## Members to Vote on UAW Leaders' Proposed GM Contract

DETROIT (AP) - United Auto Workers leaders have approved a proposed contract with General Motors Co. that promises raises, improvements in health care and a hefty signing bonus.

Leaders from GM's 63 U.S. facilities met in Detroit to discuss and voted on the agreement Oct.

Now it must be ratified by GM's U.S. hourly workers. The

four-year contract covers 52,600 GM factory workers.

Like a previous contract ratified by Fiat Chrysler workers, GM's agreement would eliminate a two-tier wage system over eight

years. GM currently pays recent hires around \$15.78 per hour. Under the new agreement, workers with four or more years of experience will 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.

info@techcenternews.com

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 

# Tech Center News...

WARREN, MICHIGAN

VOL. 40 NO. 9

**Covers the Tech Center and the Immediate Area** 

**NOVEMBER 2, 2015** 

### GM Worked with Korea's LG to Develop Long-Range Bolt

General Motors set aside traditional vehicle development to create the Chevrolet Bolt EV by teaming up with the Korean electronics firm LG. The result of their joint labors is an EV that can travel more than 200 miles on a single electric charge.

Offering consumers the first long-range, affordable EV, said GM spokesman Kevin Kelly, required an unprecedented supplier relationship combining expertise in infotainment, battery systems and component development with GM's proven in-house capabilities in electric motor design, battery control, system validation and vehicle body/system integration.

Following joint planning and research, GM and LG Corp. brought the Chevrolet Bolt EV to reality, Kelly said. The Bolt EV concept was shown at the North American International Auto

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Mark Reuss, center, discusses Chevy Bolt development with the GM-LG planning group.

#### **MCC Will Host Breakfast for Apprenticeships**

Macomb Community College is hosting a breakfast meeting for employers.

Titled, "Hiring & Developing Employees through Apprenticeships," the meeting will be held Nov. 4 from 8 to 10 a.m. at the John Lewis Student and Community Center on Macomb's South Campus, 14500 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren.

Cost \$15 per person, which includes a hot breakfast.

The meeting, said school spokesman James Melton, will focus on apprenticeships and other workforce development programs, feature perspective from employers who currently use apprenticeships and identify valuable resources for launching apprenticeship programs.

Attendees will also learn about

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 

### **2016 Camaros Start Trek** To Nation's GM Dealers

The wait is over.

new 2016 Camaro to dealers on

The first wave of production models should arrive at dealerships for customer delivery by mid-November, said GM spokeswoman Erin Davis.

The Gen Six Camaro is assembled at GM's Lansing Grand River Assembly facility, which is in the process of getting a \$175million upgrade in tooling and equipment to support its produc-

"It's an exciting day for everyone involved in bringing the new Camaro from a concept to the assembly line," said Mike Trevorrow, Lansing regional plant man-

"As the transporters head out to dealerships across the country, the hard work and pride of everyone at Lansing Grand River Assembly goes with them."

The 2016 Chevrolet Camaro offers higher levels of performance, technology and refinement starting at \$26,695 for the Camaro 1LT and \$37,295 for the 1SS, said GM spokesman Monte

Six all-new powertrain combinations are offered, including a standard 2.0L Turbo and an available, new 3.6L V6 in LT models, and the 455-hp LT1 6.2L V8 in the SS – making it the most powerful Camaro SS ever.

Each engine is available with a six-speed manual or eightspeed automatic transmission.

The first vehicles delivered to customers are coupes - SS or LT models with the 3.6L V6, Davis

The Camaro Convertible and Chevrolet began shipping the models with the 2.0L Turbo engine will begin shipping in early 2016.

> Vehicle mass has been reduced between 223 and 390 pounds, depending on the model, "creating a more nimble, responsive driving experience," Doran said.

"The leaner, stiffer platform and slightly smaller dimensions are accentuated by a dramatic, sculpted exterior.

"Meticulously tuned in the wind tunnel, the new Camaro's exterior contributes to performance through reduced aerodynamic lift for better handling while enhancing efficiency.'

The 'stiffer' platform is the Alpha platform, which is also the platform used for Cadillac ATS and CTS.

Inside, a driver-focused cockpit integrates numerous technologies, including a new Driver Mode Selector, configurable instrument cluster and an available customizable ambient lighting feature, Doran said.

Standard connectivity features include Chevrolet MyLink with Apple CarPlay capability and OnStar 4G LTE with Wi-Fi hotspot.

"There has been a lot of excitement and anticipation around our community and throughout the world for the next-generation Camaro," said UAW Local 652 president Mike Green.

"We have received great products here because of the quality of work always performed by the Lansing autoworker, active and



The first 2016 Camaro rolled off the Lansing Grand River assembly line on Oct. 26.

### Continental's 'Space-Age' Material Offers Automakers an Alternative to Aluminum

When Continental Structural tomers, because of the signifi-Plastics showed off its innovative TCA Ultra Lite advanced composite material, the folks on the Steering Committee agreed it deserved the "Unsurpassed Innovation Award.

The award was presented at the Composites and Advanced Materials Expo in Dallas Oct. 27.

Continental's 1.2 specific gravity material offers as much as a 40 percent weight savings over standard density advanced composite materials, said company spokeswoman Kim Zitny. The material is currently in production on the 2016 Chevrolet C7 Corvette.

