

UAW Targets GM for Next Round of Contract Negotiations

DETROIT (AP) – After United Auto Workers members approved the Fiat Chrysler Automobiles four-year contract on Oct. 22, the union has turned its attention to General Motors Co. to

negotiate a new labor deal for its workers.

Union members at Fiat Chrysler voted overwhelmingly to approve the tentative agreement, after rejecting an earlier

proposal by a 2-1 ratio.

The union, based in Detroit, now will focus on getting a contract agreement with General Motors, which has about 51,000 UAW members.

It is expected the Fiat Chrysler agreement will be used as a template for a deal at General Motors, although GM is much bigger and more profitable than Fiat Chrysler so compensation terms that are

finally agreed upon by both General Motors and the UAW workforce could be higher for hourly workers.

The UAW lastly will negotiate with Ford Motor Co.

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Fiat Chrysler UAW Employees Approve New Contract

DETROIT (AP) – Following months of negotiations, the United Auto Workers have confirmed the ratification of a new four-year agreement with FCA

UAW FCA members voted with a 77 percent majority in favor of the new agreement, according to

the UAW International Union Facebook page on Oct. 22.

It's the second time in a month that Fiat Chrysler's 40,000 union members at 23 U.S. factories voted on a contract. A previous deal was soundly rejected largely because it didn't eliminate a much-

hated two-tiered pay system.

A union local in Belvidere, Ill., with 4,200 workers, voted 81 percent in favor of the new deal, according to its website. The plant makes the Dodge Dart compact car. Also, 84 percent of production workers at a metal stamping plant in Sterling

Heights voted yes. Skilled trades workers at the plant voted 64 percent in favor, according to postings on the union website.

The new agreement gives raises to all workers and eliminates the two tiers over eight years.

The union will use the Fiat

Chrysler deal as a template for talks with Ford and General Motors. GM has been chosen by the UAW to work on negotiations for a new contract.

UAW President Dennis Williams

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GM to Hire 1,200 for Detroit-Hamtramck

It's good news for Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly.

General Motors is nearly doubling its workforce at the plant by adding a second shift and more than 1,200 hourly and salaried jobs.

The addition of a second shift will increase the plant's workforce to approximately 2,800 when hiring is completed, said GM spokeswoman Courtney Zemke.

The second shift is necessary to meet forecasted market de-

mand for the four – soon to be five – cars produced at Detroit-Hamtramck.

“This is the result of the award-winning vehicles Detroit-Hamtramck produces and the confidence GM has in our team to build world-class quality for our customers,” said Plant Manager Gary West.

Second shift hiring is under way, and the shift is scheduled to begin operations in early 2016, Zemke said.

“The workforce at Detroit-

Hamtramck is second to none,” said UAW Local 22 Shop Chairman Don LaForest. “We appreciate the opportunity to expand our UAW-GM family.”

The 4.1-million-square-foot Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly opened in 1985. GM has invested \$1 billion in the plant over the last six years, making it one of the company's most agile manufacturing facilities in North America, Zemke said.

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Workers at Detroit-Hamtramck will soon have 1,200 new colleagues.



Maj. Gen. Gwen Bingham, Erik Sword and Marissa O'Donnell at TACOM.

Kraft Lunchables Donation Sparks Plans For New Youth Center at Detroit Arsenal

by Jim Stickford

Talk about something to chew on. The Detroit Arsenal Child Youth and School Services (CYSS) received a \$25,000 grant from Kraft Foods' Lunchables division at a special ceremony on the grounds of TACOM on Oct. 19.

The money is part of Kraft Lunchables' five-year \$1 million program to help Boys and Girls Clubs of America around the country, said Erik Sword, senior associate brand manager of

Lunchables. He traveled from Madison, Wis., to hand out the check.

“Lunchables has created a five-year program in which we will hand out funds to Boys and Girls Club chapters around the country,” Sword said. “This is our third year of the project. The first two clubs that received money were based in Madison, Wis., and Los Angeles. We haven't picked the clubs that will receive funding in years four and five.”

Sword said the Detroit Arsenal CYSS submitted a grant request

and it was selected as the third group to receive funding because their proposal emphasized fun and active lifestyles for kids.

The money from the grant will go toward building a new demo kitchen for CYSS. The kitchen will provide practical, hands-on experience aimed at teaching teens how to prepare healthy meals.

The proposal also calls for an instructional room that will be used for creative movement

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Buick Ranks in Top Ten in Reliability Study

by Jim Stickford

The results of *Consumer Reports'* ratings of vehicle reliability are in.

And Auto Test Director Jake Fisher said, “Overall, the days of ‘Asians and Europeans good, American cars bad’ are gone.

“It's much more mixed now. Nissan is reporting more trouble. Ford is seeing improvements and GM has some really good vehicles – and others have problems.”

Overall, Buick as a brand was in the “most reliable category,” placing seventh overall in reliability, Fisher said.

When asked why Buick was GM's best brand considering the fact that some of its vehicles are made in the same plants as Chevys, Fisher said Buick is unusual.

It has no large SUV in its fleet, so it's avoiding that trouble zone. And Buick's platforms are differ-

ent from the rest of GM. Basically, he said, it comes down to design.

