

Chevy Boasts Win in Strength Contest of Pickup Trucks

It was a big deal when Ford announced that the company was using aluminum in the F-150 as a way to lightweight the vehicle.

But, said GM spokesman Monte Doran, aluminum isn't the last word in metal being used to lightweight.

Lab tests and field demonstrations show Silverado's roll-formed, high-strength steel bed outperforms the competitor's stamped aluminum bed, Doran said. The GM test results are a dramatic example of Chevrolet engineers' ability to select the right material, enabled by the right manufacturing processes for the right application.

According to Sandor Pizar, Chevrolet truck marketing direc-

tor, it also demonstrates why Silverado is a smart choice for customers shopping for a truck they can use as a truck.

"We engineer and build our trucks with customers' expectations in mind," Pizar said. "For example, Silverado features a roll-formed, high-strength steel bed because truck customers demand the ability to haul their toys, tools and other cargo. (Our) videos demonstrate the real-world benefits of the Silverado's bed, in both extreme and everyday scenarios."

To demonstrate the advantages of Silverado's construction, Chevrolet conducted three com-



GM tested the beds of Silverado, left, and F-150 pickups by dropping landscaping blocks from five feet.

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2017 Chrysler Pacifica

Pacifica Wins 'Affordable Panoramic' Award

The new 2017 Chrysler Pacifica took the top award in the "Affordable Panoramic" category at the sixth annual Topless in Miami Presented by Haartz competitive car event hosted by the Southern Automotive Media Association (SAMA), said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Kimberly Shults.

While the annual event showcases some of the best convertibles on the market, Shults said SAMA added a new category this

year for vehicles featuring a panoramic sunroof providing an "al fresco" driving experience much like a convertible, for drivers and all passengers.

"The 2017 Chrysler Pacifica equipped with the tri-pane panoramic sunroof, truly impressed our judges," said Pepe Delfino, SAMA president. "In addition to thoughtful design and beautiful craftsmanship, the expansive sunroof in the Pacifica amplified the vehicle's spacious-

ness, allowing every passenger to experience the pleasure of being more connected to the outside world."

More than 40 journalists attended the event and drove 16 vehicles from various manufacturers. Journalists voted for their favorite vehicles after driving scenic routes in Key Biscayne, Fla., Shults said.

Based in Miami, the Southern

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Ford Volunteers Work for Greener Michigan

Ford is giving employee volunteers the chance to plant community gardens, improve wetlands, remove invasive plants and beautify landscapes on separate Ford Accelerated Action Days focused on environmental projects.

Nearly 700 Ford employees began digging into 49 beneficial community service projects created by Ford's nonprofit partners in early June.

"Protecting our natural resources is a critical part of creating a better world," said Janet Lawson, director, Ford Volunteer Corps. "We're building and planting in sustainable ways and the e-waste recycling drive goes a step further to keep potentially hazardous electronics out of landfills."

Twenty of the participating



It's cleanup time as Ford volunteers work at Saline's Arbor Hospice.

nonprofits will share almost \$55,000 in Ford Fund grants to buy the rakes and shovels, wood, plants and other materials needed to complete each day's work,

Lawson said. Nonprofit partners in southeast Michigan receiving up to \$5,000 in grants

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New 2017 Silverado's Air Intake System Is Really Cool, Helps Engine Run Better

Sometimes new engine technology is a breeze – literally.

New for 2017, Chevrolet Silverado HD trucks feature a patented air intake system that drives cool, dry air into the engine for sustained performance and cooler engine temperatures during difficult driving conditions, said GM spokesman Kyle Suba.

The intake system underwent extensive testing based on the most challenging real-world driving conditions to ensure capable performance no matter the weather.

Marked by a dramatic hood scoop, the new air intake system



Silverado air scoop runs through "driving rain" simulated test.

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Tim Frasier shows off a bicycle with Borsch eBike powertrain.

Bosch Paints Rosy Financial Picture, Continues to Grow

by Jim Stickford

2015 was a record-breaking year for Bosch North America.

That, according to Mike Mansuetti, president of Robert Bosch LLC, made fiscal year 2015 a successful year for the multinational company.

In a June 9 report to the media, Mansuetti gave a rundown of the company's annual financial results at the Bosch North American headquarters in Farmington Hills.

He said consolidated sales totaled \$14 billion in North America.

Bosch has a number of different divisions in North America, with 65 percent of its sales coming from automotive.

Mansuetti said, "Bosch's strategic objective – to deliver innovations for connected life in a responsible way – is accomplished through the strength of

our company and the innovation of our associates."

Mansuetti said Bosch North America has set some serious goals for itself. Management wants to double its 2013 sales figures by the year 2020 to \$20 billion.

They will do that four ways, Mansuetti said. First is organically – growing the sales of existing divisions. Second is what they call cross-selling. That refers to cooperation between divisions to offer cross-divisional and multi-divisional solutions to customers through a single point of contact.

The next two methods they plan to use to grow sales is through acquisitions and innovations – inventing new products and services to serve the company's customer base.

Part of developing new innova-

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Tony Francavilla

General Motors Names V.P. of Global Quality

Tony Francavilla has been appointed General Motors' Vice President of Global Quality, effective immediately.

He will report to Mary Barra, chairman and chief executive officer.

Francavilla, 58, is responsible for leading General Motors' global quality efforts, aimed at providing customers with the highest-quality vehicles as a foundation for its customers' experience, said GM spokesman Klaus-Peter Martin. He brings to the role in-depth knowledge and global experience in manufacturing, engineering and supplier quality, said Martin.

"We intend to earn customers for life by delivering exceptional quality," Mary Barra said. "Tony's diverse technical expertise and global leadership experience position him well to further accelerate GM's progress in every aspect of vehicle quality."

Prior to his new role, Francavilla served in a variety of senior roles within the Quality organization, including executive director of global supplier quality. Before that, he was responsible for leading the company's manufacturing operations at GM's Lansing Grand River, Lansing Delta Township and Flint Truck plants.

Francavilla began his career with GM in 1979 as a co-op student at GM Canada in St. Catharines. He has served in various leadership positions, including manufacturing management for a major pickup truck launch, plant manager positions in Ellesmere Port in the UK and Gliwice in Poland, and as managing director of GM Poland.

He earned a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Metallurgy from McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and an MBA from Niagara University in the state of New York.

Barra: General Motors Will 'Stay the Course' Financially

by TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) – Despite tumbling U.S. sales and a falling stock price, General Motors CEO Mary Barra said she'll stay the course with a strategy of cutting low-profit sales to rental car companies and keeping resale prices strong.

Speaking to reporters before the company's annual shareholders meeting June 7, Barra said GM's share of profitable retail sales to individual buyers is rising and trade-in values for cars and trucks remain strong.

GM's sales fell 18 percent last month compared with a year ago. Its 15.7 percent market share was the lowest since at least 1980, according to Ward's Automotive.

The company's stock price is down more than 10 percent for the year and is nearly \$3 below its initial public offering price from 2010.

But the company's first-quarter profit doubled to \$1.95 billion and it posted record earnings last year of \$9.7 billion. It also reduced sales to rental car companies by almost 50 percent last month.

Here's how Barra answered questions from reporters, edited for length and clarity:

Q: You've stuck to your pricing discipline and cut sales to rental car companies. That has caused your sales to fall. With U.S. auto sales nearing a plateau, will you change your strategy?