"TCA Ultra Lite has been called 'a space-age material' by our cus-

cant weight savings it offers, while maintaining all of the surface and mechanical properties of our proven TCA material," said Frank Macher, chairman and CEO of Continental Structural Plas-

"This material provides car makers with a competitive alternative to aluminum as they seek ways to reduce vehicle weight and achieve CAFE standards."

The CAMX Unsurpassed Innovation Award recognizes the cutting-edge innovations that will significantly impact composites and advanced materials in the marketplace, Zitny said.

The CAMX Steering Committee, Zitny said, looks for visionary concepts and products that show strength through collaboration, while bridging low-cost materials/high-volume applications with high-performance applications/low-volume materials.

Because there is no degradation of mechanical properties, lighter parts molded with TCA Ultra Lite do not have to be made thicker, or incorporate structural reinforcements, to maintain the desired performance qualities, Zitny said.

Specifically, Ultra Lite technology, a patented treatment, uses treated glass bubbles to replace Calcium Carbonate (CaCO3), allowing the resin to adhere to the

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2** 

#### **Tech Center News**

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#### Ally Financial Profits Up \$86M In Third Quarter

Ally Financial Inc. reported net income of \$268 million on Oct. 29. This compares to net income of \$182 million in the prior quarter and \$423 million for the third quarter of 2014, which included \$130 million in income from discontinued operations, said Ally Financial spokeswoman Gina

Ally had core pre-tax income of \$431 million, excluding repositioning items, in the third quarter of 2015, compared to \$435 million in the prior quarter and \$467 million in the comparable prior year period. Adjusted earnings per diluted common share for the quarter were \$0.51, compared to \$0.46 in the previous quarter and \$0.53 in the prior year period.

Ally reported generally accepted accounting principles earnings of \$0.47 per common share in the third quarter of 2015.

Improved net financing revenue, excluding original issue discount, continued to drive strong results and totaled \$981 million in the third quarter, up from \$936 million a year ago.

Revenue from retail auto loan growth more than offset a decline in net lease revenue. And Ally continued to reduce its cost of funds, resulting in a quarterover-quarter 9 basis point increase to net interest margin, excluding OID, and ended the quarter at 2.67 percent.

Credit performance, Proia said, during the quarter was in line with expectations with strong retail auto loan growth primarily driving \$211 million of provision expense for the quarter, up from \$102 million in the third quarter of 2014.

Non-interest expenses declined by \$68 million, or 9 percent year-over-year.

#### **Warren Library Holding Events** Of Interest

The Warren Public Library is hosting a special evening featuring Beata Zatorska and Simon Target - authors of the book, "Sugared Orange."

The book is about the authors' travels in Poland and the role seasonal foods play in the culture of that country. Warren librarian Jennifer Lundy said books will be for sale.

The event takes place on Monday, Nov. 16, starting at 6 p.m. in the Warren Civic Center Atrium.

Lundy said space is limited and people should call 586-574-4564 to reserve a spot.

The library is also holding an event titled, "The Owls of Michigan," on Thursday, Nov. 5, starting at 6:30 p.m.

The occasion will be held at the Maybelle Burnette Branch of librarv and features Metropark staff naturalists, who will speak about owls, as well as how fall weather affects local wildlife. Call 586-758-2115 to register a spot in advance.

### 'Space Age' Material Offers Alternative to Aluminum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

matrix and increase the interfacial strength between the bubble and the resin. The result is a more robust resin mix that makes molded parts more resistant to handling damage, and prevents the microcracks that cause paint pops, pits and blistering.

The product also uses Owens Corning Advantex glass technology that can be manufactured with lower environmental impact compared with other glass types, Kitny said.

Glass-reinforced polymers can have a lower global warming potential (GWP) than steel in the production and use phase for automotive applications such as body parts, she said.

"By replacing the CaCO3 filler with glass microspheres, and incorporating Owens Corning's

ME1975 roving glass fiber, we have achieved a lightweight composite material that is e-coat oven-capable and offers a superior surface finish for Class A applications," said Probir Guha, vice president, Research and Development for CSP.

"Depending on part design, it can be as light as aluminum, and more cost-effective. Replacing conventional materials like steel with lighter alternatives like TCA Ultra Lite decreases energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions during vehicle use.'

TCA Ultra Lite offers automakers an opportunity, Kitny said, to achieve a Class A finish with a material that is resistant to corrosion, dents and dings, ultimately providing the consumer with a vehicle that doesn't rust, and won't be subject to the scratches and dings that mar the surface of

## **GM Recalls 1.4M Vehicles** That Already Had Repairs

time in seven years, General Motors is recalling cars that can leak oil and catch fire, in some instances damaging garages and homes.

The recall, which covers 1.4 million vehicles dating to the 1997 model year, is needed because repairs from the first two recalls didn't work. More than 1,300 cars caught fire after they were fixed by dealers, the company said.

In the previous recalls, in 2008 and 2009, GM told owners to park the cars outside until repairs can be made since most of the fires happened shortly after drivers turned off the en-

A spokesman was checking to see if the same recommendation applies this time.

U.S. safety regulators became aware of the fires in early 2007 and GM has since reported 19 minor related injuries. In 2008, a GM spokeswoman said the cars were responsible for 267 fires, including at least 17 that burned structures.

