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OCTOBER 23, 2017

GM Works with Army on Next-Generation Transportation

General Motors aims to solve ate over longer distances. SURUS can take advantage of flexible ensome of the toughest transportation challenges created by natural disasters, complex logistics environments and global con-

The company displayed its Silent Utility Rover Universal Superstructure (SURUS), a flexible fuel cell electric platform with autonomous capabilities, at the fall meeting of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) from Oct. 9-11, said GM spokeswoman Elizabeth Winter.

The commercially designed platform could be adapted for military use.

SURUS leverages GM's newest Hydrotec fuel cell system, autonomous capability and truck chassis components to deliver high-performance, zero-emission propulsion to minimize logistical burdens and reduce human exposure to harm, Winter said. Benefits include quiet and odor-free operation, off-road mobility, field configuration, instantaneous high torque, exportable power generation, water generation and quick refueling times.

Fuel cell technology represents a key piece of General Motors' zero emission strategy, Charlie Freese, executive director of GM Global Fuel Cell Business. It offers a solution that can scale to larger vehicles with large payload requirements and operwas designed to form a foundation for a family of commercial vehicle solutions that leverages a single propulsion system integrated into a common chassis.

The SURUS platform is equally well-suited for adaptation to military environments where users ergy resources, field configurability and improved logistical characteristics, Freese said.

GM is evaluating multiple applications for SURUS, such as:

- Utility trucks;
- Mobile and emergency back up power generation;
- Flexible cargo delivery sys tems;
- Future military-specific con figurations; Commercial freight.

medium-duty and Lightimproving upon the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



A rendering of the SURUS platform with a truck chassis that GM is working on for the U.S. Army.

GM is Donating Funds to The Henry Ford

Even the fiercest of rivals can get together for a good cause.

General Motors has contributed \$5 million to The Henry Ford, said GM spokeswoman Maria Ravnal.

The announcement was made by Patricia Mooradian, president and CEO of The Henry Ford on Oct. 17.

'We are honored to welcome General Motors as a Partner in Innovation," said Mooradian. "This gift of \$5 million is a game changer and allows us to deepen our community impact with innovative experiences and new exhibitions and programs in Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation."

In recognition of GM's historic gift, The Henry Ford said that the flexible gallery space in Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation will now be known as The Gallery by General Motors.

"General Motors is working to drive sustainable change by supporting organizations that help build brighter futures for students and promote workforce development," said Mark Reuss, executive vice president of Global Product Development, Purchasing and Supply Chain of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Michigan Works! Opening Temp Office in Warren

The Macomb/St. Clair Workforce Development Board has opened a temporary Michigan Works! Service Center in the Warren Woods Adult and Community Education Center located at 12900 Frazho, Warren.

In May of this year, the Michigan Works! Service Center located on 12 Mile Road in Roseville was closed due to heavy smoke damage caused by a firei n the adjacent building, said county spokesman Bob Apczynski.

Reconstruction is underway but until it can reopen, this temporary location will serve job seekers in the area.

They can register with Michigan Works!, post a resume in the Pure Michigan Talent Connect system, and/or speak with one of our Career Planners about trainopportunities offered through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Office hours are 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. every Monday-Fri-

Local Michigan Works! agenoversee comprehensive services designed to help employers access a skilled workforce and help job seekers access satisfying careers, Apczynski said. Programs also include workshops to prepare youth and unskilled adults for entry into the labor force and help individuals who are disadvantaged or who face serious barriers to employment develop skills that leads to employment and ultimately economic self-sufficiency. Michigan Works! is a private public partnership administered locally by the Macomb/St. Clair Workforce Development Board.

Buick Brand Earns High Ratings in New Consumer Study

by Jim Stickford

Consumer Reports magazine issued its annual Reliability Report for 2017, with Buick leading the way for domestic manufacturers.

The report was presented by the magazine's auto test director Jake Fisher to members of the press at a special luncheon sponsored by the Automotive Press Association at the Gem Theatre on Oct. 19.