A: "We'll be sticking with it. I think we've had the most significant, not only last year but this year, increase in retail share growth.

"We're going to continue to do that, looking for the quality of the sale.

"We think it's very core not only to strengthen the business, strengthen residuals (trade-in values), it has benefits. That also will position us well when and if the cycle turns."

Q: With the stock price falling, are you considering increasing your stock buyback program to try to stimulate that?

A: "We have a very clear capital allocation strategy. First, we're going to make investments in the business, we're going to maintain an investment grade balance sheet.

"What remains will be returned to shareholders. We will also



Mary Barra spoke to stockholders about the company's future.

work to continue to deliver superior results.

"We're growing (profit) margins. We're going to continue to do what we say we're going to do, and we believe that over time, that will be reflected in the share price."

Q: You're moving forward quickly with autonomous cars. So are the regulators with guidelines for the industry. Some companies would like to see fully autonomous cars approved when these regulations come out – no steering wheels,

no pedals. Where does GM stand on that?

A: "We think that having that capability, when the steering wheel and pedals are still in the vehicle, is a very good way to demonstrate and prove the safety. We understand safety. We've been doing this for decades.

"We want to lead in autonomous, but we want to do it safely. We believe putting the technology in vehicles that still have steering wheels and pedals initially is an appropriate strategy."

Boler-Davis Named Executive Vice President

Alicia Boler-Davis will become executive vice president, Global Manufacturing for General Motors. She succeeds Jim DeLuca, who is retiring after a 37-year career that included key positions in manufacturing, labor relations and quality. The transition will begin immediately.

Boler-Davis, senior vice president, Global Connected Customer Experience since November 2014, led GM's connected customer activities, including OnStar and the call centers, said GM spokeswoman Dayna Hart. Prior to leading the Global Connected Customer Experience team, Boler-Davis served as the head of Global Quality and Customer Experience since 2012 and was plant manager of the Orion Assembly and Pontiac Stamping plants in Michigan.

Boler-Davis began her career with GM in 1994, Hart said, and has served in various engineering and manufacturing leadership positions, including vehicle line director and vehicle chief engineer for small cars and plant manager for Lansing's Consolidated Operations and Arlington Assembly. She earned a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Northwestern University, a master's degree in engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and an MBA from Indiana University.

In her new role, Boler-Davis will report to GM Chairman and

CEO Mary Barra, and will lead 180,000 employees at 171 facilities in 31 countries. She will also be responsible for labor relations.

"With all the change facing our industry in the next several years, Alicia's vast and diverse experience and proven track record for delivering results will help ensure our global manufacturing performance and capabilities are aligned to meet the challenges ahead," said Barra.

"Alicia's strong manufacturing background, combined with her recent roles leading quality and the customer experience, will allow us to grow an even stronger customer-focused link to our people and processes in manufacturing."

DeLuca began his GM career in 1979 as a General Motors Institute (now Kettering University)

student at GM's Linden, N.J., Assembly Plant and held a number of increasingly senior manufacturing positions in the company.

"Jim has played a key role in driving significant improvements across the globe in quality and manufacturing costs," said Barra. "Jim's dedication and strong commitment to building relationships throughout his career has set an example for his team and the company."

DeLuca was appointed vice president of Quality for GM Asia Pacific and GM Daewoo Auto & Technology in November 2007. Prior to leading GM Global Manufacturing, DeLuca had been vice president of Manufacturing for GM's International Operations since 2013. DeLuca received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and a manufacturing management degree from GMI.



Alicia Boler-Davis

Legislature Ends Tax Mistake

LANSING, Mich. (AP) – The Michigan Legislature voted on June 8 to rescind an annual tax break worth up to \$80 million that was inadvertently given to auto insurers four years ago.

The move is part of a state budget deal, which also was approved June 8. Senators amended the tax legislation to ensure that companies still qualify for the credit for much of this tax year but lose it going forward.

The bills won approval 29-7 in the Senate and then 80-28 in the House. Industry leaders have conceded that the credit was awarded by mistake, but warn that premiums will go up. Some lawmakers question that warning, saying drivers never got a break when the industry qualified for the tax credit in the first place.

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Mopar Fan Earns 'Top Eliminator' Trophy

The Mopar "Top Eliminator" program is celebrating a decade of putting Mopar enthusiasts and their elite Mopar-modified vehicles in the spotlight, said Mopar spokesman Darren Jacobs.

Joanna Bartosh was named the first of three 2016 Mopar "Top Eliminator" winners, for her 1957 Dodge W100 Power Giant, Jacobs said. She was presented with the "Top Eliminator" trophy by Rick Berez from Mopar.

The first "Top Eliminator" event was held at the Park car show that took place June 4-5 in Farmington, Minn.

The long-running Mopar "Top Eliminator" program, which represents the "best of the best" in Mopar-modified creations, was started in 2007 to recognize enthusiasts who display excellence in modifying, enhancing or preserving a Mopar-powered ride.

"We at Mopar are proud to continue honoring dedicated owners through the Mopar 'Top Eliminator' program," said Pietro Gorlier, head of Parts and Service (Mopar), FCA - Global. "The program shines a light on those who commit time, effort and resources to bring to life a Mopar ride that stands out from the rest."

Winners, Jacobs said, are chosen by a panel of Mopar representatives, who judge candidates based on a number of criteria, including overall Mopar content of the vehicle, outstanding appearance, unique history/provenance and additional benchmarks.

Three 2016 Mopar "Top Eliminator" winners will be chosen this year, Jacobs said. In addition to the Midwest Mopars in the Park event, an owner/vehicle will also be recognized at the Carlisle Chrysler Nationals July 15-17 in Carlisle, Pa.



Joanna Bartosh gets her "Top Eliminator" trophy from Rick Berez.

The first two 2016 Mopar "Top Eliminator" trophy recipients can choose to have their award-winning vehicles showcased in the Mopar display at the 22nd annual Woodward Dream Cruise on Aug. 20 in Metro Detroit.

An outstanding Mopar-powered drag race vehicle and owner will be chosen as the final 2016 Mopar "Top Eliminator" winner at the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) U.S. Nationals, Aug. 31-Sept. 5 in Indianapolis.

To follow the Mopar "Top Eliminator" program in 2016, like Mopar on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/mopar>, or follow Mopar on Twitter via @OfficialMopar. Coverage of 2016 Mopar "Top Eliminator" winners will be featured on Mopar social media outlets throughout the spring and summer.

Oakland University Breaks Student Housing Ground

Oakland University broke ground June 8 on a major construction initiative intended to help transition the campus community into a more blended population of commuter students and residential students.

The new Southern Student Housing Complex, as it is currently called, will be a 750-bed student housing facility, the first new housing available on the south side of campus, said OU spokesman Brian Bierley.

The new housing structure is geared primarily for sophomore and junior students, will be 220,000 square feet in size and is scheduled to include an up-to-600-seat dining hall, classrooms and meeting spaces in addition to living quarters.

The project is being built to meet LEED Gold standards and is expected to cost \$77 million. The current construction plan calls

for it to be completed and occupied in August 2018, Bierley said.

"We know that we already have more students here that want to live on campus, so this new facility will meet a need we already have," said President George Hynd at the groundbreaking ceremony.

Vice President for Student Affairs Glenn McIntosh said other indirect goals of the project include attracting high-achieving students, increasing student retention and improving graduation rates.

He said there's much research pointing to enhancement of campus life supporting greater levels of institutional success, because students who live or spend large amounts of time on campus have a greater sense of community and become more engaged in academic, cultural and social activities.

