

ZR1 is Awarded Top Honors for Performance

by Jim Stickford

The 2019 Chevrolet Corvette ZR1 provides the kind of performance any driver would want – just ask the folks at *Road & Track* magazine because they gave the car “2019 Performance Car of the Year” award.

“We chose the ZR1 because it exhibits every traditional Corvette virtue while rectifying many of the weak points that plagued its predecessors,” the editors of *Road & Track* stated in a press release announcing their decision.

“It’s loud enough at idle to produce a cease-and-desist letter from the homeowners’ association, but you can converse quietly with your passenger on the freeway.

“Drag racers will like the extra radiators; road racers will like the aero package. It makes big numbers, the way Corvettes always have, but it also conveys the intangible qualities of steering feel and high-speed balance typically associated with smaller, more restrained sports cars.”

“When we were notified about the editors’ decision, our reaction was ‘we couldn’t agree more,’” said Kevin Kelly, a spokesman for GM.

“It’s a real honor to receive this award and the recognition that

comes with it. The engineers and designers who created this car worked really hard to make a world-class performance vehicle and they always believed it was built on a tradition of performance. To find out others agree made learning this news a happy occasion.”

Editors who tested the vehicles called the ZR1 a “violent piece of work, flawed in a handful of ways but rarely parked, because everyone wanted the key.”

“All the characteristics of every other seventh-generation Vette,” said deputy web editor Bob Sorokanich. “It doesn’t feel

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2019 Corvette ZR1

Ghosn is Ousted From Nissan After Arrest

TOKYO (AP) – Nissan fired Carlos Ghosn as chairman last week, ending his nearly two-decade reign at the Japanese automaker due to alleged serious misconduct, including underreporting of his income and misuse of company assets.

Japanese prosecutors were considering Nov. 20 whether to file formal charges against Ghosn.

In an hours-long meeting, Nissan’s board of directors voted unanimously to dismiss Ghosn as

chairman and as a representative director, Nissan Motor Co. said in a statement.

The arrest of Ghosn after a whistleblower disclosed the alleged misconduct left many in Japan stunned by the downfall of a relentless cost-cutter who appears to have spent lavishly on himself.

Earlier last week, alliance partner Renault voted to keep him as its chief executive but appointed Thierry Bolloré, its chief operating officer, as its interim chief.

Greg Kelly, who was arrested on suspicion of collaborating in the wrongdoing, will also be dismissed as representative director, Nissan said. The replacements will be decided later, it said.

Ghosn is suspected of underreporting \$44.6 million in income from 2011 to 2015, according to Tokyo prosecutors. He also allegedly collaborated to falsify securities statements.

Nissan’s board consists of nine members, including Ghosn and



Carlos Ghosn

Kelly. The seven other board members voted at the meeting, including two members from Nissan and two from Renault.

Ghosn and Kelly will remain on Nissan’s board for now as that decision will be up to shareholders. No date has been set yet for a shareholders meeting.

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Ford Smart Mobility acquired Spin, an electric scooter-sharing firm.

Ford Scoots Into New Areas Of Transportation, Mobility

Ford is expanding how it’s providing transportation because the number of mobility options available to people has risen dramatically in recent years.

In some situations, people use multiple forms of transportation during a single trip, said Sunny Madra, vice president, Ford X, the company’s new think tank for new mobility products and services.

The fast-paced, often experimental mobility sector requires businesses to keep up with agile and adaptable customers, said Madra.

“At Ford, the products and services we offer need to reflect these changes, he said. “That’s why Ford has purchased mobility provider Spin.”

In a statement made on Nov. 8, Madra said Spin is committed to working hand-in-hand with cities and universities to implement micro-mobility solutions respon-

sibly, safely and sustainably as they expand their operations.

The statement went on to say that Spin does not launch without permission; they share usage data with cities; and they work with local officials and university campuses to design educational tools around parking and riding rules.

“As more people consider scooters to be a viable mobility option, now is the right time for Ford to work closely with Spin’s highly experienced and dedicated team to help expand their service to more cities. In fact, the team is launching their service today in Detroit,” Madra said.

“The acquisition of Spin is an important step toward realizing our ambitious vision for the future of urban mobility and we couldn’t be more excited to welcome Derrick, Euwyn, Zaizhuang,

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26,000 LED lights went into the Salvation Army’s Detroit display.