Fisher began his presentation by explaining how Consumer Reports' reliability study differs from other organizations.

Consumer Reports puts vehicles through more than 50 different tests on its track, Fisher said.

And it communicates with its 600,000 plus subscribers to get their opinions on vehicles in question.

They also take into account an auto brand's past history, Fisher

Fisher said the people who respond to the survey leave text that explains what goes wrong.

And, most importantly, Fisher said, the survey looks at what goes wrong with a vehicle and doesn't factor in something that didn't particularly go right.

For example, a transmission that gives an owner trouble is something that is considered going

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



2017 Buick Cascada convertible rates high in reliability.

Chevy Heads to SEMA Show with Two New Pickup Trucks

lar than ever, and Chevy wants to give the public some choices when it comes to deciding what truck to buy.

As the brand celebrates 100 years of building trucks, Chevrolet is expanding its midsize truck lineup with Colorado ZR2 Midnight Edition and Dusk Edition models, said GM spokesman Phil Lienert.

were were revealed Thev ahead of their public debut at the SEMA Show, from Oct. 31-Nov 3, in Las Vegas, where they will be part of Chevrolet's display of concept and production vehicles. Lienert said.

The 2018 Colorado ZR2 Midnight Edition features an all-black exterior finish, black Chevy bowtie emblems and 17-inch fivespoke black accessory wheels, including the spare. The ZR2 Midnight also features a black sport bar with off-road LED lightbar sail panels.

The ZR2 Dusk Edition offers the same content as the ZR2 Midnight, but can be purchased in all other ZR2 exterior finishes, with black accents throughout.

"The Colorado ZR2 Midnight

customers even more personalization choices from the only company with three distinct trucks: midsize, full-size and fullsize heavy-duty," said Jim Campbell, U.S. vice president, Truck Strategy, Performance Vehicles

Pickup trucks are more popuing and ZR2 logos on the sport- and Dusk Edition models offer and Motorsports. "Chevrolet offers more choices because the truck market is too diverse for a 'one size fits most' strategy."

The Colorado ZR2 is effectively a segment of one, Campbell said,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



(L to R) 2018 Colorado ZR2 Dusk and ZR2 Midnight Editions will be shown at the SEMA show in Las Vegas.

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Warren Mental **Health Facility Gets Accredited**

For over 24 years, Crossroads Clubhouse of Warren has been a psychosocial rehabilitation center for residents of Macomb County who have severe and persistent mental health issues.

It recently received a threeyear accreditation from Clubhouse International (CI), said Macomb County spokesman Kevin Sadaj. The accreditation, which provides proof of adherence to 37 key CI standards, is the symbol of quality and a clear act of evidence that Crossroads Clubhouse, often just called Crossroads, is committed to excellence in psychosocial rehab.

Crossroads is one of 47 Clubhouses in Michigan and one of only 17 in Michigan to have earned CI's certification, Sadaj said. It is administered by Macomb County Community Mental Health. It provides a place where members with serious mental illness participate in their own recovery process by working and socializing together in a safe and welcoming environment.

GM Employees Show Spike in Desire to Play Volleyball

Who says engineers can't be athletes? Not the volleyball players at GM's three local campuses.

Jeffrey Harris, a TRAC engineer for GM's Global Propulsion Systems (GPS), said that the Tech Center in Warren, GPS in Pontiac and the Milford Proving Ground organized a volleyball tournament that lasted between Sept. 6 and Oct. 2.

'While I am a GPS TRAC engineer, I am currently assigned to the Tech Center," Harris said. "I was the Tech Center's tournament coordinator. Each campus had its own tournament and the winners played each other at the finals, which were held at the Milford Proving Ground."

A total of 51 teams from all three campuses participated in the tournament, Harris said. The Tech Center had 22 teams, Milford 12 and Pontiac 17. Because the Tech Center had the most teams, the two best competed at the Milford finals.

"We needed four teams for the finals, otherwise we would have had a round robin, and that's not preferable," Harris said. "The two teams from the Tech Center won. We really didn't have names for our teams.'