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INRIX Program Heading to the U.S.

INRIX, Inc.'s Off-Street Parking service is now available in the Mercedes-Benz E-Class in Europe and coming to the U.S. this summer, said INRIX spokesman Mark Burfeind.

This newly integrated feature enables drivers to easily find, compare and navigate to available off-street parking spaces using the COMAND infotainment system, Burfeind said. INRIX specializes in connected car services and movement analytics.

The company's Michigan offices are located in Novi.

"In the era of the connected car, having access to dynamic parking information is no longer a luxury for drivers but a necessity," said Andreas Hecht, executive vice president and general manager of automotive at INRIX.

"INRIX Off-Street Parking plays a critical role for customers who expect a high standard of performance and in-

novation in their driving experience."

INRIX Off-Street Parking provides drivers with real-time parking information that includes routes to the closest garage locations, detailed rates, limitations and restrictions and real-time occupancy, Hecht said.

INRIX offers access to a comprehensive and accurate parking database that includes more than 29 million confirmed spaces in over 90,000 accessible locations spanning 4,000 cities in 64 countries, Bierley said. INRIX launched the industry's first dynamic off-street parking service in 2013.

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Pacifica Sunroof Wins New Award

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Automotive Media Association members include journalists, media organizations, corporate communication specialists, marketing and advertising specialists, and auto manufacturers specializing in the automotive industry, Shults said.

Formed in 2007, the organization now has more than 100 members throughout Florida and the southeastern United States.

Shults said the 2017 Chrysler Pacifica is meant to "reinvent the minivan segment with an unprecedented level of functionality, versatility, technology and bold styling." It was re-engineered on a new platform.

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Chevy Boasts Win in Strength Contest of Pickup Trucks

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parisons to the stamped aluminum bed of the 2016 Ford F-150, Pizar said. Demonstrations were done without bedliners, evaluating the susceptibility of each bed to punctures.

In scientific testing using a wedge-shaped striker weighing 17 pounds, Pizar said, the Silverado sample remained intact up to 90 joules of impact energy. By comparison, the aluminum bed floor exhibited hairline cracks at just 30 joules, and was completely punctured at 40 joules, Pizar said.

As an extreme example of the Silverado's strength, 55 landscaping blocks weighing a total of approximately 825 pounds were dropped into the beds of both trucks from 5 feet above the bed floor.

In 12 out of 12 comparisons shot for video, the Silverado exhibited only scratches and dents that did not affect the utility of the bed, said Pizar. The aluminum Ford F-150's aluminum bed, according to Pizar, sustained punctures in every drop,

with an average of 4.3 punctures per drop that could reduce the utility of the bed.

To replicate the kind of accident that can happen at any job-site, the videos taken also showed a steel, handheld toolbox pushed off the side rail of each truck, Pizar said.

For the Silverado, the toolbox only dented the roll-formed high-strength steel bed in 12 out of 14 demonstrations, he said. In the remaining two demonstrations, the toolbox left a pinhole puncture on the bed floor.

For the F-150, said Pizar, the toolbox only dented the aluminum bed once out of the 14 demonstrations. In the remaining 13 demonstrations, the toolbox left a sizable puncture through the stamped aluminum bed floor, he said.

The strength of the Silverado bed stems from the material used and how it is formed, Pizar said. The high-strength steel alloy is so strong, the required geometry of the bed floor cannot be formed using traditional stamping. Instead, Chevrolet uses a roll-forming process that en-



GM tests comparable pickups as 28-pound toolboxes are dropped into the beds of Silverados and F-150s.

hances material strength by creating less material fatigue than stamping.

"Obviously, any material can be pushed to the breaking point

if you subject it to enough impact energy," Pizar concluded. "If a customer does manage to puncture the high-strength steel bed of the Silverado, they have the

added peace of mind knowing steel tends to be easier to repair than aluminum – potentially saving money and minimizing time without their truck."

Customers Satisfied with 2016 Escalade

by Jim Stickford

The 2016 Cadillac Escalade has been named the Most Satisfying Luxury SUV and also earned the President's Award in AutoPacific's 2016 Vehicle Satisfaction Awards.

AutoPacific conducts the VSAs annually, measuring how satisfied an owner is with his or her new vehicle, Nordlicht said. VSAs are based on survey responses from more than 65,000 owners of new 2015 and 2016 model year cars and light trucks.

Escalade continues to win awards, especially since the current generation was fully redesigned in 2015. In the past year, Escalade has been named Best Luxury Large SUV for Families by *U.S. News & World Report* and a *Consumer Guide* Best Buy for 2016, Nordlicht said. Escalade also was given the Reader's Choice Award, Best Luxury SUV by AutoGuide.com.

The Escalade wasn't the only GM car to do well with AutoPacific, said Ed Kim, AutoPacific's vice president of Automotive Analysis.

The 2016 Corvette was "Best in Class – Sports Car" with the Chevrolet Camaro taking first in the Sporty Car category. The GMC Sierra 1500 and the GMC Sierra HD won the Light-Duty and Heavy-Duty truck categories, respectively. The Chevy Suburban took first in Large SUV and the GMC Acadia took first in Large Crossover SUV.

"The thing you have to remember about these awards is that they're not given out based on



2016 Cadillac Escalade

what we at AutoPacific like," Kim said, "but rather they are given out based on what consumers like. We gather the data from massive annual surveys. And what we've found is that the vehicles that do well with consumers are vehicles that follow a pattern. They not only do well because of functional attributes – easy to get into, lots of space inside, lots of trunk room, things like that – they also do well in terms of emotional attributes."

Take the Escalade for example, Kim said. It's a very practical SUV. It has lots of space and is easy to get into. But through its image and styling, it's very satisfying in terms of emotion and love of ownership.

"That emotion factor very much contributed to the Escalade winning the President's Award as well as the 'Best in Class – Luxury SUV' category award. I must say that GM did very well this year. They had a number of winners and this is the first time in several years

that there weren't any Ford or FCA vehicles that won awards.

"This just goes to show that GM has a very good lineup across the board that is very satisfying to car owners who buy their products."

Escalade's score of 810 was the highest Vehicle Satisfaction Award (VSA) score to date and it was the most satisfying vehicle overall in this year's ratings. The President's Award is only given when a vehicle's overall score tops the previous score, according to AutoPacific.

Nordlicht said that among the 2016 updates that make this model year Escalade different from previous editions are enhancements to CUE that it system faster and more intuitive.

CUE, Nordlicht said, blends first-of-its-kind technology with design, "bringing the intuitive control of smartphones and tablets safely to the road." Features include LanesKeep Assist, navigation functionality and Apple CarPlay.

Ford's China, India, Global Strategy Sees Changes

Ford Motor Company has made changes in its China, India, Global Strategy and Finance leadership team, as it elevates the reporting of its China operations and expands its business model to be both an auto and mobility company, said Ford spokesman Mike Moran.

Stuart Rowley, previously vice president and controller, has been named to the new position of vice president of Strategy, Moran said. John Lawler, vice president and chairman and chief executive officer, Ford China, is appointed vice president and controller, Ford Motor Company, succeeding Rowley.

"Stuart and John have played key roles in delivering Ford's long-term global growth strategy and strong financial performance," said Mark Fields, Ford president and chief executive officer. "These moves are part of our commitment to continue developing our leadership team and strengthening their expertise throughout the business."