Lawrence Tech Sponsors New Design Contest

Lawrence Technological University’s Detroit Center for Design + Technology incubator (DCDT) is bringing back its Holiday Window Walk event for a second year to highlight local creative businesses and designers.

The DCDT Design Incubator has paired local artists, designers and Detroit businesses in an effort to create holiday-themed windows in nine locations in and around its own Midtown neighborhood, said Lawrence Tech spokesman Matt Roush.

Judges – including Karl Daubmann, dean of LTU’s College of Architecture and Design, and Cydney Camp, business programs manager at Design Core Detroit – will review the designs and place their votes before Tuesday, Dec. 4. Shoppers and visitors are encouraged to vote, too.

From now through Dec. 3, visitors may add a photo of their favorite display to Instagram, Facebook or Twitter and tagging it with @detdesigntech and using #HolidayWindowWalk18.

All tagged social media posts that appear during this voting window will be tallied and counted as part of the final decision.

The winning display will be announced Dec. 4, with the business and designer each taking home \$500. The first runner-up business and design team will earn \$250 each this year, Roush said. The competition is sponsored by Hudson Webber Foundation and awards supported by Design Core Detroit.

Competing businesses include Dessert Oasis Coffee Roasters, Eatori Market, Jolly Pumpkin Pizzeria and Brewery, Pure Barre Detroit, RUNDetroit and Third Man Records.

Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign Starts

The holiday season is here and that means Salvation Army kettles are out in force.

The official kickoff of the Salvation Army’s was on Nov. 16 in downtown Detroit’s Campus Martius park.

The organization’s giant red kettle has 26,000 LED lights, said Major Russ Sjogren, general secretary and metro Detroit area commander. Each light is said to represent the lights that will shine through the lives of people this Christmas.

The Salvation Army’s goal this holiday season is \$8.6 million. This year it will be possible to donate money electronically via smartphones as well as through cash.

Now that the kettle campaign is up and running, there is a need for volunteers to man them, Sjogren said. Every unmanned kettle represents a missed donation.

People interested in helping out can go to www.ringbell.org to sign up to man a kettle. Volunteers this year will earn one entry to win a \$6,000-plus Gabriel NY diamond necklace.

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Warren Getting Grants for More Recycling

DETROIT (AP) – The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is helping the cities of Detroit and Warren pay for curbside recycling carts.

The department awards grants to help communities improve their recycling collection infrastructure. Warren will receive \$500,000 to support the purchase of 25,000 recycling carts, while Detroit will get \$75,000 for 7,000 carts.

Officials say the state assistance was matched at a rate of over 130 percent, producing a total investment of more than \$1.3 million. The DEQ says the grants will result in greater recovery of recyclable material, get more residents involved and boost recycling education.

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Buick, Amazon Prime Delivering New Customer Service

Now that the holiday season has arrived, and storing gifts ordered online can be quite the conundrum for those wishing to surprise their friends and relatives, Buick has got your back, said GM spokeswoman Arianna Kughn.

In a new survey from Buick, 60 percent of the U.S. parents polled had a holiday surprise ruined because a child or significant other discovered where they'd hid the gift, Kughn said. And many of those parents would consider using their cars to help avoid future gift-giving disappointments.

That's where Buick's association with Amazon Prime comes in. Most new Buicks offer Amazon Key In-Car Delivery, which allows Amazon Prime members with an active connected services account and Owner Center login to have eligible packages delivered directly to their Buick vehicle parked in a publicly accessible area, such as a driveway, a surface parking lot or on-street parking.

"No more waiting at home for deliveries – your car can be your best new hiding spot," Kughn said.

With more than 3.75 cubic feet of hidden storage compartments throughout its interior, the new 2019 Buick Enclave has enough toys, Kughn said. Between the rear underfloor cargo space (3.1 cubic feet all on its own), a center console with a removable false floor and the glove box, there is enough space to hide gifts large and small this holiday season.

Buick worked with The Harris Poll to ask 1,000 U.S. parents how they could use their vehicles during the holidays as a helpful tool. Here are some key findings:

- 82 percent try to find new places to hide holiday gifts every year.
- 79 percent say that hidden storage compartments in vehicles are clever hiding spots.
- 25 percent have used a friend's or family member's vehicle for holiday shopping because it had more storage or space for gifts.
- 23 percent have paid to ship gifts because they didn't have space to transport them.