Ford finished six places higher than last year, Fisher said. Chevrolet moved up one spot, and the Fiat Chrysler brands stayed in place.

The results of these *Consumer Reports'* ratings were released Oct. 20 at a special Automotive Press Association event held at the Detroit Athletic Club.

Mark Rechtin, autos editor for *Consumer Reports*, told reporters that the rating system is the result of a new method that's computerized and results are based on the responses of more than 700,000 subscribers.

Rechtin said that because the responses are totally computerized, respondents had the ability to do more than fill in boxes in response to *Consumer Reports* questions.

“This new method allowed us to have verbatim written an-

swers to our questions,” Rechtin said. “They had the chance to vent and, boy, did they.

“And we weighted answers differently. It's one thing to complain about a problem that was fixed in five minutes and quite a different thing to say that your transmission had to be replaced twice. So those different problems were weighted differently in our analysis.”

Rechtin said that *Consumer Reports* tracks problems across 17 different categories. Issues of safety, cost of repair and time out of service were factored into the grading process.

Rechtin said that the reliability results are different from *Consumer Reports'* road tests.

Those are performed on a 2.8-mile track and the vehicles are purchased at the retail level and are not from OEM's press pools.

He said that the vehicles that were rated as popular with *Consumer Reports* testers weren't nec-



2015 Buick Enclave

essarily considered reliable.

“With this new system, we have a much better idea of what goes on with vehicles,” Fisher said. “It's good to have actual people tell us their actual experiences. And these are not people who were unhappy with infotainment systems.”

Fisher said that some of these results surprised the people at *Consumer Reports*.

The information gathered in the reliability surveys showed two broad trends, Fisher said. First, infotainment systems are becoming more and more popular and getting them to really work well requires a steep learning curve.

“Car companies aren't Samsung or Apple,” Fisher said.

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TAJCO Relocates Sales Offices to Auburn Hills

TAJCO, a full solutions provider of exhaust trims, has relocated its North American Sales office from Grand Blanc to Auburn Hills.

The move, which includes sales and marketing along with program management, will heighten the company's presence in the automotive supply arena, and will also allow the global company to keep a local metro-Detroit presence, said Steve Widdett, Tajco's chief commercial officer.

"Auburn Hills' close proximity to our customer base not only facilitates more efficient interaction with our key clients, but also allows us to take advantage of the area's strong automotive talent pool," said Widdett.

As a provider of high-end stainless steel exhaust trims for vehicle manufacturers throughout the world, Tajco has been experiencing significant growth across its exhaust and bumper/fascia-mounted product lines. This move expands the company's business footprint and enables Tajco to better support its customers' global needs.

GM to Hire 1,200 Employees for Detroit-Hamtramck

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The plant currently builds the Chevrolet Volt, Impala and Malibu; and Cadillac ELR on a single production line. The plant begins production of the Cadillac CT6 in early 2016.

Detroit-Hamtramck (DHAM) is General Motors' most complex manufacturing assembly facility and the only plant in North America building multiple cars representing three brands on one production line, said GM spokesman Dave Darovitz.

The facility is GM's only plant located in Detroit with a total footprint that spans into two cities – Detroit and Hamtramck.

Detroit-Hamtramck is the epicenter of electric vehicle production, building all of GM's extended-range electric vehicles, Darovitz said.

The first vehicle produced at DHAM for sale – a Cadillac Eldorado – came off the end of the line at 12:05 p.m. on Feb. 4, 1985. Since then, more than four mil-

Kokomo First FCA Casting Plant to Earn WCM Bronze

The Fiat Chrysler Kokomo (Ind.) Casting Plant has been awarded bronze status for its efforts to improve in World Class Manufacturing (WCM), becoming the first casting facility to earn recognition in this global methodology that is practiced in industries beyond automotive.

As the 11th Fiat Chrysler facility to receive bronze status, Kokomo Casting was awarded bronze after a two-day audit in which the plant earned a minimum of 50 points in 10 technical and 10 managerial pillars by demonstrating clear WCM know-how and competence through employee-conducted pillar presentations and a review of projects that have been implemented across the shop floor, said FCA spokeswoman Jodi Tinson.

With Kokomo Casting's award, there are now three Indiana plants in the bronze class. Indiana Transmission II and Kokomo Transmission each received the bronze designation in 2014, Tinson said.

"It is appropriate that this honor comes as Kokomo Casting marks 50 years in operation because it recognizes the commitment of our workforce to building on the plant's history and creating a global path for future success," said Brian Harlow, vice president – Manufacturing, FCA North America.

"The Kokomo Casting employees have dedicated themselves to improving safety and quality while operating the world's largest die cast facility and playing an integral role in our operations around the world.

"WCM continues to be a vital part of this company's growth and could not have been achieved without the support of our UAW partners. Our hourly employees have demonstrated that they are committed to keeping FCA US competitive with the best manufacturing facilities in the world."



Fiat Chrysler worker prepares die cast part at Kokomo Casting.

One of five Fiat Chrysler Indiana facilities, Kokomo Casting employs nearly 1,300 people who use nearly one million pounds of metal each day to cast aluminum parts for automotive components, transmission and transaxle cases, and engine blocks.