The tournament operated on a single game, best-of-three sets elimination process, Harris said. Because there were so many teams from the Tech Center, seven teams had to play in a qualifier round. The rest had a bye.

Each team consisted of up to nine players, Harris said, with six players on the court at any one time. They were co-ed and while the teams came from GM's engineering campuses, anyone who worked at the campuses could be on a team.

"So you could have engineers and assistants and accountants all on the same team," Harris said. "Even contractors were al-



GM volleyball tournament winners (l-r) Adams, Wihelm, Chyczyk, Lopes, Jankowiak and Schultz.

lowed to play. This volleyball tournament is something of a tradition. We've been holding it in later summer, early fall for the past few years. It's a lot of fun

other outside of work and it helps build morale.'

The winning team's members were Matt Adams, Kathleen Wiand it's a way for people at the helm, John Chryczyk, Carol Tor-

campuses to get to know each res Lopes and Nich Schultz, who was team captain. The runner-up team had captain Helen Shelton, Donald Mathews, Kelsey Radabaugh, Michael Bellino, Alexa Carpenter and Richard Douglas.

Bolt EV's Fletcher Appointed to New Job

General Motors Co. has appointed Pamela Fletcher - who led the team that successfully launched the Chevrolet Bolt EV and created the plan to accelerate GM along the pathway to the company's vision of a zero emissions world - to the newly created position of vice president, Global Electric Vehicle Programs, said GM spokeswoman Elizabeth Winter.

In this new role, Fletcher will lead the vehicle program execution for GM's entire global electric vehicle portfolio, including the commitment to launch more than 20 all-electric vehicles globally by 2023.

She will report to Doug Parks, vice president, Autonomous and Electric Vehicle Programs, Winter said.

"Nobody is more prepared to help us lead the way to a zero emissions future than Pam Fletcher," Parks said. "Under Pam's leadership, GM will continue to deliver electric vehicles that delight our customers and exceed their expectations."

For more than a decade, Fletcher has been in leadership roles supporting the engineering of GM's electric vehicle and selfdriving technologies, most recently as executive chief engineer for Electrified Vehicles and New Technologies.

She has led the teams responsible for development of several of GM's most awarded vehicles, including the second-generation Chevrolet Volt, Chevrolet Spark EV, Cadillac ELR and the Chevro-



Pamela Fletcher

let Bolt EV, the industry's first mass-market, long-range affordable electric vehicle, Winter said. Her team also led development of Super Cruise, the industry's first hands-free highway driver

assist system.

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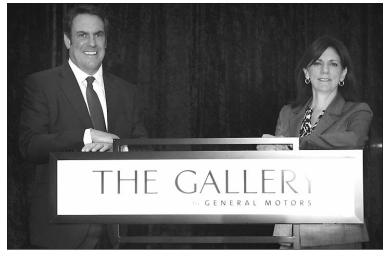
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Reuss and Mooradian announce GM's donation to The Henry Ford.

GM Working on U.S. Army's **Next Generation Transport**

erating range and the potential

ZH2 reduced acoustic non-detec-

tion distance by 90 percent com-

pared to current military vehicle

in operation. This means the ZH2

can get 10 times closer before be-

ing detected, Winter said.

Military testing has shown the

to use the byproduct water.

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Chevrolet Colorado ZH2 that has been evaluated by the U.S. military under guidance of the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) and is undergoing testing on bases, Freese said.

SURUS will deliver highly mobile autonomous capability and agility in unpredictable terrain. Operating multiple vehicles in a leader-follower configuration could reduce manpower needed. For future potential military uses, the system's low heat signature and quiet operation offer benefits in environments to reduce detection and risks.

TARDEC has been in discussions with GM evaluating the commercial SURUS concept as a next step of the broader collaboration to evaluate fuel cell technology for future military applications, Winter said.

"SURUS redefines fuel cell electric technology for both highway and off-road environments," said Freese. "General Motors is committed to bringing new high-performance, zero-emission systems to solve complex challenges for a variety of customers."

