

## FCA Marks 10M Pentastar Engines

Just call it the engine that could.

The 10-millionth Pentastar engine was produced on Feb. 13 at FCA US's Trenton Engine Complex.

Introduced as a 3.6-liter V6 in 2010, the Pentastar engine family

has accounted for six placings among the prestigious annual list of *Wards* 10 Best Engines and currently comprises six fuel-saving variations that feature technologies from Variable Valve Lift (VVL) to hybridization.

Acclaimed for its silky, torque-

rich performance, said FCA spokesman Dan Reid, today's 3.6-liter Pentastar is the common denominator among 11 current best-in-class fuel-economy ratings for U.S.-market, gasoline-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



FCA employees at the company's Trenton engine plant celebrated the building of the 10-millionth Pentastar.



GM's new eBike brand will be available soon in European markets.

## GM Picks eBike's New Name

As the saying goes, don't reinvent the wheel. But that's just what GM has done with its new eBike brand.

Last year, the company said that it had created a new type of eBike and that it would be releasing more details about the eBike in the future.

On Feb. 14, GM released the name of the two-wheeler brand – ARIV.

This new eBike brand will include two innovative, integrated and connected eBikes: the Meld, a compact eBike, and the Merge, a folding eBike.

The name ARIV was selected as part of a global crowdsourcing

campaign announced in November 2018.

"The crowdsourcing campaign allowed us to bring consumers into the development of our brand," said Hannah Parish, ARIV director. "Combine that with our products and our blend of bike and automotive talent, and the result is a unique brand DNA."

ARIV eBikes are launching first in Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands, due to the popularity of lithium-ion battery-powered eBikes in those markets, Parish said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



HELLA is working with students to educate them in STEM fields.

## HELLA Creating Scholarship Fund for Michigan Students

For the third consecutive year, HELLA is offering prospective engineers looking for hands-on experience, career guidance and tuition aid the chance to apply to be a part of the HELLA Scholars program.

The program awards students \$10,000 renewable scholarships, along with paid work experience, and, ultimately, career placements at HELLA, said company spokesman Markus Richter.

Once students are selected, they'll be paired with a mentor to oversee their work and offer guidance. Applications for the lighting and electronics company's coveted program are due March 1.

HELLA is a global, family-owned company, listed on the stock exchange, with more than 40,000 employees at over 125 locations in some 35 countries. Its North American headquarters is based in Plymouth. The HELLA Group develops and manufac-

tures products for lighting technology and electronics for the automotive industry and also has one of the largest retail organizations for automotive parts, accessories, diagnostics, and services within Europe, Richter said.

The program is open to high school seniors from select schools as well as university students within commuting distance to HELLA. At the high school level, HELLA previously has only offered the opportunity to its neighboring Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district, Richter said.

This year, HELLA is expanding the program to include Northville Public Schools, since its new U.S. headquarters and technical center – which employees are set to move into at the end of February – is located in Northville.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## Ford Developing 'Talking' Car Technology

The technology may have changed, but the goal of making road traffic flow faster and safer remains the same.

Back in 1868, English engineer John Peake Knight invented the world's first traffic light to help people move through a congested London intersection that had become dangerous for pedestrians due to the popularity of horse-drawn carriages.

"At Ford, 150 years later," said Don Butler, executive director, Ford Connected Vehicle Platform and Product, "we are excited to continue advancing this type of thinking by committing to deploy cellular vehicle-to-everything technology – or C-V2X – in all of

our new vehicle models in the United States beginning in 2022," Butler said.

C-V2X is a wireless communication technology that can "talk" to and "listen" for similarly equipped vehicles, people and traffic management infrastructure such as traffic lights to relay important information and help make city mobility safer and less congested.

Planned alongside the rapidly building 5G cellular network, C-V2X enables direct communication between the connected devices, meaning a signal doesn't need to first travel to a cellular tower, allowing vehicles to quickly send and receive information.

Ultimately, it lets drivers know what's ahead of them even before they have to encounter it.

Navigating four-way stops becomes much easier with C-V2X, for example, since vehicles will be able to communicate with each other to negotiate which one has the right of way, Butler said.

In the same way, a car that's involved in an accident can relay its status to approaching vehicles, giving them advance notice of a potentially dangerous situation.

Even pedestrians equipped with a mobile phone could con-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Technology being developed by Ford will allow vehicles to communicate with each other and infrastructure.



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## Honda Recalls 437,000 Vehicles To Fix Fuel Pump

TORRANCE, Calif. (AP) – Honda says it is recalling 437,000 vehicles in the U.S. to fix a fuel-pump issue.