The latest recall, mainly in North America, includes: the 1997-2004 Pontiac Grand Prix and Buick Regal; the 2000-2004 Chevrolet Impala; the 1998 and 1999 Chevrolet Lumina and Oldsmobile Intrigue: and the 1998-2004 Chevrolet Monte Car-

All have 3.8-liter V6 engines. Over time, a valve cover gasket can degrade, allowing oil to

DETROIT (AP) - For the third seep out. Under hard braking, oil drops can fall onto the exhaust manifold and catch fire. Flames can spread to a plastic spark plug wire channel and the rest of the engine

> The problem first surfaced in 2007, when 21 consumer complaints about engine fires in some of the cars prompted the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to investigate. That probe found three injuries.

> Most of the blazes happened five to 15 minutes after the engines were turned off, according to agency documents.

> The investigation led to the recall in March 2008 of more than 200,000 U.S. cars with supercharged engines. A year later, GM recalled almost 1.5 million more cars that weren't supercharged.

> Dealers replaced the spark plug wire channels but documents filed with the government don't mention any repair of the oil leaks.

GM hasn't come up with a final fix in the most recent recall. spokesman Alan Adler said. The company will use state

registration databases in an effort to track down the owners, he said.

The 1.300 fires were discovered when GM began investigating whether to recall some 2004 models, Adler said.

The recall is so large that it could have an impact on GM's fourth-quarter earnings, though Adler said that hasn't been determined.

any vehicle panel made of metal. In addition, Kitny said, TCA

Ultra Lite provides the benefits that come with using a composite over a metal, including significantly reduced tooling costs (50

percent or more, depending on production volumes) and the ability to achieve unique design cues such as deep draws that can't be achieved with a stamped

### VW Looks for New Strategy To Soften Emissions Scandal

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) -Volkswagen is hiring a top strategy executive from competitor Opel as it seeks to recover from a scandal over its cheating on U.S. diesel emissions tests.

Taking on Thomas Sedran as Volkswagen's new chief of corporate strategy brings another outside voice to the company as it reexamines its culture in the wake of the scandal.

The move announced Oct. 26 by the automaker based in Wolfsburg, Germany, comes on top of the company's decision to hire Christine Hohmann-Dennhardt, a former judge who oversaw legal compliance at competitor Daimler AG in the wake of a bribery scandal there.

Sedran is a former managing director for turnaround firm Alix Partners. He joined General Motors' Opel division as head of strategy and operations in 2012.

The appointment of chief financial officer Hans Dieter Poetsch as board chairman in the wake of the scandal led to questions about whether the company needed more outsiders to get to the bottom of its problems. New CEO Matthias Mueller is also a longtime Volkswagen AG employee, replacing Martin Winterkorn, who resigned.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says Volkswagen equipped 482,000 cars with software that disabled emissions controls when the cars were not being tested.

About 11 million of its cars worldwide have the software, though not all are confirmed to have cheated on tests.

VW has set aside 6.5 billion euros (\$7.3 billion) to cover fines and recalls, but analysts say the eventual cost will likely be several times that.



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COVERS THE TECH CENTER AND THE IMMEDIATE AREA **NOVEMBER 2, 2015** PAGE 3

### **General Motors and UAW Reach Accord**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

President Dennis Williams had promised - and won - richer benefits from GM, which is a bigger and wealthier company than FCA.

GM reported last week that it earned \$1.36 billion in the third quarter. Fiat Chrysler lost \$339 million during the quarter because of big recall costs in North America.

"There were multiple things we were able to do because of GM's wealth," Williams said.

Williams said lower-tier work- North American margins. ers - who make up 20 percent of GM's hourly workforce – will now be eligible for traditional health care benefits.

Both tiers of workers would get an \$8,000 signing bonus if they ratify the contract, higher than the \$3,000 and \$4,000 bonuses offered at FCA. And the profit-sharing formula in GM's proposed agreement promises \$1,000 per \$1 billion of GM's North American profits.

FCA is giving workers \$800 based on percentage gains in its

GM's proposed contract also offers \$60,000 for up to 4,000 eligible employees who agree to retire next spring. Williams said that is meant as a reward to longtime workers who stuck with the company and gave up wages and benefits during its 2009 bank-

The UAW and GM reached the proposed agreement Oct. 25 just before a deadline the union had set to strike. Williams said he didn't yet know when workers will begin voting on it.

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### Chevrolet Delivers Vehicles to Domino's

Chevrolet Spark as the basis for the company's new Domino's DXP (Delivery Expert), a specially designed and built pizza delivery vehicle.

The Spark will help bring Domino's heritage of pizza delivery innovation to the streets, due in part to the vehicle's emphasis on driver experience, nimble maneuverability and fuel economy assets important to the modern day pizza delivery driver, said GM spokesman Robert Wheeler.

'The Chevrolet Spark is the perfect vehicle to bring our pizza delivery to life," said Russell Weiner, president of Domino's USA. "Not only will the DXP have a warming oven on board and enough storage capacity to hold 80 pizzas in the rear, but the fuel efficiency is something our franchisees welcome.'

The vehicle, adapted from a crowd-sourced concept submitted as part of the Domino's Ultimate Delivery Vehicle Challenge, was converted and delivered through a partnership between Domino's and Roush Enterprises, Wheeler said. Once the Domino's franchises across the country deploy the vehicles, Chevrolet deal-



2015 Spark decked out as Domino's DXP (delivery expert) vehicle.

ers will receive special training to meet the needs of the unique fleet.