Tinson said the facility is best known for supporting the production of the eight- and nine-speed transmissions that can be found in one of the following vehicles: Jeep Cherokee, Chrysler 200, Jeep Renegade, Ram Pro-Master City, Jeep Grand Cherokee, Chrysler 300, Dodge Charger, Dodge Challenger, Dodge Durango and Ram 1500. More than a million of each transmission has been assembled and shipped from the nearby Kokomo and Tipton, Ind., manufacturing facilities.

Tinson said World Class Manufacturing is a methodology that focuses on reducing waste, increasing productivity and improving quality and safety in a systematic and organized way. WCM engages the workforce to provide and implement suggestions on how to improve their jobs and their plants, promoting a sense of ownership.

WCM was first implemented by Fiat in 2006 and introduced to Chrysler Group as part of the alliance between the two companies in June 2009.

During an audit, Tinson said zero to five points are awarded for each of the 10 technical pillars, which include safety, workplace organization, logistics and the environment, and for each of the 10 managerial pillars such as management commitment, clarity of objectives, allocation of people, motivation of operators

and commitment of the organization.

A score of 100 would indicate World Class.

Two WCM-certified auditors from FCA – a representative from the Central Staff of the WCM Development Center for Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and the plant manager of VM Motori in Italy – performed the audits, Tinson said.

In addition to Kokomo Casting, there are eight other facilities that currently hold the WCM bronze designation: Saltillo Truck Assembly Plant (Mex.), Saltillo South Engine Plant (Mex.), Trenton Engine Complex (Mich.), Warren Stamping (Mich.), Indiana Transmission Plant II (Ind.), Kokomo Transmission Plant (Ind.), Toledo (Ohio) Assembly Complex, and Toluca Assembly Plant (Mex.). Windsor Assembly Plant (Ont.) and Dundee Engine Plant (Mich.) received the WCM Silver designation in March 2014 and May 2015, respectively.

Kokomo Casting currently employs a total of 1,293 workers and is the world's largest die cast facility. The plant first opened up in 1965 and has had expansions in 1969, 1986, 1995 and 1997.

Kraft Donates \$25K to Detroit Arsenal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

classes like dance and gymnastics. And there will be newly renovated outdoor space on the Arsenal campus that will be equipped with activity areas that encourage fitness and physical activity while appealing to teens. Among the construction will be new basketball courts.

"This construction should support kids here at the Arsenal as well as those who are partnered with local Boys and Girls Clubs," Sword said.

Marissa O'Donnell, marketing director for Healthy Lifestyle Brand Platforms for the National Boys and Girls Clubs of America, said that she and her colleagues at the national level were on the selection committee.

"We were thrilled to have picked the CYSS because it means opening up a youth center that will allow kids to build healthy lifestyles that promote physical well-being," she said.

TACOM commander Maj. Gen. Gwen Bingham said that CYSS receiving the grant from Kraft Lunchables was the result of good leadership.

"A number of good people worked diligently without expecting anything in return to make this happen," Bingham said.

"So when we were told recently that CYSS would be getting a check for \$25,000, that got my attention. As senior commander, I often find myself saying that what goes on inside the base can't happen without the people outside the base. This is an example of that."

One of the people honored at the ceremony was Chelsea Totten, CYSS Outreach Service director.

"I am so excited to have worked on the proposal that has resulted in the building of a new youth center.

"It's something we've been wanting for a long time and thanks to Kraft Lunchables, it will become a reality."

lion cars have been built. The plant currently operates on one shift, on a five-day-week, 8-hour-day schedule.

In addition to multi-vehicle production, DHAM is one of GM's more green facilities, Darovitz said.

The plant is the home to a 16.5-acre wildlife habitat conservation area that has received recognition and certification from the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC). A 30kW solar carport located in the visitors' parking lot has the

capability of simultaneously charging up to 10 electric vehicles.

The plant recycles about 70,000 wood pallets and 609 tons of cardboard annually.

In partnership with a local utility company, the plant houses Michigan's largest ground-mount solar array generating 516kW, Darovitz said.

The facility is 6.06 acres in size and capable of providing 10 percent of the fixed demand for the plant.

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Chevy Readies for SEMA With New Accessories

by Jim Stickford

Chevrolet is ready for the upcoming SEMA convention in Las Vegas Nov. 3-6.

The automaker unveiled the Chevy vehicles to be shown at the Specialty Equipment Market Association's annual show when Jim Campell made the announcement Oct. 21 at the GM Heritage Center in Sterling Heights.

Campbell, GM's U.S. vice president of Performance Vehicles and Motorsports, said 2015 will be the 38th year that Chevrolet has been at the SEMA show.

"From the small block V8 to the big block V8 to fast forwarding to today when Chevy is introducing a new set of accessories and street-level performance parts, we've been at SEMA," Campbell said.

"The show is important because SEMA is a trade show where the key audience that attends are SEMA members who buy parts and accessories for their stores. What they see at SEMA and like is what they will stock in their stores for the next year."

About 60,000 SEMA members are expected to attend this year's show. And, Campbell said, SEMA is well covered by the media, getting Chevrolet's message to the public.