The recall covers model-year 2016-2018 Acura MDXs, 2015-2019 Acura TLX V6s and 2015-2017 Honda Accord V6s.

The automaker says the vehicles' software needs to be updated, and in some cases, have their fuel pumps replaced.

That's because sodium particulates found in some U.S. gasoline can stick to internal components in the fuel pumps, reducing the pumps' performance ability.

In hot weather, this could limit the vehicle's acceleration or cause its engine to stall, increasing the risk of a crash.

Honda says it has received no reports of crashes or injuries because of the issue.

Owners of the affected vehicles will be notified by letter in late March, after which they are advised to take the vehicles to authorized dealers.

# Warm Up Your Hot Rods – Autorama Returning

Car fans have something to look forward to during these cold winter days.

The 67th Annual Meguiar's Detroit Autorama, presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts, is coming to Cobo Center March 1-3.

Called America's greatest hot rod show, Detroit Autorama will feature "800 of the most amazing chopped, channeled, dumped and decked hot rods and custom cars in the world," said Autorama spokeswoman Linda Ashley.

This year's show kicks off with the live outdoor Smokey and the Bandit Stunt Jump – in tribute to Burt Reynolds – outside of Cobo Center, at 11:45 a.m., Friday March 1, just before the doors open to the 2019 Detroit Autorama, Ashley said.

After the jump, the Smokey and the Bandit Roadshow moves inside and includes an up-close look at the Smokey and the Bandit black-and-gold 1977 Pontiac Firebird Trans Am, the police car and memorabilia from the movie.

This year's Autorama will also feature a live appearance by NASCAR Racing Legend Tony Stewart, The Hanson Brothers from the movie "Slap Shot," and WWE Superstar Seth Rollins.

Also at the show will be hot rod builder Carl Casper, along with a showing of Casper's world-famous cars, including the Batmobile from the "Batman Returns" movie and his Empress that won best of show at the first Cobo Hall Detroit Autorama in 1961, and the Young American Top Fuel Dragster.

Casper will be on hand throughout Autorama to meet and greet fans and sign autographs all three days.

"We are always striving to bring new excitement and top ourselves every year at Detroit Autorama," said Peter A.

Foundas, president and owner of Championship Auto Shows Inc., producers of Autorama. "So, we are thrilled to create this special tribute to the beloved Smokey and the Bandit movie and the great Burt Reynolds."

"The amazing live jump by the 'Bandit' is sure to thrill everyone waiting for Autorama to open and brings special excitement to all of downtown Detroit. This amazing opening, along with the most spectacular showing of performance cars anywhere in the country, make the Detroit Autorama 2019 a show that no one will want to miss."

An additional big draw to this year's Autorama is the *Low Rider Magazine* Invitational, a special exhibit of 17 of the most amazing low-rider vehicles in the area, Ashley said. This addition to Autorama is a salute to one of the fastest-growing segments of the car enthusiast world.

Autorama is one of the largest and oldest hot rod-custom car shows in North America. It attracts visitors from across the U.S. and the globe, Ashley said. The calling card of this renowned show is the presentation of the Ridler Award, the most coveted award in hot rodding.

For 56 years, the award has been presented to the most outstanding new custom car, shown for the first time anywhere. Because of this distinction, said Ashley, the show attracts the finest custom car builders in North America to unveil their amazing vehicles for the first time at the famous show.

"It's extremely gratifying that Detroit Autorama is the home of America's most important hot rod award," said Foundas.

"This is the motor city and Detroit is where hot rod, custom car shows started so we make every effort to let everyone

know about this important heritage."

Detroit Autorama is the annual winter ritual that brings the most devout gearheads and just plain curious folks, up close and personal, with the autos that appear in hot rod and custom car magazines.

The cars, brought by backyard car jockeys as well as the top customizers in the country, compete for top awards in numerous classes.

These auto gems vie for awards and prizes in the Summit Racing Equipment Show Car Series. In addition, Autorama participants vie for the prestigious Ridler Award, sponsored by Meguiar's for the best vehicle first time shown.

It all culminates with the announcement of the Ridler Award Winner when Meguiar's presents \$10,000 cash plus a custom trophy and jacket to the grand winner.



The Autorama car show is coming to Cobo Center in March and will feature a host of hot rod cars.

## FCA Celebrates 10M Pentastar Engines

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

powered vehicles equipped with V6 engines.

These are in addition to its ownership of the all-time minivan-efficiency mark, achieved in Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid, Reid said.

Pentastars currently account for half the combined total of engines that power Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram and Ram Commercial vehicles.

And with this year's launch of the 2020 Jeep Gladiator pickup, they will be available in 16 models across 10 vehicle segments.