The DXP fleet will be equipped with the OnStar navigation system, helping drivers deliver their cargo as quickly and safely as possible to customers, Wheeler said.

'We love to see fleets use our vehicles in new and innovative ways," said Ed Peper, U.S. vice president, General Motors Fleet. "This partnership between Chevrolet and Domino's demonstrates the versatility, technology and performance our vehicles can deliver - in a literal sense in this case - to fleets across America."

Open Daily: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Weiner said he expects to see the first DXP's to hit the streets by early November.



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#### **MCC Promotes Apprenticeship Breakfast Event**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the new Michigan Apprenticeship Program Plus (MAP+), funded by a \$3.9 million federal grant awarded to Macomb, which has partnered with Grand Rapids Community College, to expand apprenticeship opportunities in the state by approximately 600, Melton said.

Macomb's focus will be to expand apprenticeship opportunities in the manufacturing sector by 300 new apprentices, while Grand Rapids will be focusing on information technology.

To register, Melton said, for Hiring & Developing Skilled Employees through Apprenticeships, go online to www.macomb.edu/apprentice.

For more information, contact Susan Bates at 586-445-7117 or batess@macomb.edu.



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### BorgWarner: Tech Center Expansion 'Vital'

by Jim Stickford

When BorgWarner officially inaugurated its newly expanded Powertrain Technical Center in Auburn Hills on Oct. 23, it was doing something smart, said Debbie Senator Michigan Stabenaw – it was betting on Michigan and the power of its manufacturing capabilities.

Stabenaw was just one of several public officials on hand to celebrate the expanded technical center's opening.

"Metro detroit has always been the cradle of innovation, whether we're talking about building Tin Lizzies in 1915 or building modern turbo chargers developed at a place like this technical center," Stabenaw said. "I want to say congratulations to you folks at BorgWarner, you are continuing a tradition of innovation and manufacturing in metro Detroit.

When BorgWarner made the decision to move its corporate headquarters from Chicago to here 10 years ago, that was a smart decision. They are building on success and there are a lot of cool reasons to live and work here. The company wants to make things in a global economy and when you want to do that, bet on Michigan every time."

Chris Thomas, vice president and chief technology officer at sions. BorgWarner can do that."

BorgWarner, said that the expansion of the company's powertrain tech center was about three years in the making.

"The automobile industry in the past decade has undergone constant change," Thomas said.
"And BorgWarner has been a leader in that industry innovation. We built what would become the first part of the powertrain tech center in 2002. It was expanded in 2014 with the addition of 16,000 square feet. This latest 2015 expansion of 46,000 square feet is adding 180 highpaying technical jobs in southeast Michigan.'

The additional expansion is needed. Thomas said, because the areas that BorgWarner specializes in - engines, transmissions and drivetrains - are "vital in improving gas mileage and lowering emissions." Automakers will have to meet stricter federal standards by the year 2025 and the demand for systems that can provide these economies will grow only greater as time goes on.

"BorgWarner is the one company that can line up all these systems and design them to work together to achieve lower emissions and better fuel economy. Getting these results will come from a tradeoff between performance, fuel economy and emis-

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As to the future, Thomas said BorgWarner will continue to work in the powertrain field to provide the best systems to its customers. And that means having the best engineering talent working at the company.

"Part of the reason for expanding this complex is that Borg-Warner wants to operate on the world stage and that means, with today's sophisticated electronic and computerized technology, competing with Apple and Google for talent," Thomas said. "To do that, you have to have the best facilities.

Robin Kendrick, president and general manager of Transmission Systems, said having an expanded facility means there is space to hire more people.

'The most critical issue we're facing today," Kendrick said, "is the speed with which today's motor vehicles are being refreshed by manufacturers. We now have this expanded facility where we can work with our customers to create, in a collaborative fashion, the innovations - and we'll be able to do it quickly."



Robin Kendrick at BorgWarner's newly expanded Tech Center.

Kendrick said the expanded tech center should help Borg-Warner achieve its goal of \$20 billion in worldwide sales by 2020. 2014 sales were \$8.3 billion. The company currently employs 22,000 people at 57 locations in 18 coun-

tries. Customers include Ford, GM, Fiat Chrysler, VW and Toyota.

Additions to the tech center included a new Torq Transfer Heavy Duty Dyno testing room and a new Transmission Systems Friction Material Lab.

### Tokyo Auto Show Heads Back to the Future

TOKYO (AP) - Visions of cars that drive themselves without emitting a bit of pollution while entertaining passengers with online movies and social media are what took center stage at the Tokyo Motor Show.

Japan, home to the world's top-selling automaker, has a younger generation uninterested in owning or driving cars. The show is about wooing them back. It's also about pushing an ambitious government-backed plan that paints Japan as a leader in automated driving technology.

Reporters got a preview look at the biannual exhibition Oct. 28, ahead of its opening to the public Oct. 30.

Nissan Motor Co. showed a concept vehicle loaded with laser scanners, a 360-degree camera setup, a radar and computer chips so the car can "think" to deliver autonomous driving. The Japanese automaker called it IDS, which stands for "intelligent driving system."

Nissan, based in Yokohama, Japan, said it will offer some autonomous driving features by the end of next year in Japan. By 2018, it said vehicles with the technology will be able to conduct lane changes on public highways.