"And, on the last day of the show, SEMA opens its doors to the public," Campbell said. "This year, we have something we want to show off."

The 2016 Camaro, the sixth generation version of the vehicle, is coming out soon, Campbell said. And Chevrolet is ready for it with aftermarket parts and accessories designed in advance to come out at the same time as the new-generation Camaro.

"We've been busy planning, designing and testing new parts for the new Camaro," Campbell said. "Our mission is to be ready and prepared for those who like to personalize and enhance their Chevrolet cars and trucks."

Todd Parker, lead designer for Accessories at Chevrolet, said this just makes sense because people want the market to turn more toward specialization of vehicles.

"Back in the day, many auto-

makers thought there was some way to make that special car that pleased everyone," Parker said. "What we've all learned over the years is that when you try to please everyone, you end up pleasing no one."

"So now, Chevrolet is leaning toward building vehicles that facilitate individuals being able to modify their vehicles to fit their individual lifestyles. So our trucks are easy to modify so that people can carry kayaks or bicycles."

"In the case of the 2016 Camaro, we offer all kinds of kits that allow drivers to fix the car to their liking."

What's important to remember about Chevy's aftermarket kits and parts, Campbell said, is that they were designed and tested by GM engineers at the same time the new Camaro was designed and tested.

So the parts fit the car, Campbell said, "and while aftermarket parts makers try hard to make sure their parts fit the cars they are built for, sometimes they don't fit as well as people would like."

Additionally, Campbell said, people can use GM's aftermarket parts on the new Camaro without voiding any of the car's warranty protections. That isn't always the case with non-GM aftermarket parts.

Between Oct. 21 and the start of the SEMA show in early November, GM will be revealing different aftermarket kits and vehicles that have been modified using these kits to the public as a way of building interest and anticipation for the SEMA show.

Part of what Chevy does at SEMA shows, Campbell said, is show concept kits. The most popular ones move from concept to reality in next year's show.

Chevy also revealed its Red Line concept kits at the Oct. 21 event. The kits, said Campbell, blend equal parts style and functionality. Chevrolet's Red Line Series concept vehicles demonstrate the lifestyle and personalization possibilities of the brand's latest vehicles - all with a street-smart aesthetic, Camp-



This 2016 Camaro was modified using Red Line Series concept parts.

bell said.

Kits for the Trax, Malibu, Camaro, Colorado and Silverado 1500 model were shown.

"The Chevrolet Red Line Series concepts integrate accessories that offer greater personalization choices," said Campbell. "Each vehicle wears production and concept accessories thematically linked under the Red Line Series banner. We look forward to gauging public reaction at the SEMA Show and other venues."

"Chevrolet Accessories," said Roger McCormack, director, Accessories & Performance Parts Marketing, "bring value and the added security of knowing the parts are designed, engineered, tested and backed by the same team that developed the vehicles."

All of the Red Line Series concepts share Enhanced Silver Metallic exteriors, with a custom Charcoal roof panel and Satin Graphite and red accents.

Campbell said the Red Line are just some of the kits that will be revealed at SEMA. This effort is

being made because Chevy understands the importance of the aftermarket and the ability to give customers the chance to make their cars and trucks truly their own, he said.

"This is our mission," Campbell said. "And we're serious about this part of the business."

Teen Halloween Party to be Held At Hawk Woods

The Auburn Hills annual Teen Halloween Party, sponsored by the city's library department, will be held on Friday, Oct. 30, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The event will be held at the city's Hawk Woods Park and is scheduled to last for three hours.

In addition to a costume contest, there will be a raffle. Space is limited and those wishing to attend are urged to call 248-364-6712 to reserve a spot.

Those attending are urged to bring orange and black foods to be shared by all.

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GM Catches New Ignition Problem Early, Has Recall

DETROIT (AP) - General Motors has another ignition switch problem that can make engines stall, but this one was discovered quickly and no one has been hurt.

The automaker is recalling about 3,300 pickup trucks and SUVs, mainly in North America. Ignitions can get stuck in the "start" position and slip into "accessory" if jostled. That causes engines to stall and disables power steering and possibly air bags.

The problem is similar to one revealed last year in 2.6 million older GM small cars that cost the company billions and killed at least 169 people. General Motors has admitted that the company knew of the trouble but didn't recall the vehicles for almost a decade.

The new recall covers 2014 Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra light-duty pickups, 2015 heavy-duty pickups, and 2015 Suburban and Tahoe SUVs.

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FCA Employees Ratify New UAW 4-Year Contract

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said Ford and GM make more money and should be able to pay more, a statement that conflicts with company goals of cutting labor costs to bring them more in line with foreign auto-makers with U.S. factories.

The new agreement with Fiat Chrysler would gradually eliminate the tiered pay system that the union agreed to in 2007 when all three Detroit automakers were in financial trouble, bringing all of FCA's U.S. factory workers to the same wage over eight years.

But members have resented the varying pay, and the company's current CEO, Sergio Marchionne - who took over when Chrysler merged with Italian automaker Fiat in 2009 - has called the two-tier wages "unsustainable."

Under the new agreement, workers with four or more years of experience would make the top \$29 hourly wage within four years; workers with less experience would make between \$22.50 and \$28 in four years and top wages in eight years.