Of those who hadn't used their



Buick now has "car" delivery of items ordered via Amazon Prime.

vehicle as a hiding place before, 60 percent said they would if their vehicle had more storage.

Getting presents to their hiding spots can also be tricky. Nearly three-quarters (72 percent) of parents who have gifts delivered to their homes said they plan their day around when the delivery is expected in order to keep it a surprise.

This survey was conducted online within the United States by

The Harris Poll on behalf of Buick during Oct. 18-25 among 1,000 adults ages 18+ who are the parent of a child under the age of 18 and own or lease a vehicle.

Results were weighted to Census targets for education, age/gender, race/ethnicity, region and household income.

Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

Macomb County Selling Some Property for \$3.5 Million

The Macomb County Public Works Office has received a \$3.5 million offer on a parcel of land on M-59 and Garfield Road in Macomb Township. The offer on the nearly 9-acre property was received in a public auction held by the MCPWO on Nov. 14.

The property, one of the larger vacant parcels available along M-59 in the county, has been owned by the Macomb Interceptor Drain Drainage District for about 20 years, said Macomb County spokesman Dan Heaton.

The property was purchased by the MIDD for \$2.5 million during the construction of a sewer interceptor along Garfield Road in the late 1990s.

With this sale, nearly \$4 million in property sales have been completed by the MCPWO since

Commissioner Candice S. Miller took office in January 2017, Heaton said.

"We're not in the business of holding on to land and doing nothing with it for decades. My goal is to sell these excess properties, get them back on the tax roll and let them be developed in a way that benefits the community," Miller said.

The successful bidder on the M-59 property, a local private developer who stated he plans to build luxury apartments on the parcel, has 90 days to conduct a due diligence review of the property before the transaction is finalized.

Two other properties sold by the MCPWO since Miller took office are:

- \$100,000 for a lot at the corner of 21 Mile and Sugarbush roads. That property was recently purchased by the Chesterfield Township Library Board as the site for a proposed new library. Miller noted that the MIDD board

agreed to sell that property at below its appraised value to support the development of a new public library.

- \$250,000 for a 4.5-acre parcel along the Hawken Drain, just west of Ryan Road, between 19 Mile and M-59 in Sterling Heights. That property is now in the process of being developed for luxury homes.

Revenues from the MIDD-owned property sales will be used to support ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the district's assets, which provide sanitary sewer service to more than a half-million residents and businesses in 11 Macomb County communities.

Revenues from the Hawken Drain sale will be used to support storm drain maintenance operations in Sterling Heights, Heaton said.

"This office is not in the land business. We are in the drain business. I cannot understand why these properties were held

by this office for decades, to no public benefit. These sales will contribute to the economic prosperity in our community while providing additional funds for our drains. The public is the big winner today," Miller said.

VW to Convert Three Factories To EV Production

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) – Automaker Volkswagen will convert three factories in Germany to manufacture electric cars, ramping up production of zero-local emission cars ahead of tougher European emissions standards, the company said Nov. 14.

Wolfsburg-based VW said that it would begin local production of electric-powered vehicles at its facilities in Emden and Hannover in 2022. A plant in Zwickau was designated previously for e-car production.

Volkswagen personnel head Gunnar Kilian said that workers were given a jobs guarantee through 2028, but that the company would work to reduce positions "in a socially responsible way" since electrics require fewer production steps.

Analysts say carmakers will need to add electric cars to their sales lineups to meet the new European Union rules on greenhouse gas emissions from 2021. Volkswagen and other car makers had bet heavily on diesel models, which get better mileage than gasoline-powered vehicles, to meet tough limits on emissions of carbon dioxide, which greenhouse gas scientists say causes global warming.

Diesel sales in Europe have eroded, however, since VW was caught using software to cheat on diesel emissions tests and paid more than \$31 billion in penalties. Subsequent scrutiny of diesel technology showed that other carmakers' vehicles emitted more nitrogen oxide pollution in real-life driving than during tests.

The EU introduced new test procedures Sept. 1 that are intended to measure emissions in daily driving conditions.

As diesel sales fall, European carmakers are turning to electric vehicles to meet the new CO2 emissions limits, even though consumer uptake has been slow because of higher costs and lack of convenient places to charge up.

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Corvette ZR1 is Honored for Its Performance

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distinctly different in any category – braking, acceleration, grip, feedback – it's just more."