By 2020, such vehicles will be able to make their way through intersections on regular urban

Nissan officials said they were working hard to make the car smart enough to recognize the difference between a red traffic light and a tail light, learn how to turn on intersections where white lane indicators might be missing and anticipate from body language when a pedestrian might cross a street.

Nissan's IDS vehicle is also electric, with a new battery that's more powerful than the one currently in the automaker's Leaf electric vehicle.

Although production and sales plans were still undecided, it can travel a longer distance on a single charge and recharge more quickly.

A major challenge for cars that drive themselves is winning social acceptance. They would have to share the roads with normal cars with drivers as well as with pedestrians, animals and unexpected objects.

That's why some automakers at the show are packing the technology into what looks more like a golf cart or scooter than a car, such as Honda Motor Co.'s cubicle-like Wander Stand and Wander Walker scooter.

Instead of trying to venture on freeways and other public roads, these are designed for controlled environments, restricted to shuttling people to predetermined destinations.

### **Appointment of FCA Overseer Questioned**

DETROIT (AP) - A former transportation secretary turned lobbyist selected by the government to monitor the recall of millions of Fiat Chrysler vehicles also represents an air bag maker responsible for millions of recalled vehicles.

Rodney Slater, who ran the Transportation Department for four vears under President Bill Clinton, has been lobbying the department and Congress on behalf of Takata Corp. of Japan regarding air bag issues, lobbying records reviewed by The Associated Press show

Takata's air bag inflators can explode too forcefully, firing shrapnel into the passenger compartment. They're linked to eight deaths and have led to the recall of tens of millions of vehicles, including 4 million made by Fiat Chrysler.

Fiat Chrysler, also known as FCA, is under an order from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to hire an independent monitor to oversee the company's recalls in response to misbehavior involving 23 recalls. The safety administration selected Slater from a list of three candidates supplied by Fiat Chrysler. The decision was announced by FCA on Oct. 23.

Gordon Trowbridge, a spokesman for NHTSA, said Slater had disclosed his representation of Takata, but the safety administration and Fiat Chrysler decided it wasn't a problem. Safety advocates say Slater's representation of Takata is a clear conflict of interest.

In July, the government hit FCA with a record \$105 million penalty for failing to tell customers about recalls, make recall repairs and other infrac-





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### Presses Bring Lansing's Camaro Production Close to Home, Saving GM \$14 Million a Year

General Motors last week reduction for both starting in 2016. ceived the first load of massive stamping presses for its \$174 million stamping facility, part of the Lansing Grand River Assembly Plant where the first 2016 Chevrolet Camaros left for dealer showrooms.

The new presses, which will save about \$14 million a year in logistics costs tied to material handling, will stamp parts for the Camaro and the Cadillac ATS and the CTS family of vehicles.

The load, weighing in at more than 210,000 pounds, is for the second press in the first of two stamping lines at LGR. The entire stamping line weighs more than 7.2 million pounds.

the plant in December with pro-

The announcement of the \$174 million investment was made in May. The new equipment and tooling is being used to assemble the sixth-generation Chevrolet Camaro.

The investment also heradled the return of hundreds of workers to build America's best-selling performance car for the last five years, said GM spokesman Monte Doran.

The facility improvements include three new paint systems Camaro-specific colors: Summit White, Bright Yellow, and Red Hot.

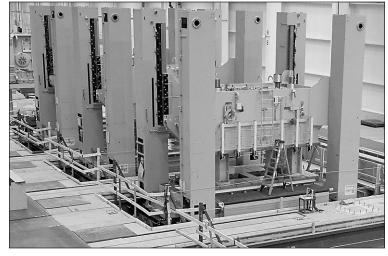
The investment also includes installation of two robotic The next line will arrive at framers, which allow better dimensional control to provide a

more precise drive ex-perience, said Doran.

The Lansing Grand River Assembly Plant resumed a second shift of 500 jobs in late summer.

The new Chevrolet Camaro was introduced on Detroit's Belle Isle on May 16. To improve on that success, Doran said, the sixth-generation Camaro elevates every aspect of Camaro with a suite of new technologies, even higher levels of performance and fuel economy, and a leaner, more athletic design.

"I may be the luckiest mayor in America today," said Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero. "Gearing up for full-scale production of the legendary Chevy Camaro is a new high point in the more than two decades of extraordinary



New stamping presses fill needs at Lansing Grand River Assembly.

Lansing, General Motors and the

"We build the best cars in the world right here in Lansing, and we're delighted to welcome the 2016 Chevy Camaro to the

partnership between the City of Lansing-made family of great automobiles."

> Built in 2001, Lansing Grand River is GM's second-newest U.S. assembly plant and also the manufacturing home of the ATS, CTS and CTS V-series cars.

### **SLP to Show Supercharger**

It's not just Detroit's three manager for SLP. "Initially we deautomakers that are going to the SEMA show in Las Vegas this year. SLP (Street Legal Parts) of Plymouth Township will also be there.

The public and the media, said spokeswoman Melanie Pikosky, will see the company's new Supercharger for the LS7 7.0L engine during the SEMA Show this week.

Pikosky said SLP is historically known for its GM high-performance parts, and is expanding its supercharger line to the Z28 Camaro. The supercharger, also ideal for crate engine applications, packs a powerful drive with 625 horsepower.