About 45 percent of Fiat Chrysler's hourly workers are lower-tiered workers who now make wages as low as \$15.78 per hour. For a typical member with two years in, the UAW said the agreement is worth \$44,000 over four years.

Like the previous agreement, the new contract promises the first raises in nine years for the highest-paid workers, who now start at \$28 per hour. Top-tier workers will get a \$4,000 bonus; lower-tier workers will get \$3,000. The previous contract promised \$3,000 bonuses for all workers.

Workers from both tiers banded together to defeat the previous contract, saying they deserved a bigger share of Fiat Chrysler's profits after giving up raises and bonuses when the company was struggling.

The new agreement calls for a \$5.3 billion investment in U.S. plants, as the previous agreement did, but this time the UAW spelled out which plants would get that investment.

Classic Muscle Car Nets \$42,000 at October Auction

AURORA, Neb. (AP) - A shiny red 1966 Ford Mustang was sold for \$42,000 at an auction in Nebraska that included more than 100 antique cars, trucks, tractors, motorcycles and other items.

The auction Oct. 18 in Aurora offered bidders treasures collected by Harvey Bish, the *Omaha World-Herald* reported. The Mustang with a retractable hard top is a prototype that Bish purchased in 1996 from Ben Smith, a former Ford Motor Company engineer who designed the car.

Both Bish and Smith attended the auction. Hundreds sang to Smith to celebrate his 93rd birthday. Before the start of the auction, which included more than 700 registered bidders in person or online, Bish was spotted driving around in a 1908 Waltham Runabout vehicle. As the oldest car in his collection, it was later sold for more than \$2,000.

Alyse Krejdl, of Eagle, is Bish's granddaughter. She said she has fond memories of the 1966 Mustang.

"It has to be my favorite out of them," she told the newspaper. "That is the one that Grandpa would always let me drive around town and take to prom. He's a great guy."





Ann Cathcart Chaplin



Jeff Taylor

GM Appoints Two to Deputy General Counsel Positions

General Motors has appointed Ann Cathcart Chaplin as deputy general counsel for Litigation, effective Dec. 14.

Cathcart Chaplin will report to Craig Glidden, executive vice president and general counsel.

In addition, Jeffrey A. Taylor is joining the company Nov. 1 as deputy general counsel for Federal Oversight. He will also report to Glidden, said GM spokesman James Cain.

Cathcart Chaplin, 42, is currently the Litigation Practice group leader at Fish & Richardson, a global patent, intellectual property litigation and commercial litigation law firm with more than 400 attorneys and technology specialists across the United States and Europe.

In this role, which she has held since 2011, Cathcart Chaplin oversees 245 lawyers in 12 offices worldwide.

She is a member of Fish & Richardson's management committee and previously served as managing principal of the firm's Minneapolis office for more than five years.

For the past 11 years, the firm's Litigation Group has handled more patent litigation in the United States than any other firm.

In her new position at GM, Cathcart Chaplin will lead all of the automaker's general and product litigation.

"Ann is a great addition to our team," said Glidden. "She is an experienced trial lawyer, an exceptional leader, and her work in litigation project management has been innovative."

"Having her expertise at GM will be an incredible asset as we manage complex legal issues, and deploy advanced technology to transform our vehicles and the way we manage the business."

Cathcart Chaplin earned her juris doctor degree, cum laude, from Harvard Law School in 1998. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, where she graduated summa cum laude in 1995.

Taylor, 50, is currently vice president and general counsel of Tewksbury, Mass.-based Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems.

Before that, he led a team of more than 300 professionals as chief executive of Ernst & Young's Fraud Investigation and Dispute Services practice in the Americas.

He served in the United States Department of Justice for 15 years as an assistant U.S. attorney, senior advisor to Attorneys General John D. Ashcroft and Alberto R. Gonzales, and as the U.S. Attorney for Washington, D.C., from 2006 to 2009.

Among Taylor's duties will be working with the federal monitor who will be appointed as part of the Deferred Prosecution Agreement GM has entered into with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. The monitor will review and assess the company's policies and procedures in certain discrete areas relating to safety issues and recalls.

"Jeff is a highly accomplished attorney who has managed extremely complex legal issues and his appointment demonstrates how seriously we take our commitment to the federal government and our customers to build the best safety organization in the industry," Glidden said.

Taylor earned his juris doctor degree from Harvard Law School. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Stanford University.

Ford Flushes Out Overuse of Fresh Water

Ford Motor Company has been honored for the way it helps conserve the most precious commodity in the world – fresh water.

The Dearborn automaker received the top score for its work on global water conservation from CDP (formerly known as the Carbon Disclosure Program), the world's only environmental disclosure agency, said Ford spokesman John Cangany.

Ford is one of eight corporations to receive CDP's highest honor for its work on water issues, from among more than 400 global companies considered, Cangany said.

And Ford is the only North American company to earn CDP's highest honor for corporate water stewardship. More than 400 companies were considered for CDP recognition, with eight ultimately receiving recognition, Cangany said.

The full CDP report was unveiled Oct. 22 as world leaders gathered in Tokyo to discuss global water challenges.