He went on to say that the base Corvette's shrink-around-you joy is here, but the ZR1 makes 300 more horses than that car and 255 more pound-feet of torque.

"It's an honor to receive this recognition from the team at Road & Track for the Corvette ZR1. The engineering team worked hard to create a car that extended the performance envelope beyond anything we had previously achieved while simultaneously making that performance more accessible to the driv-

er," said Tadge Juechter, Corvette's executive chief engineer.

Kelly said that what made this award particularly sweet was the fact that the ZR1 beat out many vehicles that cost a great deal more than the Corvette, such as the 2019 Ferrari 488, which costs \$448,884 and the 2019 McLaren Senna, which costs \$994-966.

The seven other contenders for the sixth-annual Performance Car of the Year were:

- 2018 Alfa Romeo Stelvio Quadrifoglio.
- 2018 Audi RS5.
- 2019 BMW M5 Competition.
- 2019 Ferrari 488 Pista.
- 2019 McLaren Senna.
- 2018 Mercedes-AMG E63 GT.
- 2018 Porsche 911 GT2 RS.



The ZR1's interior shows off the latest automotive technology.

Macomb County Urges Public Health Actions

Southeast Michigan Health Association (SEMHA) and public health partners throughout southeast Michigan encourage residents to practice healthy habits to protect themselves and others against colds and flu.

Flu activity increases during the holidays, as people are gathering and spending time together in close contact. Therefore, it's important to take steps that decrease the risk of illness, said Macomb County spokeswoman Roneeka Pleasant-Brown said.

Practice these healthy habits to protect yourself and others against colds and flu, Pleasant-Brown said.

That includes getting a flu shot. Everyone 6 months of age and older should get a flu vaccine every year. Flu vaccine can reduce flu-related illnesses and the risk of serious flu complications.

People should also wash hands often. Proper hand washing prevents germs from spreading. Wash hands after using the restroom, changing a diaper, before eating and/or preparing food, and after sneezing, coughing, or blowing your nose. Wet hands and apply soap.

The Macomb County Health Department can be reached by calling 586-469-5372, Pleasant-Brown said. Or people can go to the department's Web site at health.macombgov.org.

Macomb County Adopting New Pet Tracking Technology

Macomb County pet owners are excited about a new digital pet license tag through Macomb County Animal Control, "Powered by PetHub," that helps good Samaritans immediately identify and return lost pets.

In addition to the standard county pet license number, the new digital tags are equipped with a unique QR code, web address and traditional toll-free phone number, said Macomb County spokesman Jeff Randazzo.

Any of these capabilities can be used to immediately and safely access a pet's critical data, in-

cluding multiple emergency contact phone numbers, license and rabies tag information and microchip number.

Whether it was a good Samaritan scanning the QR code or calling PetHub's 24/7 call center, now, with Macomb County Animal Control's new digital license tags, pet owners will have access to this effective and affordable solution (PetHub's basic services are free to pet parents), Randazzo said.

"Until recently, we were only able to offer old-fashioned stamped metal tags that had limited information on them," said

Chief Randazzo, chief animal control officer for Macomb County. "We are thrilled to be the first in the state to offer these effective, cutting-edge digital licenses that allow our residents to keep their pet's information up-to-date with a user friendly online profile linked to their pet's license. We expect them to make a big impact in keeping more lost pets out of the animal control facility and get them back home quickly."

The adoption of this technology by Macomb County is taking advantage of changes in technology and how it's used by mem-

bers of the public in modern times, Randazzo said.

According to recent studies, most people have cell phones and more than 64 percent have smartphones that come equipped with cameras, GPS and web browsers.

The new digital license tags allow anyone with a phone, 'smart' or basic, to quickly reunite lost pets with their owners, Randazzo said.

For pet licensing information please visit <http://animalcontrol.macombgov.org> or @MacombCountyAnimalControl on Facebook.

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Ghosn Ousted as Nissan Chairman After His Arrest

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Ghosn, 64, is also chairman at Mitsubishi Motors Corp., a smaller Japanese automaker that's partnering with the Renault-Nissan alliance. It said it was scheduling a board meeting for next week.

Ghosn and Kelly have been held at a Tokyo detention center since their arrests last week.

Under Japanese law, suspects can be held for 20 days per possible charge without an official indictment. Additional charges can be tagged on, resulting in longer detentions. Neither has been charged so far.