"SLP's superchargers are designed, engineered, manufactured and tested for high-performance reliability," said Greg Banish, powertrain development sion.

signed the package for about 650 horsepower, but you'll continue to see us supporting applications that push even higher horsepower in the future.'

Also during SEMA, Pikosky said SLP will display a 2015 Chevrolet Z28 Camaro tribute car, benefiting Ride 2 Recovery, a nonprofit organization that works with veterans to restore hope and purpose.

Built by the team at Big Red Camaro and Hillbank Motorsports, "Big Red" debuts SLP's new supercharger for the LS7 7.0L engine.

Other features include:

- SLP headers, X-pipe and axle-back exhaust system;
  - SLP short-throw shifter;
  - Forgeline wheels;
- UMI Performance suspen-

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2015 Ford F-150

### Ford Profits Jump 89 Percent

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) - Pickup trucks powered Ford Motor Company to record North American results in the third quarter, and the company expects the trend to continue for a while.

Ford earned \$2.7 billion in North America, up 89 percent from a year ago, largely on higher sales of its new F-150 pickup truck.

introduced the alu-Ford minum-sided truck last fall but didn't reach full production at its two U.S. factories until June.

results were strongest indication yet that Ford's risky decision to remake its best-selling vehicle as a lighter aluminum model is paying off. Sales of F-Series pickups the F-150 and its larger siblings – reached a nine-year high for the July-September period. In the U.S. alone, Ford sold 207,271 F-Series trucks. That's 85 trucks per hour.

Customers also paid more for them, Chief Financial Officer Bob Shanks said Ford was making an average of \$2,000 more per F-Series truck compared with a year

Shanks said the aluminumsided F-150, which is 700 pounds lighter than the older steel version, is a money-maker even though aluminum is more expensive than steel.

Ford's results echoed those of its crosstown rival, General Motors Company. Last month, GM posted a record \$3.3 billion pretax profit in North America, driven largely by truck and SUV sales.

Truck sales should continue to be strong into next year and beyond, thanks to low interest rates, improving employment numbers and other factors, Ford CEO Mark Fields said.

Ford will introduce new aluminum-sided Super Duty trucks next year, which will drive sales. And many buyers are expected to replace aging trucks soon. Fields said 25 percent of the trucks on U.S. roads are now 20 years old or older.

Ford's overall net income rose 129 percent to \$1.9 billion for the quarter. Its profit, of 48 cents per share, compared with a profit of 27 cents in the same quarter a

The Dearborn-based automaker's shares fell after it failed to meet Wall Street's expectations. Excluding one-time items, Ford earned 45 cents per share, a penny lower than Wall Street's forecast, according to analysts surveved by FactSet.

Shanks said analysts forecast a 32 percent tax rate, but Ford's third-quarter rate was 33 percent. Ford also recorded a onetime profit of \$166 million with the public offering of Nemak SAB, a Mexican supplier of aluminum auto parts that Ford owns a stake in.

Automotive revenue rose 9 percent to \$35.8 billion, beating analysts' forecast of \$35.5 bil-

The Dearborn-based automaker's overall sales rose 7 percent to 1.6 million. Sales were up 17 percent in Europe, but fell in South America, the Middle East and Asia.

North America, sales jumped 16 percent.

Ford lost money in Europe, South America and the Middle East but eked out a \$20 million profit in Asia despite a \$130 million hit from production cuts in China.

Shanks said Ford remains bullish on China despite falling demand for new cars.

"We still see growth. It may be a bit slower than it has been," he

Shanks said Ford is on track to deliver the "breakthrough" year it promised after disappointing results last year.

He said Ford's operating profit of \$7 billion in the first nine months of this year is already 10 percent higher than all of 2014. He also said North American operating margins should come in at the upper end of Ford's forecast of 8.5 percent to 9.5 percent.

### Recall Sets FCA Back to a \$339 Million Loss

MILAN (AP) - Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV said Oct. 28 it swung to a net loss of 306 million euros (\$339 million) in the third quarter as it recalculated the cost of a huge recall campaign in North America.

Fiat Chrysler increased by 761 million euros the estimated cost of future recalls in the United States and Canada after revising its actuarial method. The massmarket carmaker, which is spinning off its sports car unit Ferrari, said the quarterly loss compared with a net profit of 174 million euros for the same period last vear.

CEO Sergio Marchionne said that recall costs, which had previously appeared to be anomalous, "will be much more structural, at least for the foreseeable future."

Fiat Chrysler has faced a tumultuous year of conflict with U.S. government regulators. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in July hit Chrysler with a record \$105 million penalty for violating laws in

**Mopar to Display** 

**Modified Vehicles** 

At SEMA Show

Mopar will have some "tanta-

lizingly" modified vehicles at the

Specialty Equipment Market As-

sociation (SEMA) Show Nov. 3-6 at the Las Vegas Convention Cen-

ter, said Fiat Chrysler spokesman

The vehicles will be a mix of pro-

duction and concept Mopar prod-

ucts that have been customized to

transform Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep,

Ram and Fiat vehicles, demon-

strating how the Mopar brand can

help owners personalize their

hundreds of Mopar parts and ac-

cessories, will fill the 15,345-

square-foot Mopar SEMA exhibit.

the vehicles at the SEMA show.

but can't afford time off from

work or the plane ticket to Las

Vegas, will want to see the vehi-

cles' unveiling via a live webcast

of the Mopar event at SEMA, Gav-

starting at 7:25 p.m. Eastern

Time or 4:25 p.m. Pacific Time on

Gavilan said Mopar was trade-

marked in 1937 with the launch

of an antifreeze product, but it

truly made its mark in the 1960s

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dling for both road and racing

use, the brand soon expanded to

include technical service and

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during the muscle-car era.

customer support.