The SURUS platform leverages GM's vast experience in fuel cell technology, high-voltage batteries and electric drive systems, autonomous driving and vehicle manufacturing. The platform boasts:

- · Two advanced electric drive units;
- Four-wheel steering;
- Lithium-ion battery system;
- Gen 2 fuel cell system;
- Hydrogen storage system capable of more than 400 miles of range;
- Advanced propulsion power electronics;
- GM truck chassis components:
- An advanced, industry-leading suspension.

The SURUS commercial platform draws on GM's more than 50 years of research and development of fuel cell technology, Freese saod. The scalable and adaptable technology enables land, sea and air applications across commercial and military environments.

Since April 2017, the Army has been testing the commercial Chevrolet Colorado ZH2 on its U.S. bases to determine the viability of hydrogen-powered vehicles in military mission tactical environments, Winter said. The vehicle has been operating in offroad conditions to evaluate its power generation, reduced odor, acoustic and thermal signatures, high wheel torque, extended op-

GM Donation to The Henry Ford Historic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

General Motors. "We can move toward a lot of those goals by supporting The Henry Ford."

The Gallery by General Motors will host a wide variety of national travelling exhibitions including Enduring Ideals: Rockwell, Roosevelt & the Four Freedoms on display fall of 2018. Currently, The Gallery is hosting The Science Behind Pixar now through March, 2018.

The Henry Ford in Dearborn, Raynal said, is an internationallyrecognized history destination that explores the American expeness and ingenuity that helped shape America.

A national historic landmark, its Archive of American Innovation, Raynal said, makes The Henry Ford a force for "sparking curiosity and inspiring tomorrow's innovators.

Nearly 1.8 million visitors annually experience its five attractions: Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation, Greenfield Village, the Ford Rouge Factory Tour, the Benson Ford Research Center and The Henry Ford Giant

rience of innovation, resourceful- Screen Experience. A continually expanding array of content available online provides anytime, anywhere access, Raynal said.

> In 2014, The Henry Ford premiered its first-ever national television series, The Henry Ford's Innovation Nation, Raynal said, showcasing present-day changemakers and The Henry Ford's artifacts and unique visitor experiences. Hosted by news correspondent and humorist, Mo Rocca, this Emmy-winning weekly half-hour show airs Saturday mornings on CBS.



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Buick Brand Places High in Vehicle Reliability Study

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

wrong. An infotainment system that is complicated or difficult to use might be thought of has something that didn't go right. So, as long as the infotainment system does what it's supposed to do, even if it's difficult to use, it is not considered to be unreliable.

Overall, Fisher said, the 2017 survey shows that there was a lot of growing pain for new model vehicles. This was a problem that wasn't confined to any particular manufacturer.

"The survey of 640,000 vehicles revealed that all-new or updated models are no more likely than older ones to have a wonky engine, or high-tech features that fail outright." Fisher said

fail outright," Fisher said.

"The problems often arise when automakers incorporate new technologies into their cars. As more eight and nine-speed and continuously variable transmissions (CVT) hit the market, many owners have reported issues with them breaking down or shifting badly. Infotainment systems were another frequently noted trouble spot in the new or newly-designed model. CR's survey showed owners of first-year models had twice as many complaints about in-car electronics."

The problem, Fisher said, is that new technologies can add features and improve fuel efficiency, but are more prone to have issues. More often than not, data suggests it's prudent for consumers to wait for technology to mature.

Consumer Reports rated Buick as the top domestic brand. It dropped a little in reliability because of the redesigned LaCrosse, which features a lot of new technology.

But Buick did score well with the Encore and the Cascada and Envision, Fisher said. This is due, in part, to the fact that while these vehicles are new to the North American market, they are not new to other markets around the world. Their bugs got worked out in those markets, so the tech was ready to go when hitting North America.

Fisher said that the Bolt EV is Chevy's most reliable vehicle despite being brand new. But that is to be expected because EVs are more simple than a standard internal combustion engine car.