The maximum penalty upon conviction for violating finance and exchange laws is 10 years in prison, a 10 million yen (\$89,000) fine, or both.

A French citizen born in Brazil, Ghosn became something of a corporate superstar in Japan, leading Nissan's revival from near bankruptcy after Renault sent him to help in 1999. The Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi alliance led the industry with sales of 10.6 million vehicles in 2017.

Ghosn served as Nissan's chief executive from 2001 until last year. He became chief executive of Renault in 2005, leading the two automakers simultaneously. In 2016, he also became chairman of Mitsubishi Motors Corp.

after Nissan took it into the alliance.

Kelly, 62, joined Nissan, maker of the Leaf electric car and Infiniti luxury models, in the U.S. in 1988. He became a board member in 2012. His background is in human resources and alliance management.

Analysts say the future of Nissan's alliance with Renault may be at stake, though the statement last week said the company's leadership was determined to minimize the impact from Ghosn's case on the partnership. Renault owns 43 percent of Nissan, and Nissan owns 15 percent of Renault.

Some within Nissan, including its current CEO Hiroto Saikawa, chafed at Ghosn's leadership. In a lengthy news conference last week, Saikawa said it was time for a change, and that too much power was concentrated in Ghosn, with too little credit given to the many others working for the company's success.

Ghosn also is suspected of underpaying his share of the rent and misusing company funds on his company-issued housing in Lebanon, Paris, Amsterdam and Rio de Janeiro, where his apartment is on the wealthy Copacabana beach strip.

Ghosn also was paid salaries by Renault and Mitsubishi.

Italian Auto Plant Becomes Mopar Center

FCA's Mopar parts division is expanding its reach.

The company's Fiat plant in Rivalta, located near Turin in Italy, is set to become one of the Mopar brand's global parts and distribution centers serving Europe, the Middle East, Africa (EMEA) and additional world markets.

Mopar (a simple contraction of the words MOTO and PARTS) is the service, parts and customer-care brand for FCA vehicles around the globe. Born in 1937 as the name of a line of antifreeze products, the Mopar brand has evolved over more than 80 years to represent both complete care and authentic performance for owners and enthusiasts worldwide.

Prompted by the rapid global expansion of Mopar, the service, parts and customer-care brand for FCA vehicles, this project in Italy will transform a former vehicle production plant into an innovative, energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable parts and accessories storage and distribution warehouse, said Mopar spokesman Ariel Gavilan.

The new facility will support more than 5,000 locations, significantly improving delivery time to dealerships and workshops, increasing customer service quality as a result, said Gavilan.

"As we grow the Mopar brand around the world, customer satisfaction continues to be one of our key global priorities," said Pietro Gorlier, Global head of Parts and



Mopar's new facility in Rivalta, Italy, will service European markets.

Service (Mopar) and Chief Operating Officer of the EMEA region.

"Delivery of the right part at the right time around the globe is at the core of what we do, so we continue to invest in our more than 50 parts distribution centers worldwide. In the case of Rivalta, we are proud to revive a building with a great industrial legacy and transform it into a state-of-the-art, forward-looking international parts distribution hub that will serve our markets in Europe and beyond."

The Mopar brand continues to invest to meet an increasing global demand that saw over 47,000 tons of parts and accessories distributed in the past 12 months in support of more than 7,000 dealers and workshops throughout the EMEA region alone. In Europe,

the brand offers a portfolio of more than 260,000 accessories and parts for all FCA vehicle brands, Gavilan said.

Mopar operates in more than 160 markets and has more than 50 parts distribution centers located in more than 20 countries.

The Rivalta project is set to optimize the Mopar brand's global operation, with approximately 340,000 square meters of space, of which 40,000 square meters will consist of new buildings. The vehicle storage and dispatch area will be strategically located to allow prompt access to main roads, ensuring significant advantages in terms of parts handling and logistics. By 2020, the new structure will also host the regional headquarters of Mopar.

Ford Scoots Into New Areas

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Benny, Ben and the rest of the (Spin) team to Ford."

"Today, we are excited to be accelerating our efforts to provide micro-mobility solutions with the acquisition of Spin, a dockless electric scooter sharing company based in San Francisco," Madra said.

"Spin is a leading micro-mobility service provider, with operations in 13 cities and campuses across the U.S.

"This approach aligns well with our values at Ford and with our aspiration to be the world's most trusted company."