At the same time, Moran said, leadership of Ford's operations in China – including the Ford China import business, as well as Ford's passenger car joint venture Changan Ford and commercial vehicle joint venture Jiangling Motors Corporation – will be directed by Dave Schoch, group vice president and president of Asia Pacific. Schoch will add the title of chairman and CEO, Ford China.

"As our growth plans in China have developed, this market is delivering an increasingly important portion of our revenue and profits globally," said Fields. "Elevating the reporting of this business right now reflects China's importance in our profitable growth plan going forward."

Marin Burela, president of Changan Ford, has announced his intention to retire Oct. 1 and is named Asia Pacific special advisor, reporting to Schoch in the interim, Moran said.

"During his 32-year career at Ford, Marin has made significant contributions to our operations globally, including leading the development of our global small car portfolio and building Changan Ford into a very successful business in the world's largest car market," said Schoch.

Nigel Harris, president and managing director of Ford India, is elected a company officer and named president of Changan



Stuart Rowley

Ford, succeeding Burela. Harris' successor will be named at a later date.

Burela's and Harris' appointments are effective July 1. All other moves are effective immediately.

- In his new role, Rowley, 49, will report to John Casesa, group vice president, Global Strategy. He will play a leading role in Ford's growth strategy by accelerating the development of new business models in the company's core and emerging businesses.

- Lawler, 50, will report to Bob Shanks, executive vice president and chief financial officer, Ford Motor Company, and will be based in Dearborn.

Lawler has served as chairman and chief executive officer of Ford China since December 2012 with responsibility of all operations and business leadership.

- A Ford veteran of more than 30 years, Schoch, 65, has held senior leadership roles in Ford operations across the globe, including serving as chairman and CEO of Ford China from 2011 to 2012 and his current role as president of Ford's Asia Pacific operations, a role he has held since December 2012.

- In his new role, Burela, 55, will report to Schoch, advising on key strategic initiatives within Asia.

Burela has served as president of Changan Ford since 2010. He joined Ford in 1984 as an engineering graduate trainee and has served in a variety of leadership roles globally, including president and CEO of Australia.

- Harris, 54, will report to Schoch and be based in Chongqing. He is a seasoned executive with experience in sales and marketing.

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for these projects include:

- Alternatives for Girls, Detroit – Garden and landscape renovation;
- Arbor Hospice, Saline – Create a native garden at new residential hospice facility;
- Center for Exceptional Families, Dearborn – Create a sensory garden;
- Community Housing Network, Livonia – Landscaping enhancements at two group homes;
- Community Living Centers, Farmington – Clean yard and landscape group home;
- Community Opportunity Center, Garden City – Paint client apartments;
- Detroit Zoological Society, Detroit – Create Nature Play Area at Belle Isle Nature Zoo;
- Gilda's Club, Royal Oak – Build a vertical garden;
- Gleaners Community Food Bank, Plymouth Township – Create a children's garden;
- Henry Ford Estate, Dearborn

– Native plantings and river walk reconstruction;

- International Wildlife Refuge Alliance, Monroe – Lake Erie shoreline cleanup at Ford Marsh;
- Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Ann Arbor – Add boardwalk sections along Fleming Creek Trail;
- Metroparks Foundation, Brighton – Removal of invasive garlic mustard;
- Michigan Science Center, Detroit – Create a sustainable bioswale;
- Northville Community Foundation, Northville – Build an observation fence for Maybury farm visitors;
- Penrickton Center for Blind Children, Taylor – Build two wheelchair-accessible picnic tables;
- Ruth Ellis Center, Detroit – Create native species garden and butterfly habitat;
- Southwest Solutions, Detroit – Create and enhance gardens at Escuela Avancemos Academy;

- Starfish Family Services, Inkster – Create grow & learn butterfly garden;

- University of Michigan Dearborn, Dearborn – Expansion of pollinator garden.

Ford volunteers also joined once again with Ford Green IT to collect old computers, printers, phones and other electronic equipment for recycling, Lawson said.

During last year's collection, more than 75,000 pounds of e-waste was collected and disposed of safely.

The Ford Volunteer Corps, said Lawson, is working to create a better world throughout the year and has grown into a global network, enlisting more than 30,000 volunteers who work on 1,700 projects across six continents.

In September, thousands of Ford employees will help improve the quality of life in their cities, towns and villages during Ford Global Caring Month, Lawson said.

Chrysler's Drag Racing Team Finishes Strong

The ninth race of 24 in the 2016 season of NHRA Drag Racing saw a trio of Mopar-powered Dodge entries in the June 6 final-round competition.

In Funny Car, Don Schumacher Racing (DSR) driver Ron Capps squared off with teammate and fellow Mopar Dodge Charger R/T pilot Tommy Johnson Jr., with Capps hoisting the trophy at the end of the racetrack.

In Pro Stock, Allen Johnson became the first factory hot rod campaigner of the season to command a Mopar Dodge Dart to the final round of eliminations in a rain-delayed Monday finish to the Fourth Annual NHRA New England Nationals.

Qualifying went off without a hitch for Capps, who was situated neatly on the pole for the second time this season and 19th time overall in his steadily charging Dodge following four 3-second passes – including the second-quickest run in the history of the category (3.865).

Capps was on a roll, but Mother Nature threw the NHRA teams a curveball as rain descended upon New England Dragway on Sunday and put a day-long hold on the action.

Teams rallied and regrouped on Monday under sunny skies and with quite different air and track conditions.

Maintaining his stranglehold on the power of his Mopar beast, Capps drove to four consecutive 3.9-second passes en route to the 47th Funny Car win of a career that spans two decades.

It was the second win of the year for Capps, who kicked off the season with a Winternationals victory, and a repeat performance of his 2014 triumph at New England Dragway.

DTE Energy to Shut Down Coal Plants

DTE Energy on June 8 said it will retire eight coal-fired energy generating units at three sites in Michigan within the next seven years. Slated for retirement between 2020 and 2023, are the River Rouge facility, the St. Clair facility in East China Township, and the Trenton facility. Combined, these three plants generated about 25 percent of the electricity produced by DTE in 2015 – enough to power 900,000 homes.

"The way DTE generates electricity will change as much in the next 10 years as any other period in our history," said DTE Energy Chairman and CEO Gerry Anderson. "We will replace 11 aging coal-fired generating units at three facilities built in the 1950s and 1960s with a mix of newer, more modern and cleaner sources of energy generation such as wind, natural gas and solar."

"DTE Energy will work with the state of Michigan on a plan that ensures electric reliability for our 2.2 million customers, places a premium on affordability, and is seamless for our employees and the communities that are home to these plants."

The retirements are part of an overarching fundamental transformation in the way DTE will produce energy for Michigan, Anderson said. Earlier this year, DTE retired three coal generating units due to age and projected future costs.

With this announcement, the company will retire 11 of its 17 coal-fired units by 2023.

DTE is also working on legislation to ensure the state has adequate generating capacity as power plant closures continue in Michigan, Anderson said.

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24 Mo 1 Pay LEASE **\$4680****
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24 Mo 1 Pay LEASE **\$4576****

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KBB Calls GMC 'Most Refined Auto Brand'

Who says a brand known for its tough pickup trucks can't be refined? Not *Kelley Blue Book*.

GMC was recognized in May as the Most Refined Brand in the 2016 *Kelley Blue Book* Brand Image Awards.