However, Cadillac as a brand showed weakness, Fisher said, which was too bad because he and other judges really think that they are modern luxury vehicles that can compete with the German brands. But they also feature a lot of new techand Cadillac needs to get the bugs out

Fisher said that the Chrysler brand enjoyed great success thanks to the new Pacifica minivan's strong perforance.

"This bodes well for Chrysler because the Pacifica was built on a new platform and no car company builds a new platform for just one vehicle," Fisher said. "Any future vehicles should do well using this platform."

Fisher said the Ford F-150 pickup truck improved its reliability rating, but the Focus and Fiestas are ranked below average due to transmission problems.

Overall, Buick placed eighth in brand rankings, Fisher said. It is ahead of Honda, Hyundai, Mazda and Mercedes. Ford was 15th, ahead of VW, Acura, Volvo and Tesla. Chrysler was 17, Jeep 20th, Lincoln 22nd and Cadillac 27th.

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Equinox Strike is Over

DETROIT (AP) - General Mo- Canada why a renewed North tors and Canada's autoworker union on Oct. 13 reached a deal that will likely end a 26-day strike at a factory in Ontario that makes a hot-selling SUV.

Unifor Local 88 President Dan Borthwick said on Oct. 16 nearly 86 percent of members voted in favor of the four-year deal.

The 2,500 members of Unifor Local 88 went on strike Sept. 17 at the factory in Ingersoll, Ontario. The workers make the Chevrolet Equinox, a compact sport utility vehicle that is a hot seller.

The union wanted GM to designate the plant as the main Equinox manufacturer. The company can make the same vehicle at two plants in Mexico, drawing the disputed North American Free Trade Agreement into the labor dispute.

"This strike has shown all of

American Free Trade Agreement must address the needs of working people first," Unifor President Jerry Dias said in a statement on the union website.

On Oct. 12 it appeared that both sides had reached an impasse over the union's job security demands, with Dias accusing GM of declaring war on Canada and of threatening to ramp up production in Mexico and wind it down in Ingersoll.

But GM said it has invested \$800 million in the Ingersoll plant, a move that the company said should show workers it plans to keep producing vehicles there. The company said it didn't want to agree to a main factory designation because it needs flexibility to respond to market conditions. Production of the Chevrolet Equinox compact SUV restarted at 11 p.m. Oct. 16.



Spare tires like this are becoming rarer in today's automobiles.

More Cars Without Spare Tires to Save on Weight

and improve fuel economy, automakers continue to eliminate spare tires from new vehicles.

New research from AAA, nearly one-third (28 percent) of 2017 model year vehicles do not come with a spare tire as standard equipment, creating an unnecessary hassle and expense for drivers

Last year alone, AAA came to the rescue to more than 450,000 members faced with a flat tire whose cars did not have a spare tire, said AAA spokeswoman Mariam Ali.

To avoid a roadside surprise, Ali said AAA urges drivers to check their trunk for a spare tire before trouble strikes.

"Having a flat tire can be a nuisance for drivers, but not having a spare could put them in an even more aggravating situation," said John Nielsen, AAA's managing director of Automotive Engineering and Repair.

This can turn the relatively routine process of changing a tire at the roadside into an inconvenient and costly situation that requires a tow to a repair facili-

While new vehicles are equipped with tire pressure monitoring systems that alert drivers to low tire pressure, Nielsen said AAA's roadside assistance data shows that tire-related problems continue to be one of the top reasons why members call for assis-

Even if drivers do have a spare tire, they are often reaching for their cell phones to call for roadside assistance rather than changing the tire themselves. According to a previous AAA survey, nearly 20 percent (39 million) of U.S. drivers do not know how to change a flat tire.

As a replacement for a spare tire, some automakers are including tire-inflator kits that can temporarily repair small punctures in flat tires

However, a 2015 AAA study found that tire-inflator kits have limited functionality and cannot provide even a temporary fix for many tire-related problems, in-

In an effort to reduce weight cluding sidewall damage or blowouts.