"The Pentastar family has all the hallmarks of an enduring icon," said Bob Lee, head of Engine, Powertrain and Electrified Propulsion, and Systems Engineering, FCA – North America. "We upped the ante among high-volume, mainstream-market, V6 engines. And our customers won big."

Pentastar design distinguishes itself with innovative features ranging from a completely integrated exhaust manifold, to environmentally friendlier oil-filter cartridges made from paper, Lee said. And with little or no modification, Pentastar engines can accommodate longitudinal or transverse mounting; front-, rear, and all-wheel-drive architectures; and automatic and manual transmissions.

Within four years of launch, this flexibility helped FCA replace seven six-cylinder engine families with a single V6 design that lends responsiveness and fuel efficiency to every vehicle in which it is offered, Reid said.

These two attributes were key targets for the 2015 introduction of an upgraded 3.6-liter Pentastar, which boasts cooled exhaust-gas recirculation (EGR) for greater efficiency, particularly under high load situations.

"Further, the second-generation 3.6-liter Pentastar delivers a torque boost of up to 14.9 percent at engine speeds below 3,000 rpm – where torque really counts," Reid said. "FCA US also enhanced fuel economy and refinement with the addition of two-step variable valve lift (VVL)."

All this power was one of the driving forces behind the Pentastar's development.

"Pentastar engines do exactly

what they were engineered to do," Lee said. "They deliver satisfying experiences in a wide range of driving conditions."

And the Pentastar is more than an engine for muscle cars, Reid said. For the 2019 Ram 1500 full-size pickup, the second-generation 3.6-liter Pentastar was adapted to accommodate the eTorque mild-hybrid system. It not only adds fuel-saving stop-start functionality that is seamless, it increases available torque, in short bursts, by up to 90 lb.-ft.

The eTorque-equipped Pentastar is also the latest member of the celebrated V6 family to be named one of *Wards* 10 Best Engines.

## AAM Co-Founder Now Hall of Famer

Richard E. "Dick" Dauch, co-founder of the Detroit-based auto supplier AAM, will be inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame in July 2019.

Dauch is being honored for his manufacturing expertise, strategic vision, bold leadership and business success, said AAM spokesman Christopher Son.

"After retiring from Chrysler Corporation as executive vice president of Worldwide Manufacturing, Dauch formed a small investment team to create AAM," said a statement from the Automotive Hall of Fame.

"Under his bold and steady leadership, AAM has become a multi-billion-dollar global company that is one of the largest and most respected Tier One automotive suppliers in the world."

In 1986, Dauch was named the Industry Leader of the Year 1985

by the Automotive Hall of Fame for his manufacturing leadership at Chrysler Corp and Volkswagen of America.

The Automotive Hall of Fame honors individuals who have significantly impacted the automotive industry and the world of mobility.

Considered the single greatest honor in the automotive industry, induction into the Automotive Hall of Fame is reserved for noteworthy individuals who have made significant contributions to the industry, Son said.

Also being inducted in July: Janet Guthrie, the first woman to qualify for the Indianapolis 500; Sergio Marchionne, former CEO of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles; and Patrick Ryan, creator of the first auto dealership finance and insurance department.

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## FCA Employee Takes Home 'Black Engineer of Year' Award

U.S. *Black Engineer & Information Technology* magazine awarded its 2019 Black Engineer of the Year (BEYA) Gerald Johnson Legacy Award to Tanya Foutch, Quality Engineering Supervisor, FCA US.

Foutch joins a growing list of diverse FCA US leaders recognized over the years for their technical achievements, management skills, leadership and community service, said FCA spokesman Mike Palese.

Foutch was named Resident Engineering Supervisor at FCA US transmission plants in Kokomo and Tipton, Ind., in 2016, Palese said. In this role, she leads a team focused on identifying quality issues for FCA's current and future portfolio of products.

Foutch received her award at the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Engineering Deans Power Breakfast on Feb. 9 in Washington, D.C., Palese said.

This annual awards event is attended by distinguished HBCU engineers, deans and other prominent leaders from industry, academia and the military.

The breakfast was part of BEYA's 33rd Global Competitiveness Conference that took place Feb. 7-9.

"I am very pleased Tanya received this prestigious award earned through her ongoing commitment to FCA US as an engineering leader and her passion for engaging youth about the promise and career opportunities of the STEM fields," said Mark Champine, head of Quality - North America, FCA - North America.

"Tanya's commitment to the company and to her community are an inspiration to her colleagues and to me personally."

Foutch graduated from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

She earned a master's degree in business administration in 2000 from Anderson University in Indiana.