It is the third consecutive year the brand has received this award, said GM Spokesman Brian Goebel. GMC was one of two automotive brands to receive this honor. The second was Mercedes.

Brand Image Award winners are based on consumer automotive perception data from *Kelley Blue Book* Strategic Insights' Brand Watch study, Goebel said. Brand Watch is an online brand and model perception tracking study tapping into more than 12,000 in-market new-vehicle shoppers annually on *Kelley Blue Book's* KBB.com.

The comprehensive study provides insight on how shoppers identify important factors influencing their purchase decision and captures brand/model familiarity and loyalty among new-vehicle shoppers, Goebel said.

Driven by its luxury-focused Denali sub-brand, Goebel said GMC received high ratings for comfort, interior layout, technology, prestige and sophistication. In previous years, *Kelley Blue Book* has praised Denali vehicles for offering plush features while maintaining a more rugged persona than offered by most luxury automakers.

Kelley editors wrote, "GMC brand's wildly successful Denali



2016 GMC Sierra Denali Ultimate

line of vehicles as the MVP in this win. While the truck-and-SUV-only brand remains strongly associated with getting the job done, the GMC Sierra Denali truck and GMC Terrain, Acadia and Yukon Denali SUVs are all distinguished by boldly luxurious styling enhancements and elevated feature sets that add more than a measure of luxury to the mix. Almost its own sub-brand, the Denali lineup also creates a halo effect within which the entire GMC lineup shines brighter."

"Premium quality and exterior styling are the top two reasons customers choose GMC vehicles," said Duncan Aldred, vice president of GMC. "Unprecedented refinement and attention to detail provide our customers with a truly Professional Grade experience."

More than 850,000 GMC Denali vehicles have been sold since the introduction of the 1999 GMC Yukon Denali by General Motors, Goebel said.

The Denali sub-brand accounted for 23 percent of GMC retail sales in 2015, outselling the entire product lines of several premium automakers including Land Rover, Jaguar and Porsche, Goebel said.

Google Opening Novi Self-Driving Facility

DETROIT (AP) – Google's self-driving car project is heading to the Motor City.

Google has said it's opening a self-driving technology development center in the Detroit suburb of Novi.

The company isn't yet saying how many people will be employed at the 53,000-square-foot facility. Workers will be moving in throughout this year.

Silicon Valley-based Google says having a facility in Michigan will help it access top talent in

GM Sees Stronger Sales in China During Month of May

General Motors and its joint ventures delivered a May record 295,282 vehicles in China, up 16.9 percent on an annual basis.

The company's Buick, Cadillac and Baojun brands, and SUV lineup reached all-time highs for deliveries as well in May, said GM spokeswoman Irene Shen.

"GM vehicle deliveries in China achieved robust growth in May," said GM Executive Vice President and GM China President Matt Tsien. "While demand for our SUVs, MPVs and luxury vehicles remained strong, we also saw impressive demand for passenger car models such as the Buick Excelle GT."

Cadillac deliveries in May rose 30 percent from a year earlier to 8,568 units. Demand for both the XTS and ATS-L luxury sedans topped 2,400 units. The XT5 luxury crossover had deliveries of 1,449 units in its first full month on the market.

Buick deliveries were up 61 percent year over year to 100,864 units. Demand for the Excelle

family nearly doubled from the previous May to 47,332 units. The brand also saw growth in demand for its SUVs and MPVs to 30,954 units, which was up 24 percent from a year earlier.

Chevrolet deliveries were down 24 percent year over year in May to 38,114 units, Shen said. Deliveries of its new flagship sedan, the Malibu XL, increased 37 percent from the previous month. It will be joined in the Chevrolet lineup by additional models within the next few months.

Wuling deliveries topped 104,170 units, a modest 5 percent decline from the previous May, Shen said, despite continued weak demand in the mini-commercial vehicle segment. Baojun delivered 43,515 vehicles in China last month, a gain of 80 percent year over year.

In the first five months of 2016, GM and its joint ventures' deliveries increased 4.3 percent year over year to another record high for the period of 1,536,913 units.



Chevrolet is continuing to support youth baseball programs.

Chevy Stays in the Game

Chevrolet and Major League Baseball will continue to play ball together.

Chevrolet, said GM spokesman Craig Daitch, has renewed its Major League Baseball (MLB) sponsorship, a partnership that dates back to 2005. Chevrolet will continue to be the Official Vehicle of Major League Baseball and also becomes the Official Automotive Sponsor of MLB and USA Baseball's Play Ball initiative.

Chevrolet is joining MLB and USA Baseball for the second season of the Play Ball initiative, Daitch said. It is a collaborative effort to encourage participation in baseball and softball activities among all age groups, especially youth.

In addition to year-round local events, MLB and USA Baseball are holding an inaugural Play Ball Weekend that will feature youth baseball activities across the country.

"Chevrolet's partnership with Major League Baseball is a natural fit and allows the brand and our dealers to connect with generations of Americans on a personal level through the support of hometown teams at both the professional and youth levels," said Paul Edwards, U.S. vice president of Chevrolet Marketing.

"Providing young people with more access and opportunities to play baseball is an important priority for us," said Noah Gar-

den, MLB executive vice president of Business. "Chevy's commitment to youth baseball aligns perfectly with the goals of Play Ball. This renewal displays an ever-increasing commitment to our partnership and to youth baseball players all over the country."

Since 2006, Chevrolet has been supporting baseball at the youth level in communities across the country through a grassroots, community outreach program called Chevy Youth Baseball, Daitch said.

The program is geared toward bringing together a great American brand, Chevrolet, with the national pastime.

"At Chevrolet, we appreciate the power of play and the profoundly positive effect it has on kids. Baseball helps kids develop, connect with each other, and learn sportsmanship; and it brings families and communities together," said Edwards.

Participating youth baseball leagues receive equipment, sponsorship checks and fundraising opportunities from Chevrolet, as well as unique Major and Minor League Baseball experiences, such as exclusive instructional clinics.

In the last 10 years, Chevy Youth Baseball has donated more than 90,000 equipment kits, renovated 9,400 parks and impacted more than 5.2 million kids across the U.S., Daitch said.

EcoBoost Engine Powers Ford to Award

Small things can produce big results.

Ford's tiny yet powerful 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine, said Ford spokesman Volker Eis, has been voted best in class at the International Engine of the Year Awards for the fifth year in a row. Judges praised the combination of drivability, performance, economy, refinement and technology that continues to set the standard.

The three-cylinder EcoBoost engine was named "Best Engine Under 1.0-litre" by a panel of 65 automotive journalists who participate in the International Engine of the Year competition, which was first organized in 1999 by *Engine Technology International* magazine.

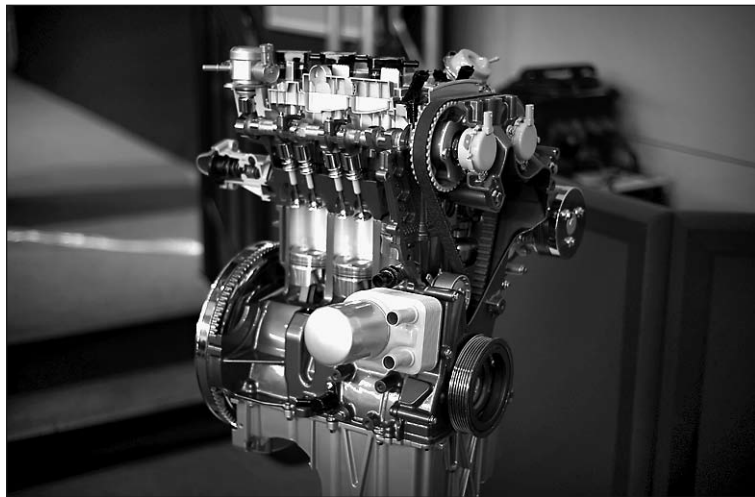
The journalist judges come from 31 countries, and the EcoBoost has won its class each and every year since launch, Eis said. This year, it finished ahead of 32 competitor engines, 19 more than it competed against in 2012. Significantly, 2015 also saw an increase in competition from global automotive manufacturers of sub-1.0-litre, turbocharged engines with direct fuel injection.