The research and development behind a "Jelly" scooter is enabling the Ford X team to better understand what's required to succeed in the micro-mobility space, such as the importance of human-centered design, the critical importance of a reliable supply chain, and the need to work with cities and campuses to do scooter sharing responsibly.

Spin is committed to working hand-in-hand with cities and universities to implement micro-mobility solutions responsibly, safely and sustainably as they expand their operations, Madra said.

"They do not launch without permission," he said. "They share usage data with cities, and they work with local officials and university campuses to design educational tools around parking and riding rules.

"So how does scooter sharing fit into Ford's mobility strategy?" asked Madra, answering this way:

"Ford is focused on delivering great products and services across the mobility spectrum, seeking to enhance the freedom of movement by building smart vehicles for a smart, connected world. This means continuing to develop world-class vehicles, including more hybrids and battery-electric vehicles. It also means continuing development of self-driving vehicles, which we plan to launch at scale by 2021.

"Another critical component of our mobility strategy is to develop a comprehensive set of software and services designed to better enable vehicle connectivity and utilization, as well as new mobility experiences and multimodal transportation solutions.

"By combining our strength in automotive research and development with our commitment to connected and autonomous vehicles and our emerging software business," he said, "we are expanding our portfolio of scalable mobility solutions intended to provide a seamless transportation experience for the modern consumer.

"Spin adds an exciting new offering to Ford's mobility portfolio as we try to help our customers get places more easily, more quickly and less expensively."

According to Madra, using a Spin electric scooter costs \$1 to rent and 15 cents per minute. Affordability, combined with ease of use and electrified power, means scooters help tackle challenges like traffic congestion, parking and pollution.



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Society of Plastics Engineers Honors Companies, Ryntz

The Automotive Division of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) has named the winners of the group's 48th annual Automotive Innovation Awards competition.

The announcement was made Nov. 7 at the 48th SPE Automotive Innovation Awards Gala held at the Burton Manor in Livonia.

The Grand Award winner is selected from the winners of each of 9 categories by a panel of blue ribbon judges who are industry experts, said SPE spokeswoman Teri Chouinard. The Powertrain category winner was also this year's Grand Award Winner. The awards were presented to several different auto suppliers who provide plastics parts to different OEMs in several different categories.

The winners by category included:

Window Alignment Fixture – Stratays Direct Manufacturing. The company's PA12's 35 percent carbon fiber/Fused Deposition Modeling part for the 2017 Ford Mustang convertible.

The additive fixture was 30 percent lighter and cheaper to produce when compared with traditional welding, Chouinard said. It was also much faster to manufacture – only 50 hours to build the integrated fixture with handles and mounting brackets. And the ergonomics was also improved.

Body Exterior – Magna Exteriors Belvidere won for its DLGF 9411 and Hifax TYC TPO injection molding part. It allowed FCA to replace the steel liftgate in the 2019 Jeep Cherokee with a new thermoplastic design that made for a 28 percent decrease in mass as well as a 50 percent tooling and capital investment savings through part integration and manufacturing efficiency.

It was an industry first, Chouinard said, in its use of conformal infrared welding behind the MIC grain class surface, which increased structural and dimensional performance while also enabling quicker processing.

Body Interior – Faurecia Interior Systems was honored for its Profax SG702 99 injection molding part used in the 2018 Lincoln Navigator. This application combines two unique side impact bolster designs to meet the requirements for fifth and 50th percentile occupants. Integrating them into the map packet resulted in tooling cost savings estimated in the range of \$100,000. There was also an additional \$100,000 in indirect savings in testing time and another \$8 per vehicle cost avoidance if add-on bolsters were used.

Chassis/Hardware – ITW Deltar Fasteners won for its injection molding Leona 90G55 PA66 part used in the 2016 Chrysler Pacifica. The composite nut has self-healing properties enabling it to maintain sufficient torque and clamp load even after it has been stripped, unlike the metal nut that it replaced.

Sustainable Hybrid Composites – Summit Polymers won for THRIVE and Celstran PP+HC PP/RPP melt compound followed by injection molding used in the 2018 Lincoln Continental sedan.

This is an industry first application of composites combining tree (cellulose) fiber with long glass fiber (LGF) in a polypropylene matrix to replace 35 percent short glass-mineral polypropylene. It gives a 24 percent weight savings while at the same time providing a 13 percent cost savings.