Not only are tire-inflator kits not a good substitute for a spare tire, they can cost up to 10 times more than a tire repair and have a shelf life of only four to eight

"With low-profile tires and the elimination of a spare tire, many newer vehicles are especially vulnerable to roadside tire trouble," Nielsen said. "AAA urges drivers to make it a priority to check their vehicle's equipment and know what to do if faced with a flat tire."

To prevent drivers from being stranded in the event of a flat tire, AAA offers these precautionary tips:

- Do not assume there's a spare. When purchasing a new vehicle, always ask for a detailed list of equipment and whether a spare tire can be purchased.
- Inspect all five tires. Check tire pressures monthly and have all tires inspected as part of routine maintenance. If your vehicle has a spare tire, be sure that it's properly inflated.
- Read ahead. If your vehicle is equipped with a tire-inflator kit, read the owner's manual and understand how it works and its limitations.
- Check expiration dates. If your vehicle is equipped with a tire-inflator kit, check its expiration date. Most need to be replaced every four to eight years.
- Consider roadside assistance coverage. Roadside assistance coverage can offer peace of mind when faced with roadside trouble, including a flat tire. To become a AAA member, visit AAA.com/join.

In addition, drivers should identify a repair shop they trust to help keep their vehicle tires in good shape, Nielsen said. AAA's Approved Auto Repair network consists of nearly 7,000 facilities that have met AAA's high standards, including technician certifications, ongoing training, financial stability, facility cleanliness, insurance requirements, rigorous inspections and customer satisfaction.





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Chevrolet Brings Some New Trucks to 2017 SEMA Show

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

equally at home rock crawling, desert running or as a daily driver. It sits 2 inches higher than Colorado and features a 3.5-inchwider track.

Performance features include an off-road suspension with castiron control arms and segmentexclusive Multimatic DSSVTM dampers, Lienert said. They are the first off-road shocks to feature position-sensitive spool valve technology, making the truck equally adept on and off the road.

Other standard ZR2 features include segment-exclusive front electronic locking differential, electronic locking rear differential, hill descent control, an aluminum skidplate that protects the radiator and oil pan, off-road rocker protection, Autotrac transfer case, transfer case shield, four-wheel disc brakes, modified rear axle with a 3.42 ratio and special off-rode mode set-

The ZR2 is distinguished visually from the Colorado with an aggressive hood and grille combo and modified front and rear bumpers designed for better offroad clearance, Campbell said.

The ZR2 is available with a standard 3.6L V6 match with a class-exclusive eight-speed automatic transmission or an available 2.8L Duramax turbo-diesel offering best-in-class 369 lb-ft of torque.

The Colorado ZR2, Campell said, also boasts impressive connectivity and safety technology: 4G LTE Wi-Fi, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, StabiliTrak Electronic Stability Control and available Forward Collision Alert and Lane Departure Warning.

And as with all Chevrolet trucks, the Colorado ZR2 is built with durability in mind, including a fully boxed frame, roll-formed high-strength steel bed and Duralife brake rotors.

The Colorado ZR2 Midnight and Dusk Edition models will join approximately 20 additional Chevrolet models from Oct. 31-Nov. 3 at the SEMA Show, Campbell said. For this year's SEMA Show, the ZR2 Midnight Edition crew cab will be shown with the 3.6L V6.

Local Business People Endow **U-M Facility**

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) - University of Michigan plans to boost physics research, attract more experts and support fellowships with an \$8 million gift.

The Ann Arbor school announced Oct. 19 it received the gift from the Leinweber Foundation. That's led by Michiganbased software engineer Larry Leinweber and Claudia Babiarz of Bloomfield Hills.

Leinweber says in a release he wants the university to "make groundbreaking discoveries," particularly "around the origin and scope of the universe.'

Leinweber and Babiarz also created the Leinweber Software Scholars Program at the College of Engineering. This program provides scholarships to computer science undergrads.

The Michigan Center for Theoretical Physics will be renamed the Leinweber Center for Theoretical Physics. Leinweber and Babiarz are Michigan State University graduates.

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