In 2014, the 1.0-litre EcoBoost became the first engine to be named overall International Engine of the Year for a third time in a row, Eis said, and also was in 2012 named "Best New Engine."

"The 1.0-litre EcoBoost was a game-changer, and despite others following our lead, it remains the undisputed benchmark in its class five years on," said Joe Bakaj, vice president, Product Development, Ford of Europe.

"The spirit of innovation continues to drive us as we look to use the same smart thinking for a new breed of efficient, clean and powerful downsized diesel engines."

Available with 100 PS, 125 PS and 140 PS, and even 180 PS in the Ford Fiesta R2 rally car, the



Ford's 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine was again named best in class.

1.0-litre EcoBoost engine powers vehicles in 72 countries worldwide.

In 140 PS form, the engine delivers a bigger power-to-litre ratio than a Bugatti Veyron.

A road-legal Formula Ford fitted with a 205 PS version of the engine also lapped the famous Nürburgring circuit, in Germany, in 7 minutes 22 seconds, a performance that put it ahead of a host of supercars including the 600+ horsepower Lamborghini Aventador, Ferrari Enzo and Pagani Zonda.

Eleven models, including Fiesta, EcoSport, B-MAX, Focus, C-MAX, Grand C-MAX, Tourneo and Transit Connect, Tourneo and Transit Courier, and Mondeo are available in Europe with the multi-award winning engine.

One in five new Ford vehicles sold in Europe in 2015 were equipped with the 1.0-litre unit, including almost two in five Fiestas.

The technology of Ford's EcoBoost petrol engines is now being employed in the newest downsized diesel engine from Ford, the 2.0-litre EcoBlue launched in Ford Transit earlier this year, Eis said. Utilizing a low-

inertia turbocharger, high pressure direct fuel injection, integrated manifolds, belt-in-oil and other low-friction elements, it delivers a 13 percent increase in fuel efficiency and 20 per cent more low-end torque.

Globally, Ford's range of powerful yet fuel-efficient EcoBoost engines, said Eis, includes 1.5-litre, 1.6-litre, 2.0-litre and 2.3-litre four-cylinder engines, and 2.7-litre and 3.5-litre V6 engines. The latter powers the new Ford GT supercar that will return to racing in Le Mans later this month, Eis said.

"That it's won the overall award three times and keeps getting the jurors' votes now highlights just how special Ford's 1.0-litre EcoBoost is," said Dean Slavnich, co-chairman of the 18th International Engine of the Year awards that were held in Stuttgart, Germany, and editor-in-chief of *Engine Technology International* magazine.

"It's a fantastic testament to how downsizing and greater fuel efficiency needn't mean sacrifice in other areas like power, refinement and drivability, and can even help enhance these elements."

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Boy Earns Chevy Honor as Football Mascot

Chevrolet has chosen 10-year-old Oscar of Mexico to be the 11th member of the 2016 Chevrolet Mascots.

Oscar will receive a once-in-a-lifetime experience, including participating as a mascot in a Manchester United football match at Old Trafford stadium in England.

During this annual tradition, said GM spokesman Craig Daitch, Chevrolet honors 11 children from around the world by hosting them in Manchester as part of its Beautiful Possibilities Program.

This year, Chevrolet conducted a global contest to find the 11th member of the Chevrolet Starting XI, Daitch said.

Born with a rare hip condition, Oscar underwent two high-risk surgeries before the age of 2 and was told he would probably never walk or run like a normal child, Daitch said.

But after his brother Daniel was born, Oscar's disability took a turn for the better as Oscar began to mirror Daniel's movements, walking before expected. And then the brothers discovered football.

"Through the years, we never gave Oscar special treatment," his mother said. "Our boys grew up together, following the same direction and love for football. I think Oscar overcoming his disability was not a miracle but it was the passion, the perseverance and love for football that made the difference."

Before May 23, Daitch said Oscar had no idea he would be preparing to embark on the biggest football experience of his life with Chevrolet.

As part of the Chevrolet mascot experience, Oscar and 10 other children from around the world will meet Manchester United players and legends, attend

Manchester United Soccer School and tour Old Trafford.

The experience will culminate at a Manchester United match toward the start of the 2016-17 season later this year, when the Chevrolet mascots will walk hand-in-hand with Manchester United's starting 11 onto the pitch in front of approximately 75,000 fans at Old Trafford, and millions more watching around the world, Daitch said. Oscar will join children from China, Colombia, South Korea, the UAE, and the United States.

"Through the years, we've heard from our fans that they, too, would like an opportunity to join our squad," said John Gasloli, senior manager of Chevrolet Global Marketing.

"This year, we evolved the program to invite parents and guardians to nominate a child to be our 11th Mascot. We are thrilled to have Oscar join this year's Chevrolet Starting XI. His

determination, perseverance and spirit are inspiring, and he embodies the positive impact playing football can have on one's life."

Daitch said Chevrolet surprised Oscar with the news that he won while he was having dinner with his family and friends in his hometown of Guadalajara, Mexico.

Manchester United legend Quinton Fortune and club mascot Fred the Red made a surprise appearance and delivered a message from Manchester United players Ashley Young, Jesse Lingard and Cameron Borthwick-Jackson.

They also gave Oscar his custom mascot jersey and announced him as the winner of Chevrolet's Starting XI contest, Daitch said.

This will be Chevrolet's third year hosting children as mascots at a Manchester United soccer match.



2016 Chevy Mascots' 11th member, Oscar, with his mother, Karia

Takata's Airbag Scandal Continues to Prey on Automakers

DETROIT (AP) – Seven automakers are adding nearly 4.4 million vehicles in the U.S. to the massive Takata air bag inflator recall.

Documents detailing recalls by General Motors, Volkswagen, Ford, Daimler Vans, BMW, Jaguar-Land Rover and Mercedes-Benz were posted June 2 by the government. Recalls from eight other companies were posted May 27.

Of the recalls announced June 2, General Motors had the largest total at 1.9 million, covering pickup trucks and large SUVs. The company said in a statement that it would start the recall process in cooperation with the government, even though it doesn't believe the trucks pose an

unreasonable safety risk.

These June 2 recalls are part of a massive expansion of Takata air bag recalls announced in May. Seventeen automakers are adding 35 million to 40 million inflators to what already was the largest auto recall in U.S. history.

The latest round of recalls covers passenger air bags mainly in older models in states with high temperatures or humidity.

Takata inflators can malfunction and spew shrapnel into drivers and passengers when exposed to humidity and repeated hot-and-cold cycles.

These latest recalls bring the total number of vehicles recalled in this round to 16.4 million. The recalls are being phased in during the next two years.