Grand Award and Powertrain Category Winner – Vacuum Generat System for Brake Assist



Rose Ryntz



Magna's award-winning Exterior FCA Liftgate was honored.

by Dayco Products used material provided by DuPont Automotive to make its Delrin 73M30 POM+PTFE and Minion 520MP PA6 using injection molding used in the 2017 Ford F-150.

This part is a new conductive compound material used for electromagnetic interference (EMI) shielding and was developed for high-voltage junction box upper covers. The material replaces conventional die cast aluminum covers for reduced weight and manufacturing costs.

Integrated Tire Carrier, Rear Camera and Brakes Light Assembly – TMD-Grammer AG Group, using materials provided by DuPont, won for its Zytel ST 801 AW PA66 part created via injection molding.

This hybrid composite technology utilizes magnesium injection molding for higher structural strength with reduced weight & polymer over molding for improved impact and corrosion resistance. A 60 percent weight savings is achieved compared to metal stamping and a 20 percent weight savings is achieved compared to die casting processing methods.

Interlocking Mechanism Design for Side Impact – Faurecia Interior Systems won for its Magnum 3325MT ABS part made via injection molding from materials provided by Trinseo. It is used in the Ford Transit Connect van.

This interlocking mechanism improves door trim performance during side impacts by preventing fracture or separation of components that could cause sharp edges. The patent-pending design provides strong attachment, force absorption and high impact resistance between two components during side impact.

Hall of Fame – The First Injection Molded Thermoplastic (PC/PBT) Energy Absorber. The first injection-molded thermoplastic (PC/PBT) rear energy absorber for a vehicle bumper system, used on the 2003 Honda Element compact crossover SUV from Honda Motor Company, has been named the 2018 Automotive Innovation Awards Hall of Fame winner. The energy absorber, made with XENOY Polycarbonate/Polybutylene Terephthalate (PC/PBT) resin from SABIC (then known as GE Plastics), replaced

expanded polypropylene (EPP) foam energy absorbers in less package space at lower cost with better damageability performance.

Lifetime Achievement – Dr. Rose A. Ryntz, vice president, Global Advanced Development and Material Engineering at International Automotive Components Group (IAC), was named the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award winner. Ryntz is a technical specialist and research leader in automotive plastics technology with more than 35 patents and five trade secrets in production and material technology that have advanced the industry.

Her game-changing innovations include the development of damage-resistant fascias, automotive interior skin technologies for use in seamless passenger airbag instrument panels and interior and exterior automotive coatings on plastics.

Her technical support, with several automotive suppliers, led to several Joint Development Agreements further advancing the industry.

Michigan's Gas Prices Show Continued Drop

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) – AAA Michigan says average gas prices statewide are down 12 cents in the past week to about \$2.49 per gallon ahead of the Thanksgiving travel period.

The Dearborn-based auto club said on Nov. 19 that the average price for self-serve regular unleaded gasoline is at its lowest level since February amid continued declines in oil prices.

AAA says gas prices in Michigan for Thanksgiving are at their lowest level in two years.

The state's highest average was \$2.71 per gallon in the Marquette area. The lowest was in the Grand Rapids, Holland and Muskegon areas at \$2.34 a gallon. The Detroit-area's average was down about 12 cents.



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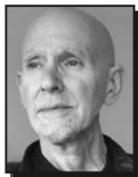




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GM Earns Gold Award for Its Green Plants

GM is one step closer to achieving its goal of earning Gold certification for all its facilities from the Wildlife Habitat Council.

The company's CAMI Assembly Plant in Canada last week was the latest facility to receive the Wildlife Habitat Council's highest recognition for overall excellence in corporate conservation - the Gold Program Award, said GM spokeswoman Carolyn Markey.

General Motors leads the auto industry with the most WHC Conservation Certification sites - 75 - and is at nearly 85 percent of its goal to achieve certification at all its manufacturing sites by 2020, said GM spokeswoman Carolyn Markey.

"Our environmental team, along with our Unifor Local 88 partners, have been at the forefront of protecting and preserving the environment and community in which we live and work," said Gary Duff, GM's CAMI Assembly plant manager.

"Our local activities and efforts, no matter how big or small, help protect the planet and move General Motors closer to our vision of a world with zero crashes, zero emissions and zero congestion."

Now celebrating its 30-year anniversary, the WHC's certification program is the only voluntary sustainability standard built on the best practices of global recognition programs, Markey said. The program recognizes a company's efforts to use its land, resources and partnerships to help address pressing global biodiversity issues.