"The business case for action to improve water security has never been stronger or more urgent," said Cate Lamb, head of water at CDP. "For this reason, we congratulate Ford Motor Company for achieving a position on CDP's Water A List."

"Ford is responding to market demand for environmental accountability and, at the same time, is making progress toward the realization of sustainable economies."

From 2000 to 2014, Ford cut its total global water use by 62 percent, equaling more than 10 billion gallons, Lamb said.

The automaker also attained the achievement two years ahead of the company's self-im-

posed schedule, Cangany said. "At Ford, we see water as far more than an environmental concern," said Andy Hobbs, Ford director, Environmental Quality Office. "Access to clean, affordable drinking water is a basic human right."

"We have worked diligently to set year-over-year goals to reduce our water use while introducing innovative manufacturing technologies to help us achieve these goals. We are pleased CDP is recognizing Ford as a sustainability and water conservation leader."

While water has historically been a relatively inexpensive resource, its cost is expected to continue to rise over the next several years, Hobbs said.

This forecast about future costs of obtaining water prompted Ford management to establish

its Global Water Management Initiative in 2000 to help guide its water conservation work.

The automaker also introduced several new technologies such as a 3-wet paint process and minimum quantity lubrication, Lamb said. Both save hundreds of thousands of gallons of water per year.

"Our efforts around water have evolved over the years," said Hobbs. "We have moved beyond merely reducing the water footprint at our facilities, to working more holistically to address water concerns with our suppliers and in the communities in which we work."

"We understand as an industry leader with nearly 195,000 employees worldwide, our work has a large-scale, positive impact, so we are thrilled to know we're heading in the right direction."

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GM Profits Overcome \$1.5B In Costs from Switch Recall

DETROIT (AP) – General Motors' third-quarter profit fell slightly, but the company rode strong North American sales to overcome \$1.5 billion in costs from its deadly ignition switch recall.

The Detroit automaker's net income slipped 1.4 percent from a year ago, but still was \$1.36 billion, or 84 cents per share. That compares with \$1.38 billion, or 81 cents per share, a year ago.

Without the recall costs, GM would have made \$1.50 per share, soundly beating Wall Street expectations. Analysts polled by FactSet expected \$1.18 per share.

The company posted a record \$3.3 billion pretax profit in North America, more than offsetting a small decline in China and a loss in South America.

The news pushed GM shares up 4.5 percent, or \$1.52, to \$35 in pre-market trading about an hour before the markets opened Oct. 21.

Chief Financial Officer Chuck Stevens said GM's North American profit margin, the percent of revenue it gets to keep, hit a record 11.8 percent for the quarter. The company had set a goal of 10 percent North American margins by next year, but Stevens said GM will achieve the target a year early.

Revenue from July through September fell 1 percent to \$38.8 billion, but still beat analysts' forecasts.

Almost three-quarters of GM's revenue came from North America.

In China, GM reported pretax income of \$463 million, down 4 percent from a year ago, but profit margins rose from 9.6 percent to 9.8 percent because the company sold more expensive Cadillacs and SUVs.

"China has not fallen off the cliff as everyone had expected," Stevens said.

South America, though, is still the big trouble spot for GM and other companies. The company lost \$217 million in the region, almost seven times the loss from a year ago, and Stevens said there isn't an end in sight to economic troubles there.

In Europe, GM's loss narrowed to \$231 million and Stevens said GM is still on track to be profitable there next year. GM Financial, the company's auto loan arm, posted a 13 percent profit gain to \$231 million.

"China hasn't fallen off the cliff as everyone had expected."

– Chuck Stevens, GM CFO

The recall costs included \$900 million to fend off criminal prosecution over the ignition-switch scandal and about \$600 million to settle multiple wrongful death and shareholder lawsuits stemming from the problem.

The switches in older model small cars such as the Chevy Cobalt can slip out of the "run" position and cut off the engine. They have been linked to at least 169 deaths.

GM said in September that the ignition-switch scandal cost it over \$5.3 billion. Even with the settlements, GM cannot close the books on the scandal.

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Buick in Top Ten in CR Study

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"They all have different systems and as more and more manufacturers enter the marketplace with complex infotainment systems, they find there is a learning curve to getting the technology down."

He likened the adopting of sophisticated infotainment systems as the disease that keeps on spreading. As each company puts in a new system, problems begin to crop up.

And, Fisher said, the early adopter manufacturers' systems have completed the learning curve, so their systems are relatively trouble-free.

The second major trend, Fisher said, is problems with trans-

missions. As manufacturers seek to improve mileage, the adoption of new and far more sophisticated transmissions that use computerized technology has become more common.

"As transmissions have become more complicated, there are more issues," Fisher said. "That's not to say that all companies have problems with transmissions. They don't. But there is a growing pains issue. When a company diverts off the path of the tried and true with transmissions, that's when they stumble."

As to Detroit automakers, Fisher said that Ford is improving. Its MyTouch system has gotten past growing pains and as its line matures, the bugs in the system are being worked out.

FCA Goes Public with its Ferrari Stock

DETROIT (AP) - Ferrari roared onto the New York Stock Exchange Oct. 21, and its shares, trading under the ticker symbol RACE, jumped sharply in their public debut.