Takata uses the chemical ammonium nitrate to create a small explosion that inflates air bags in a crash. But the chemical can deteriorate over time when exposed to high heat and humidity and burn faster than designed. That can blow apart a metal canister, spewing hot shrapnel into vehicles.

The inflators are responsible for 11 deaths and more than 100 injuries worldwide. Two more deaths are under investigation in Malaysia.

Takata agreed May 4 to the recall expansion, and more recalls will be announced later. The recalls are being phased in by the government due to a lack of available replacement parts. Models from 2011 or older in

high heat and humidity areas will get first priority, followed by 2008 and older models in Southern-tier states, then 2004 and older models in the rest of the U.S.

Research has shown that it takes at least six years for the ammonium nitrate to deteriorate. That's the reason older models get priority.

GM says none of its inflators have ruptured in its trucks during an estimated 44,000 crashes, or testing of returned inflators. It also says the inflators were uniquely made for GM trucks and SUVs with greater venting and machined steel end caps.

"We don't have any evidence at this point that these inflators aren't working as designed," GM spokesman Tom Wilkinson said.

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Dubai's Cop Cars Move Fast

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) – Image is everything in Dubai – even when fighting crime.

Police in this desert metropolis have built up a high-horsepower arsenal of luxury sports cars and SUVs over the years to complement their fleet of green-and-white patrol cruisers.

The high-end squad cars fit into the greater gearhead ethos of Dubai, where fire-engine-red Ferraris growl at stoplights and convertible Rolls Royces prowl the boulevard ringing the world's tallest building.

Lamborghinis also glisten through the glass of a massive new showroom on Sheikh Zayed Road, the country's longest thoroughfare that is a dozen lanes at its widest. But don't expect their Lamborghini Aventador to show up if you rear-end someone. These police cars don't see duty at traffic accidents or engage in high-speed pursuits, said Dubai police Lt. Saif Sultan Rashed al-Shamsi, who oversees the tourist police's patrol section.

Instead, al-Shamsi said the cars appear for special events across Dubai – or cruise areas frequented by tourists, offering visitors a glamorous image of the Dubai police. That also is a way for the city-state's police force to be more accessible and welcomed by the public in a country with a huge foreign workforce.

"One of the funny stories we have is that a lot of tourists and people here call the Dubai police . . . on (the emergency number) 999 to ask about these cars," al-Shamsi said. "They want to know which location they will be in and how they can find them and take pictures with them."

Their photogenic qualities came out in force on a recent day as officers parked several outside the Armani Hotel in the 828-

meter (2,717-foot) Burj Khalifa.

The twin scissor doors of the police's BMW i8 swung open like wings on the \$140,000 car, which flies to 60 mph in 4.2 seconds. The car's license plate read 2020, a nod to Dubai hosting 2020 World Expo, a world's fair held every five years.

Along for the ride were a two-door Bentley Continental and a Nissan GTR, its license plate the same as Dubai's police emergency number and the plastic wrap still around its backseat.

Tim Dean, a 24-year-old tourist from St. Petersburg, Fla., used to the Ford Crown Victoria police cars on the streets of the United States, stopped to snap a quick photograph of the assembled exotic vehicles.

"You don't see many cop cars like this," Dean said.

That's true, especially as the force's vehicles also include brands like Aston Martin, Lamborghini and Ferrari.

However, one place you do see these cars is online. Videos of vehicles have millions of views and the cars themselves serve as characters in advertisements for Dubai events and in stunt clips.

In the U.S., many police departments use sports cars captured in drug seizures for anti-drug efforts in schools. al-Shamsi declined to say whether the police cars were bought or donated.

There's been little academic study on what effect such cars have on actual policing and Dubai's effort may be more about projecting an image, said Dennis Kenney, a professor at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.

"I know that the police in Dubai also like to tout their high-end sports cars as traffic vehicles, which, beyond going really fast, aren't too functional for any other aspects of policing."

New 2017 Chevy Silverado's Intake System is Really Cool

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

provides 60 percent of the air to the Duramax diesel engine from an inlet at the front of the hood, Suba said. The air provided to the engine is very close to the outside ambient temperature and much cooler than the air under the hood.

Cooler air helps the engine run better under load, especially in conditions where engine and transmission temperatures can rise quickly. Running cooler allows the Duramax diesel to maintain full power and vehicle speed for capable trailering in even the toughest conditions, said Suba.

There's also a ram-air effect from the incoming air at highway speeds that helps pack more air into the engine. The air filter housing also draws 40 percent additional air from a dry location in one of the front fenders. It blends with the cooler air from the hood inlet before funneling into the Duramax's combustion chambers. This assures the engine can breathe even if the hood is completely blocked, Suba said.

"The 2017 Silverado HD was engineered to provide maximum utility for our customers in even the most extreme situations," said Eric Stanczak, Silverado HD's chief engineer.

"While developing this all-new induction system, we considered our customers towing a maximum-weight trailer through the Eisenhower Tunnel on a hot, rainy summer day."

At more than 11,000 feet above sea level, the Eisenhower Tunnel, west of Denver, is the highest vehicle tunnel in the world and one of the highest elevations for any roadway in North America.

Maximized engine perform-

ance, Stanczak said, requires more than cool air; the air must also be clean and dry. Accordingly, the functional hood scoop includes a unique air/water separator to ensure that only combustion-enhancing dry air is drawn into the engine.

The air charge enters an expansion chamber containing a sharp, 180-degree turn on its way to the air filter housing, Stanczak said. That creates a velocity change that causes humidity or mist to form larger, heavier droplets that are flung centrifugally against the outside wall of the housing. The collected water drains through a valve, while the air charge continues on to the filter housing and into the engine.

Testing the effectiveness of the system was rooted in real-world driving conditions of every degree – from misty rains to monsoon-level downpours; from powdery snow to wind-driven ice pellets; from desert dust to arctic cold, Stanczak said.

Surprisingly, torrential downpours do not necessarily pose the biggest challenge, according to Kevin Dunn, GM global vehicle performance for splash engineering.

"Big, heavy raindrops from a thunderstorm are relatively easy to eliminate from air," Dunn said. "The more challenging issue comes from the mist-like spray generated by semi trucks on wet highways. Those very fine water droplets prove more challenging to separate from the air."

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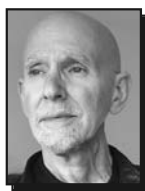
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- Stabilitrak

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- Sirius/XM Radio

- Rear Park Assist
- Heated Mirrors
- Fog Lamps



Was \$24,990 Sale Price \$19,477* Stk. #B71763

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\$129

24 MO

w/Conquest

\$159

24 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

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36 MO

w/Conquest

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36 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

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- Fog Lamps
- Bluetooth
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- Keyless Entry
- Push Button Start

- Remote Start
- Rear Back Up Camera
- Keyless Entry
- Push Button Start
- Remote Start
- Dual Air Bags
- Side Curtain Air Bags
- INTELLILINK
- 4G LTE WiFi/Onstar
- Sirius/XM Radio



Was \$32,490 Sale Price \$25,465* Also AVAILABLE IN AWD Stk. #B1749

GM EMPLOYEE & FAMILY LEASE

\$174

24 MO

w/Conquest

\$199

24 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

EVERYONE LEASE

\$208

36 MO

w/Conquest

\$236

36 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

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- Bluetooth
- 6 Spd Auto. Trans
- Traction Ctrl

- 18" Alum Wheels
- Sirius/XM Radio
- Intellink Radio System



Was \$24,990 Sale Price \$19,953* Also AVAILABLE IN AWD Stk. #B1919

GM EMPLOYEE & FAMILY LEASE

\$139

24 MO

w/Conquest

\$179

24 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

EVERYONE LEASE

\$169

36 MO

w/Conquest

\$199

36 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

\$0 DOWN • 10K
NO SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED. TAX, TITLE AND PLATES ARE EXTRA.