The webcast will be available

3 at: livestream.com/-

Those who might wish to see

Nearly 20 vehicles, as well as

Ariel Gavilan.

rides. Gavilan said.

ilan said.

23 recalls involving 11 million vehicles. The company admitted it had failed to fully comply with recall rules.

On Oct. 27, Fiat Chrysler announced the retirement of its safety chief.

Fiat Chrysler said its adjusted earnings before interest and taxes were up 35 percent to 1.3 billion euros in the quarter, a figure that excluded the costs of the future recall campaign.

Worldwide shipments were flat at 1.1 million units, despite a 27 percent increase in Jeep volumes. Net revenues rose 17 percent to 27.5 billion euros on strong results in North America and continued recovery in Eu-

Ferrari revenues rose 9 percent to 723 million euros on sales of the new 488 GTB and 458 Speciale A, which increased volumes by 20 percent to 1,949 units. The supercar maker, reporting separately for the first time, achieved a 62 percent increase in net profit to 94 million euros.

Fiat Chrysler just completed a

successful Wall Street listing of a 10 percent share of the maker of luxury street cars and powerful Formula One racing machines. The move raised \$982.4 million to help fund plans to ramp up production of higher margin Alfa Romeos for export from Italy, along with Maseratis.

A second listing in Milan of Fiat Chrysler's remaining 80 percent Ferrari stake, which will be distributed to Fiat Chrysler shareholders, is expected in early January, Marchionne said. The Ferrari family retains 10 percent of the company.

Alfa Romeo's relaunch schedule, meanwhile, will be adjusted, Marchionne said, due to declining sales in China.

"A significant portion of our volume ambitions for Alfa were China-driven," Marchionne acknowledged.

He stood by his ambitious goal of increasing Alfa sales to 400,000 units by 2018, but said a portion of the volume goals for China would be shifted to other mar-



A taste of the Mopar-customized Chrysler 300 coming to SEMA.

Today, Mopar is Fiat Chrysler's service, parts and customer-care brand and distributes more than 500,000 parts and accessories in more than 150 markets around the world. Gavilan said.

SEMA offers Mopar and Fiat

Chrysler the opportunity to show retailers of aftermarket parts just what can be done. The show is also well attended by the media, which in turn gets the message out to the public, Gavilan said.

### GM Teams Up with Designer

payable fashion. You won't need a credit card to pay for your clothes; your clothes will BE your credit card.

MasterCard is pairing with fashion designer Adam Selman and others in a program aimed at making an array of consumer products double as mobile payment devices, including clothing but also automotive products and "yet to be imagined categories.

"The idea is that virtually any device can be a commerce desaid Sherri Haymond,

NEW YORK (AP) - Call it group head of digital channels for MasterCard, in a telephone interview Oct. 26. The program was unveiled last week at the Money 20/20 conference in Las Vegas.

Other partners set to be involved include: General Motors, wearable technology maker Nymi, jewelry company Ringly, and Bluetooth locator TrackR, according to MasterCard.

Selman works closely with pop star Rihanna and designed her famous, very sheer dress for the 2014 Council of Fashion Designers of America awards.

### **Corn Maze Honors F-1**

Without getting too corny, a this year's corn maze." farmer in Ohio decided to show his love of the new Ford F-150 pickup truck by constructing a maze made of maize.

Inspired by the Ford F-150, a seven-acre corn maze was created at Leaders Farm near Napoleon, Ohio, said Ford spokesman Mike Levine.

Leaders Farm has been entertaining Midwestern families and local schools for 18 years with challenging corn mazes that can take up to an hour to complete.

In this case, it assumes that visitors don't get lost in the wheels, Levine said.

"We are a multi-generation Ford-driving family," said Kristin Leaders of Leaders Farm.

"My husband Brad was reading a magazine last winter and saw the new F-150 design and loved it. We thought it would really stand out as the feature of

Planning, designing and growing the maze is a year-round activity, Leaders said.

Creating the F-150 design required GPS technology to precisely cut the shape of the truck into the corn field.

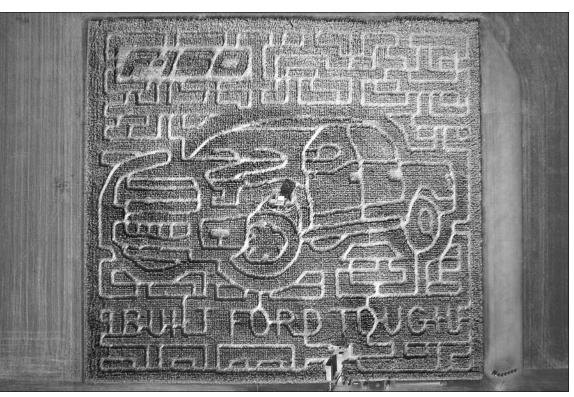
There's also Big Jack - a massive pumpkin cannon mounted to the chassis of a restored Ford F-450 Super Duty.