The automaker, based in the northern Italian town of Maranello, had been a private company since its founding in 1929 by Italian sports driver Enzo Ferrari.

In 1969, Fiat-Chrysler bought a 50 percent stake in the company, which it then increased to 90 percent in 1988.

For Fiat Chrysler, the IPO raises needed cash and also helps pare debt at the world's seventh largest automaker, which has ambitious plans to expand its Alfa Romeo brand and other higher-margin luxury cars like Maserati.

There were questions, however, about how becoming a public company might affect such an iconic brand.

IHS Automotive, the consulting firm, said some filings suggest Ferrari might boost production

from between 7,000 and 8,000 cars per year to 9,000 by 2019.

IHS acknowledged that it did not know if the company would devote any new production to higher-end models - that cost well in excess of \$200,000, which already exceed demand - or, like in the late 1960s and early 1970s, it would again start making lower-priced models to put the Ferrari within reach of more people.

"Whatever the strategy it chooses to enact, it will be keen to maintain the combination of mystique and profit-generating ability of this business," said Ian Fletche, an IHS analyst.

FCA will still retain an 80 percent share in Ferrari. It plans to distribute Ferrari stock to its shareholders next year. The remaining 10 percent belongs to the Ferrari family.

The IPO, even in a dodgy market with doubts about the economic recovery seeping into the minds of investors, raised more than \$893 million.

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MORAN CHEVROLET

This Weeks SPECIALS!

<p>2016 EQUINOX "LT"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chevrolet Complete Care INCLUDED! 2.4L DOHC Engine! • 7" Color Touch Screen MyLink Radio! Remote Vehicle Entry! • Rear Vision Camera! OnStar w/4G LTE w/built-in Wi-Fi hotspot! Tilt and Telescopic Steering Column! 17" Aluminum Wheels! 32 MPG on the Highway! <p>Stock#G26396</p> <p>NO FIRST PAYMENT OR SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED. TAX, TITLE AND PLATE FEES EXTRA!</p> <p>Was \$27,480 Sale Price \$22,585*</p> <p>24 MONTH LEASE: \$178* OR \$178*</p> <p>\$0 DOWN W/LEASE CONQUEST \$999 DOWN W/LEASE LOYALTY</p>	<p>2016 MALIBU "LT"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chevrolet Complete Care INCLUDED! 2.5L DOHC VTEC Engine! • Remote Keyless Entry! OnStar w/4G LTE w/built-in Wi-Fi hotspot! • Aluminum Wheels! Power Vertical Driver's Seat Adjuster! Tilt and Telescopic Steering Column! 7" Color Touch Screen MyLink Radio! 36 MPG on the Highway! <p>Stock# G25961</p> <p>NO FIRST PAYMENT OR SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED. TAX, TITLE AND PLATE FEES EXTRA!</p> <p>Was \$24,660 Sale Price \$19,999*</p> <p>24 MONTH LEASE: \$169* OR \$169*</p> <p>\$0 DOWN W/LEASE CONQUEST \$999 DOWN W/LEASE LOYALTY</p>
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Final Days for Chevy Lease Pull Ahead!...Waiving Up to 3 Payments!*

<p>2016 CRUZE "LT"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chevrolet Complete Care INCLUDED! ECOTEC "Turbo" 1.4L DOHC VTEC Engine! • Automatic Transmission! OnStar with 4G LTE with built-in WiFi hotspot! AM/FM/XM Radio w/CD! • Remote Start & Entry! Bluetooth for Phone! • Power Driver's Seat! 38 MPG on the Highway! <p>Stock#G25642</p> <p>NO FIRST PAYMENT OR SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED. TAX, TITLE AND PLATE FEES EXTRA!</p> <p>Was \$21,700 Sale Price \$17,729*</p> <p>24 MONTH LEASE: \$86* OR \$86*</p> <p>\$0 DOWN W/LEASE CONQUEST \$999 DOWN W/LEASE LOYALTY</p>	<p>2016 TRAX "LS"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chevrolet Complete Care INCLUDED! ECOTEC 1.4L "Turbo" DOHC VTEC Engine! • Remote Keyless Entry! USB Port and Auxiliary Input Jack! • Power Locks & Windows! OnStar with 4G LTE with built-in Wi-Fi hotspot! 7" Color Touch Screen Radio! Steering Wheel Controls! 34 MPG on the Highway! <p>Stock#G26001</p> <p>NO SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED. TAX, TITLE AND PLATE FEES EXTRA!</p> <p>Was \$21,195 Sale Price \$16,053*</p> <p>24 MONTH LEASE: \$115* OR \$115*</p> <p>\$0 DOWN W/LEASE CONQUEST \$999 DOWN W/LEASE LOYALTY</p>
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2016 BUICK VERANO 1SD

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2015 BUICK LACROSSE 1SL

Stk. #B450305

LEASE FOR \$189* 24 MO. \$999 DOWN	PURCHASE A 2015 FOR \$22,623* Stk. #B450168
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2016 BUICK ENCLAVE

Stk. #B560032

LEASE FOR \$249* 24 MO. \$999 DOWN	PURCHASE A 2015 FOR \$34,168*
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*All prices and payments include GM rebates. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Prices subject to change per GM incentives. Prices and payments are inclusive of active GM employee discount (unless otherwise stated). All leases are 10,000 miles per year with approved S Tier credit. Vehicles shown are \$999 down. Must have lease loyalty and/or conquest. Prices and payments are plus tax, title, plate fee w/ acquisition fee up front, refundable security deposit required on certain vehicles - to be determined by lender. \$3,500 trade in is valid on 2003 or newer vehicles w/ under 115k miles in drivable condition, no branded titles, reconditioning determined by appraiser. Certain restrictions may apply, see dealer for complete details. Impala acquisition fee due up front. Exp date: 10/31/2015.