"General Motors Canada CAMI Assembly Plant has exceeded the standard set for Conservation Certification," said Margaret O'Gorman, president, WHC.

"The program at CAMI Assembly had a total of 13 qualifying



Employee engagement helped GM's CAMI site earn environmental gold.

projects this year, ranging from management of grassland and wetland habitats to outreach events for the community. This award is a testament to General Motors' commitment to conservation."

Community engagement and employee involvement play significant roles in the company's efforts to drive impact, O'Gorman said. For example, CAMI Unifor Local 88 employees volunteer at Oxford's Children's Water Festival, a four-day community event held every three years, to educate local elementary school students about the importance of water.

At the event, employees engage students on water-related concepts through hands-on activities. This year, more than 3,600 students participated.

General Motors received its first WHC wildlife certification in 2002 at its Saginaw Metal Casting

Operations. The company now manages more than 5,000 acres of wildlife habitats in 16 countries. In 2018, global operations that joined General Motors' list of WHC-certified sites include Avtoz Togliatti, Russia; SGMW Hexi Base Liuzhou, China; and Cheongna Proving Grounds, Korea.

General Motors' biodiversity efforts reduce its environmental footprint, drive business value and savings, maximize benefits in the communities where it operates and support the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal to halt biodiversity loss, Markey said.

To that end, the company has been working hard to redesign facilities to be more environmentally friendly and has worked with groups like the Wildlife Habitat Council to make sure GM's efforts have been successful, Markey said.

Inteva Gets New Supply VP

Inteva Products, a global Tier 1 automotive supplier of engineered components and systems, named DeRoy Bryant to the position of vice president of Global Supply Chain Management.

He will report directly to Inteva CEO and President Lon Offebacher.

Bryant brings more than 25 years of experience in procurement, supply chain management, supplier diversity program leadership, and policy development and implementation, within global automotive OEMs and other businesses.

His career includes positions with Ford Motor Company as Central Purchasing manager for Vehicle Procurement Operations and Global Strategy and Business Planning manager for the Global Purchasing-Strategy Planning office.

At General Motors, Bryant served as Production Purchasing manager for the Midsize and Luxury Car Group and Global Commodity manager for the Worldwide Purchasing Group. Prior to these roles, he held positions with the Lansing Automotive Division and with Saturn Corpo-



DeRoy Bryant

ration. In addition, Bryant has held supply chain executive roles within the healthcare industry.

Bryant attended Florida A&M University where he received a bachelor's degree in Economics and a master's degree in Business Administration.

He also completed Duke University's Executive Development program.

He will be based out of Inteva's world headquarters and technical center in Troy.

Unique Fabricating Banks on Plans To Expand North American Facilities

Unique Fabricating of Auburn Hills has received a \$73 credit facility loan from Citizens Bank

Unique Fabricating, Inc. is a supplier of components to customers in the automotive and various industrial markets. Citizens is the sole lead arranger, bookrunner and administrative agent, said Citizens spokeswoman Betsy O'Connell.

Unique Fabricating engineers and manufactures parts that are composed of multi-material foam, rubber and plastic components that are utilized in noise, vibration and harshness (NVH) management, acoustical management, water and air sealing, decorative and other functional applications.

The new credit facility will be used to refinance existing debt and provide additional capital to fund projected growth, O'Connell said.

It was structured to be flexible to accommodate Unique Fabricating's recent expansion of its North American operations.

"Citizens bankers are trusted strategic and financial advisors who deliver valuable, clear and objective advice," said John Weinhardt, president and chief executive officer of Unique Fabricating, Inc.

"The industry expertise and close attention to detail that the Citizens team brought to our transaction made for a seamless and timely execution."

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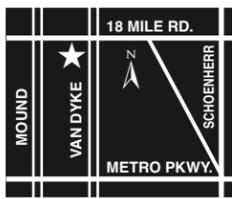
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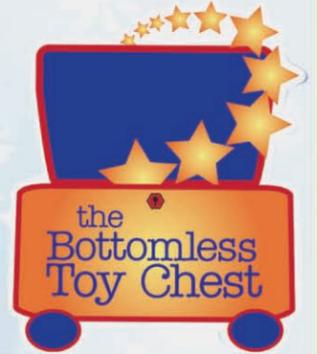
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