NEW 2016 BUICK LACROSSE

SPORT TOURING • SUNROOF

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- 18" Aluminum Wheels
- Sunroof
- Rear Vision Camera
- Bluetooth

- 4G LTE WiFi/Onstar
- Sirius/XM Radio
- Heated Leather Seats
- Push Button Start

- Remote Start
- Spoiler
- Rear Cross Traffic Alert



Was \$36,580 Sale Price \$27,409* Stk. #B1825

GM EMPLOYEE & FAMILY LEASE

\$225

24 MO

w/Conquest

\$239

24 MO

w/Buick Loyalty Own or Lease

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36 MO

w/Conquest

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36 MO

w/Buick Loyalty Own or Lease

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Was \$36,990 Sale Price \$31,862* Stk. #B1678

GM EMPLOYEE & FAMILY LEASE

\$315

24 MO

w/Conquest

\$345

24 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

EVERYONE LEASE

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36 MO

w/Conquest

\$379

36 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

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Was \$36,990 Sale Price \$32,352* Available in AWD Stk. #B2009

GM EMPLOYEE & FAMILY LEASE

\$259

24 MO

w/Conquest

\$289

24 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

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36 MO

w/Conquest

\$329

36 MO

w/Lease Loyalty

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Was \$27,925 Stk. #T2121

GM EMPLOYEE & FAMILY LEASE

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24 MONTH LEASE

10K

\$20,995*

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EVERYONE LEASE

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24 MONTH LEASE

10K

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- Power Windows/Locks
- 18" Premium Aluminum Wheels
- Cruise • Bluetooth
- Keyless Entry



Was \$32,990 Stk. #T1743

GM EMPLOYEE & FAMILY LEASE

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24 MONTH LEASE

10K

\$26,995*

EVERYONE PURCHASE

EVERYONE LEASE

\$219

24 MONTH LEASE

10K

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- Remote Start
- Power Seat



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GM Improving Relations with Its Suppliers

While the automakers are making record profits, they're also facing unprecedented financial challenges presented by new technologies, societal changes, government regulations and increased competition, all of which will require historic levels of capital investment to remain competitive, said John Henke, president of Planning Perspectives, Inc. of Birmingham.

And, in spite of the current boom, many industry analysts expect auto sales to drop in 2018-2019, which will reduce revenue.

"Going forward, automakers will have to invest heavily in new resources and training programs to improve their working relations with suppliers because suppliers have a significant impact on an automaker's profits," said Henke. "Currently, this investment isn't happening across the OEMs with sufficient focus."

Henke said if automakers are going to meet financial challenges, they will have to work more closely with their suppliers to be successful because OEMs spend 70-80 percent of their revenue on parts, components and materials provided by their suppliers, Henke said in Planning Perspectives' "16th Annual North American Automotive OEM – Supplier Working Relations Index Study" which evaluates and ranks Ford, GM, FCA, Nissan, Toyota and Honda on their relations with suppliers.

The study shows that of these six automakers, only GM – a historical laggard – showed significant improvement in this year's study gaining 26 points and moving up to fourth place in the rankings by displacing Nissan, which dropped 19 points to fifth, Henke said. Nissan and FCA now significantly lag the other OEMs. Ford improved by six points, but continues to significantly lag the two traditional leaders – Toyota and Honda. Both of these Japanese automakers had shown significant improvement over the past two years, but this year dropped four and seven points.

"At a time of record profits when the automakers should be investing in building more collaborative relations with their suppliers, the major indicators of this year's study suggest this isn't happening," said Henke. "We had expected Toyota and Honda to keep improving into the Good-Very Good WRI range, but their several years of improvement seem to have halted."

MCC's Nursing Program Has Student Grants

Macomb Community College has received a \$12,000 grant from the Metro Health Foundation that will be used to provide six \$2,000 scholarships for nursing students at the college, said MCC spokesman James Melton.

The Metro Health Foundation Nursing Scholarship is for students enrolled in Macomb Community College's nursing program who maintain at least a 3.0 grade-point average, demonstrate a need for financial aid and successfully follow the prescribed nursing program curriculum each term while receiving the scholarship.

The award of up to \$2,000 per academic year can be used for tuition, fees and educational materials, Melton said.

Macomb Community College's nursing major is a selective admission program that prepares nursing students for National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) exams and a career as a registered nurse, Melton said.

University Shows What Self-Driving Caddy Can Do

PITTSBURGH (AP) – Think of it as driver education with the car as the student and you as the instructor.

That’s what it’s like in the latest version of Carnegie Mellon University’s self-driving car, a 2011 Cadillac SRX on display June 2 at Schenley Park in Pittsburgh. CMU professor Raj Rajkumar gave demonstration rides to officials and the media after a news conference to announce legislation and a task force to oversee safe development of self-driving cars.

The university has been working on a self-driving vehicle for nearly three decades, but the effort kicked into high gear in February 2015 when Uber announced it would partner with CMU’s National Robotics Engineering Center. Uber has located its Advanced Technologies Center in Lawrenceville and is preparing a track this spring at the Almono site in Hazelwood, the former LTV Steel Corp. plant, to test vehicles.

Rajkumar’s demonstration ride from the Bob O’Connor Golf Course parking lot to the Phipps Conservancy and Botanical Garden – a windy road filled with school buses and other parked vehicles – showed the vehicle’s nimbleness and limitations. When the self-driving feature is engaged, a licensed driver must be there to override the steering, brake or gas pedal functions if something unexpected happens.

The vehicle uses a series of cameras, lasers and four computers to view and analyze everything around it. It can follow a pre-set route and abide by speed limits and traffic signals, take turns smoothly and brake or speed up as required.

Launch of New Models Affects Cadillac Sales

Cadillac sales are in a transition point. The brand sold 22,239 new vehicles globally in May, a decrease of 3.8 percent, as deliveries of the brand’s two new products – the CT6 prestige sedan and XT5 luxury crossover – commenced with customers, said Cadillac spokesman David Caldwell.

Cadillac sales in China rose 30 percent in May, going from 6,592 in May of 2015 to 8,568 this May, Caldwell said. China is the world’s largest market, and Cadillac’s growth there continues to accelerate. So far this year, Cadillac has grown more than 12 percent in China.

Globally, more than 4,000 units of the 2017 XT5 were sold in its first full month of sales, despite low initial inventories and a gradual production ramp-up, Caldwell said. For the second consecutive month, deliveries of the outgoing SRX fell sharply as inventories of the prior model continued to sell out and initial shipments of its successor, the XT5, started to build in May.

In the U.S. market, Caldwell said Cadillac average transaction prices were \$54,131 (according to J.D. Power Information Network, May 16), the highest among full-line luxury brands. Sales in the U.S., Caldwell said, went from 14,408 to 12,099.

“Leading in transaction prices indicates the rising stature of Cadillac in consumers’ minds, and represents the manifestation of our continued strategy to prioritize the elevated position of the brand over volume,” said Cadillac President Johan de Nysschen. “Reinforcing the aspirational stature of our brand is a key ingredient as we pursue expansion of our global footprint.”

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