice president, Global Product Development. "Our truck team worked together for years to deliver this accomplishment, using an unprecedented combination of advanced materials throughout the all-new F-150.

The 2015 model is engineered to be the safest F-150 ever, which matters to customers who depend on this truck to not only get the job done, but also get them safely home.'

F-150's improved performance is enabled by up to a 700-pound weight savings through the use of high-strength steel in the frame; high-strength, militarygrade, aluminum alloy in the cause advanced materials like

body; and smart engineering, Nair said.

A cross-functional group comprised of Ford truck product development veterans and researchers worked to precisely optimize vehicle weight savings and manufacturing design to deliver improved durability, capability, fuel economy and crashworthiness. Nair said.

The team created and patented new structures, materials and joining methods that were tested virtually with supercomputer simulations, then retested in Ford's advanced laboratories to engineer the safest F-150 ever.

The F-150 team started engineering the truck with supercomputers before the first units were ever even crash-tested in a lab.

Engineers developed digital safety models with nearly 1.4 million separate elements to examine how even the smallest parts of the truck would perform in a crash situation, Nair said.

Safety starts with the truck's signature, fully boxed frame - the backbone of the all-new F-150. Engineers added an extra crossmember and increased the use of high-strength steel to improve stiffness, durability and safety while helping reduce the frame's weight by up to 60 pounds.

"The team had to invent new ways to manage crash energy, be-

Catch Detroit Auto Scene

high-strength steel behave differently," said Matt Niesluchowski. Ford truck safety manager. "We found that changing certain shapes led to a weight reduction, while also improving crash performance."

Safety engineers developed a patented 12-corner front crush horn to dissipate more energy in a front impact, Nair said. The uniquely shaped structure helps manage crash forces so the frame buckles predictably to keep those forces away from occupants in the cabin.

This is just one of the 31 new safety-related innovations the team developed to make the truck safer in the event of a crash.

Ford's advanced research and safety teams worked together to engineer F-150's high-strength, military-grade, aluminum-alloy body structure to manage what happens to the body in the event of a crash, Nair said.

The truck's cab features hydroformed roof rails that constitute a cage-like structure around the doors, extruded roof bows to provide lateral strength across the top of the cab, and extruded rocker rails near the bottom to reinforce lower body strength.

How various parts of the truck were joined also yielded safety improvements. In many cases, welding was not the most effec-

depending on occupant size and safety belt usage, Nair said. The • Available inflatable rear safesystem includes dual-stage ty belts for SuperCrew – a segairbags and side-curtain airbags. ment-first feature.

GM's Barra – No FCA Merger

DETROIT (AP) - General Motors CEO Mary Barra is dismissing any talk of a possible merger with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles.

tive way to join parts, so the

team developed and patented

methods to connect parts using

high-strength adhesives. This re-

sulted in structural strength

equal to or greater than tradi-

New to F-150 is an advanced

restraint system that includes an

adaptive steering column that

adjusts energy management

tional welds.

Barra tells analysts on a conference call that the company is focused on making its business more efficient and taking full advantage of its global size. She savs GM won't consider anything that would distract from those efforts.

Fiat Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne recently floated the idea of merging with GM or another global automaker. He is a proponent of industry consolidation and says only the biggest automakers will survive.

Barra says other automakers might want to consolidate, but GM is focused on its plan. That includes leading the industry in new mobility technologies.

Ford and Sony Team Up On **Explorer's Sound System**

inum features an exclusive Sony audio system with two industryfirst technologies -Live Acoustics and Clear Phase.

As a standard feature for the new Ford Explorer Platinum edition, which goes on sale this summer, this marks the first time high-end Sony home audio technology has been used in a vehicle. Live Acoustics and Clear Phase technologies bring realistic concert-quality sound to the Explorer. Ford new said spokesman Mark Schirmer.

"Explorer is about pushing boundaries," says Matt Zuehlk, Ford Explorer brand manager, "and authentic high-end home theater sound isn't just for the living room anymore. The new Platinum series gives customers everything – including a sound system that will knock your socks off."

Explorer has reigned as America's top-selling midsize SUV for 25 consecutive years - marking a quarter century for the vehicle as a leader both in the segment and in its technology offerings, Schirmer said. To develop the proprietary Live Acoustics algorithm, Sony engineers, led by Giro Shiraishi, also a concertmaster at the Sony Philharmonic Orchestra, visited great halls in Amsterdam, Berlin and Vienna, and installed microphones to measure their precise acoustic qualities, Schirmer said. Shiraishi, who began taking violin lessons at age four and has been passionate about sound ever since, wanted to re-create the concert hall experience for Sony's high-end home audio products. "This technology was previously available only in our highend home audio systems – we've now applied the algorithm of Live Acoustics to Ford Explorer Platinum's audio system to transform the listening experience to

The new Ford Explorer Plat- be among the finest in the world," says Shiraishi.

Sony engineers spent more than 100 hours tuning the audio system in the new Explorer with one goal in mind - to provide Platinum driver and passengers with the finest audio experience on the road. Schirmer said.

At the core of the system are 12 high-power speakers in 10 carefully selected locations plus an all-new Class D amplifier to deliver a lossless power source that drives speaker output without straining.

Combined, the 12 speakers are capable of a maximum 500 watts. The speakers are optimized for sensitivity - including the center and surround speakers, a subwoofer with an 8-inch enclosure for tight and full base tones, and door woofers and chrome tweeters with translucent grilles to preserve sound integrity and complement the upscale Plat-





The 2015 F-150's frame contributes to its safety rating.

The all-new F-150 offers the following safety features:

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 Safety belt pretensioners added to the belt anchor side that further tighten the lap belt around front seat occupants, keeping them in a more secure spot early in the event of a crash.

 Curve Control, a technology that will slow the vehicle when it senses the truck is going too fast for a particular curve.

i ne 640 pixel nome page fits most of today's mobile device screen resolutions.

And because of our classic tabloid format, the scrollable pdf edition fits most tablets, and is viewable on a smartphone when needed.

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inum interior.

Even the system's speaker coils are unique - square coils instead of the more traditional round ones - resulting in greater efficiency and heat dispersion.

When music is recorded, is live or in a studio, the best sound engineers always take care to establish a full sound stage. In other words, they make sure each instrument occupies specific areas in the "space" in front of the listener.

In the context of a vehicle, imagine occupants are listening to a live concert with instruments strategically placed in distinctive and acoustically correct "zones" on the vehicle's dashboard.

Ford Explorer is built at Chicago Assembly Plant, as well as in Venezuela and Russia. It is sold in more than 100 markets across the globe.

Ford expects to export 56,000 Explorers from the United States this year alone, Schirmer said.

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DETROIT AUTO SCENE



eive a gift b will each receive a 27 game season ticket package for 2. to enter. One entry person. One winner per household. byees of Ray Laeth years of age o ed not be pre m Motor Village and their are not eligible. Cont ist ends at 9:00 PM on May 4, 2015. Drawing to be held at Ray Laethern Buick GMC on May 5, 2015 at 5:00 PM. Winner i sent to wir