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TRAX LS 2016

Stk. #5TBBXP

LEASE FOR 24 MONTHS \$65* \$999 DOWN	PURCHASE FOR \$16,296* LIST PRICE \$21,020
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NEW CRUZE 2016

Stk. #460323

LEASE FOR 24 MONTHS \$36* \$999 DOWN	PURCHASE A LS FOR \$16,152*
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SILVERADO DBL. CAB 4WD LT 2015

Stk. #553738

LEASE FOR 24 MONTHS \$99* \$999 DOWN	PURCHASE FOR \$32,477* LIST PRICE \$43,015
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MALIBU 2016

Stk. #460266

LEASE A 1LT 24 MONTHS \$119* \$999 DOWN	PURCHASE A LS FOR \$19,429*
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EQUINOX 2016

Stk. #560066

LEASE A 1LT 24 MONTHS \$137* \$999 DOWN	PURCHASE A LS FOR \$21,455*
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TRAVERSE LS 2016

Stk. #560075

LEASE FOR 24 MONTHS \$199* \$999 DOWN	PURCHASE FOR \$26,268*
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CAMARO 1LT COUPE 2015

Stk. #450761

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*All prices and payments include GM rebates. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Prices subject to change per GM incentives. Prices and payments are inclusive of active GM employee discount (unless otherwise stated). All leases are 10,000 miles per year with approved S Tier credit. Vehicles shown are \$999 down. Must have lease loyalty and/or conquest. Must currently own or lease a Chevrolet Volt. Must have closing competitive lease. Prices and payments are plus tax, title, plate fee w/ acquisition fee up front, refundable security deposit required on certain vehicles - to be determined by lender. Must be currently leasing or own a Volt. \$3,500 trade in is valid on 2003 or newer vehicles w/ under 115k miles in drivable condition, no branded titles, reconditioning determined by appraiser. Certain restrictions may apply, see dealer for complete details. Exp date: 10/31/2015.



GM's Electric Bolt Slated to Travel 200 Miles a Charge

WARREN, Mich. (AP) - General Motors' entry into the long-range electric vehicle market should be able to go more than 200 miles on a single charge, company officials said Oct. 20.

The company also plans to market the Chevrolet Bolt, a small hatchback car due out late next year, as a crossover SUV as it tries to take advantage of the global thirst for SUVs.

The comments were made at an event at GM's technical center north of Detroit announcing joint development efforts with LG Electronics of Korea to design the Bolt's electric motor, heating and air conditioning system, infotainment screen and other components. LG Chem already has worked with GM on the battery design.

GM's 200-mile range estimate for the Bolt is a bit conservative, Product Development Chief Mark Reuss told reporters, without giving a number.

GM unveiled the Bolt early this year as it tries to compete with Tesla Motors and other automakers that are working on long-range electrics.

Many industry watchers see the 200-mile range as making battery-powered cars more appealing to the masses.

Reuss said the partnership with LG Chem and LG electronics enabled GM to overcome range, price and utility limitations that have hampered mainstream electric car sales in the past.

The Bolt will cost under \$30,000, including a \$7,500 federal electric car tax credit. At that price, the car would be in the range of Tesla's planned Model III, which also would go about 200 miles per charge. The car is due out in 2017.

Currently, Tesla's Model S sedan can go up to 270 miles per charge, but it starts at more than \$70,000.

Pam Fletcher, GM's executive chief engineer for electric vehicles, said the company will try to get the Bolt classified as an SUV because it has the "spaciousness and utility" of a larger vehicle.

Takata Air Bag Injury Toll Claims 98 Hurt, 8 Deaths

WASHINGTON (AP) - U.S. safety regulators say eight people have died and 98 people have been injured by exploding air bag inflators made by Takata Corp.

Those injured have suffered cuts to the neck, loss of eyesight and hearing and broken teeth, according to representatives of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, who gave the updated totals Oct. 22 at a public meeting on the problem.

The agency says it knows of 89 driver's side and 32 passenger inflator ruptures. Nearly one in 10 ruptures of driver side air bags causes a death. About 23.4 million Takata driver and passenger air bag inflators have been recalled on 19.2 million U.S. vehicles sold by 12 auto and truck makers. As of Oct. 9, only 22.5 percent of the recalled inflators had been replaced nationwide. It was 4.4 percent on Sept. 1.

The Oct. 22 meeting in Washington is a step toward the agency taking over management of the massive recalls to speed up repairs.

The agency plans to make a decision on management by Thanksgiving.

NHTSA recently sent letters to seven more companies seeking information and warning that the recalls could be expanded.