Big Jack is powered by a 500pound, 30-psi compressed air tank that's capable of launching pumpkins almost half a mile, Levine said.

Leaders Farm is also home to 13 goats and 40 cows, and to Scout, the barnyard dog.

The giant maze is expected to produce about 1,120 bushels of corn, Levine said.

After the maze is finished for the year, the corn will be harvested and fed to cattle raised on the property.



An aerial shot of the F-150 corn maze at Leaders Farm near Napoleon, Ohio.

### Chevy's Bolt is the Result Of GM/LG Battery Venture

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Show in January this year. Chevrolet confirmed in February that the Bolt EV would go into production at GM's Orion Township assembly plant in late 2016.

Engineers considered different vehicle architectures, electric driving ranges and performance options for the Bolt EV before deciding the vehicle must be affordable and deliver 200-plus miles of all-electric driving with spirited performance, Kelly said.

LG supplied an array of new components and systems for the Chevrolet Bolt EV, including:

- Electric Drive Motor (built from GM design);
- Power Invertor Module (converts DC power to AC for the drive unit):
  - On Board Charger;
- Electric Climate Control System Compressor:
- Battery Cells and Pack;
- High Power Distribution Module (manages the flow of high voltage to various components);
- Battery Heater;
- Accessory Power Module (maintains low-voltage power delivery to accessories):
- Power Line Communication Module (manages communication between vehicle and a DC charging station);
  - Instrument Cluster;
  - Infotainment System.

"Chevrolet needs to be disruptive in order to maintain our leadership position in electrification," said Mark Reuss, GM executive vice president of Global Product Development, Purchasing and Supply Chain. "By taking the best of our in-house engineering prowess established with the Chevrolet Volt and

Spark EV, and combining the experience of the LG Group, we're able to transform the concept of the industry's first long-range, affordable EV into reality."

LG Electronics Vehicle Components led a team of LG companies, including LG Chem, LG Innotek, LG Display and LG Electronics, to help develop the Bolt EV, Kelly said. LG Electronics has invested more than \$250 million in an engineering and manufacturing facility in Incheon, Korea, to support the component development and manufacturing for Bolt EV components.

"Being selected as GM's EV technology partner positions LG as a key player in next-generation vehicular technologies," said Woo-jong Lee, president and CEO of the LG Electronics Vehicle Components Co. "The opportunity to work with GM on such game-changing technology is indicative of exactly the type of contributions that traditional tech companies can make in the automotive space.'

GM's relationship with LG began in 2007 when LG Electronics was tasked with supplying the vehicle communications module for OnStar, GM's exclusive telematics system, Kelly said. Another LG-owned company, LG Chem, and GM have a long-standing relationship: the company was chosen as the sole supplier of battery cells for the first-generation Chevrolet Volt, which launched in 2010.

After delivering "exceptional" quality for the more than 23 million cells with less than two problems per million cells produced for the first-generation Chevrolet Volt, Kelly said GM turned to the LG Corp. to bring forward new expertise.



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### TRW Receives **Order for Its IBC System**

ZF TRW of Livionia, the Active and Passive Safety Technology Division of ZF AG, has received its first production contract for the Integrated Brake Control (IBC) system - a vacuum independent technology that simplifies the brake system architecture while offering enhanced performance, said spokesman John Wilkerson.

The IBC replaces, in a single integrated unit, the electronic stability control system, along with the vacuum booster and the associated cables, sensors, switches, electronic controllers and vacuum pumps where they are required for low or no vacuum configurations.

It is a highly scalable solution that can support the brake system requirements from A segment cars through to large Sport Utility Vehicles.

Manfred Meyer, vice president, ZF TRW braking systems, said The Integrated Brake Control system represents the future of braking technology and helps to satisfy the global industry trends of CO2 efficiency, safety and automated driving.

It supports all powertrain configurations, Meyer said, and can integrate regenerative braking technology for hybrids and electric vehicles. It also helps deliver advanced safety in the form of rapid building of brake pressure for high dynamic demands such as automatic emergency braking and will support brake vehicle control and stopping requirements for partially to fully automated driving functions.

The IBC system will launch in high volume in 2018 for a major vehicle manufacturer, Wilkerson

#### Ford Expands Efforts to Help Feed the Poor

Ford is expanding its commitment in New England by launching a new philanthropic initiative with local dealers that will include \$2 million to fight hunger across the region, said Ford spokesman Todd Nissen.

Ford Motor Company Fund, the charitable arm of Ford Motor Company, will provide support, including vehicles, to 10 food banks in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont over five years. Ford is working with Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief organization, in connection with its outreach in New England.

"More than 12 percent of those living in the New England area lack reliable access to the food and nutrition needed to thrive," said Jim Vella, president, Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services. "As part of our commitment to the communities we serve, we are stepping up our efforts in the fight against hunger."

Vella made the announcement at an event in October with local dealers, community leaders, and food bank representatives where Ford delivered the keys to a new Ford Transit van to The Greater Boston Food Bank. GBFB will use the van to help deliver food to individuals facing hunger in eastern Massachusetts, becoming part of a national network of Ford Transits the company launched six years ago to meet hunger needs.

Over the last decade, Ford has helped provide more than 100 additional vehicles to Feeding America member food banks. These vehicles enable food banks to collect food and grocery donations.