Foutch is an enthusiastic advocate of STEM education for youth in her community and actively engages and mentors young women interested in pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and math, Palese said.

Since 2017, Foutch has been behind a successful annual STEM summer camp for youth in the Kokomo area.

"It is a tremendous honor to receive recognition for my accomplishments," Foutch said. "I thank God for blessing me with the gifts, abilities and life lessons that have allowed me to be a help and an encouragement to others."

My family, friends and peers have been a vital part of my growth and success. It is my honor and responsibility to share my life lessons with the community and the next generation of women leaders."

U.S. *Black Engineer & Information Technology* magazine also honored Modern Day Technology Leaders at the conference, Palese said.

These recipients are defined as "bright, high-performing, women and men shaping the future of engineering, science, and technology who demonstrate superior technical skills and leadership capability."

The following FCA US employees earned recognition from BEYA as Modern Day Technology Leaders for 2019:

- Mesgana Asmelash – ADAS Verification & Validation Engineer, Product Development (Electrical Engineering)
- BranDee Tatum – Maintenance Area Supervisor, Manufacturing (Trenton South Engine Plant)
- Jasmine Tompkins – Value



FCA's Foutch was awarded the Gerald Johnson Legacy Award.

Optimization Lead, Product Development (Interior)

FCA US has a longstanding commitment to recruiting diverse talent and supporting STEM education initiatives for minorities, including supporting organizations such as BEYA, National Society of Black Engineers, the Society of Professional Hispanic Engineers, and others, Palese said.

The company also supports various organizations that advance the careers of women in STEM professions.

U.S. *Black Engineer and Information Technology* magazine provides news and information about black engineers, technologists and entrepreneurs as well as on programs such as the Black Engineer of the Year Awards.

## CCS Student Wins BASF Design Contest

Sung Kwon Go, a student at the College of Creative Studies, was named champion of the Detroit Middlecott Sketchbattle Experiment presented by BASF.

Nicknamed "The Fight Club of Design," the artistic competition to showcase automotive design talent was conducted at Detroit's St. Andrew's Hall on Jan. 15, coinciding with NAIAS. Sixteen contestants, including designers and art students from across the globe, participated in the three-round competition, said BASF spokesman John Schmidt.

In round one, contestants were tasked with sketching a future-concept vehicle that showcased Falken tires. Nine contestants moved into round two, in which the focus was on the Taiwan-based TA YIH lighting company.

The third and final round showcased a BASF custom color, Aurora Gold, designed for Sketchbattle Detroit 2019 by BASF's Head of Color Design, Paul Czornij.

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## HELLA Scholars 'Add Value'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Through this program, we are able to see firsthand the impact we are having on the next generation of engineers," said Jörg Weisgerber, CEO of HELLA Electronics for North and South America.

HELLA is planning to add approximately eight more students to the program, with hopes of retaining the 15 students currently enrolled in the program. The 2019-2020 program will kick off in June. To be considered, applicants must:

- Show proof of their acceptance to an accredited, local university.
- Attend college with the intent of obtaining a degree in a related science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) field.
- Achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Scholarship recipients are required to work at HELLA full-time during the summer months and part-time during the school year. Scholars receive an hourly wage with pay increases each year they continue the program.

Derek Goderis, a freshman at Michigan State University and former Plymouth-Canton Community Schools student, is wrapping up his first year as a Scholar.

"Participating in the HELLA

Scholars program has been a pretty amazing, growing experience for me; overall, it's making me a better student and employee," said Goderis.

"This program offers immense value for both the company and myself because I'm working on real projects and, by the time I'm done with college, I'm going to know the 'HELLA way.'"

Through working on real projects, students like Goderis are gaining hands-on experience, learning concepts in the classroom and applying in the real world and vice-versa, while gaining experience from a cohort of other mentors and scholars, said Richter.

Matt McAmmond, manager of the Advanced Engineering Group at HELLA, and a Scholars mentor, noted from experience that learning theory in school and practicing at work is the best way to prepare for a career. Likewise, he concurred it's a mutually beneficial program.

"The Scholars add tremendous value," said McAmmond. "Evidence of the Scholars' contributions become apparent when they reduce their hours of work to attend their university in the fall. It's at this point that the teams the Scholars work with feel the impact of their reduced presence, so we know they are making a significant, positive difference."



# Detroit OEMs Do Well in Latest J.D. Power Quality Study

The J.D. Power 2019 U.S. Vehicle Dependability Study (VDS) numbers are in and the news was good for GM, FCA and Ford.

J.D. Power uses its problems experienced per 100 vehicles, or PP100, judging system to rate vehicles. Overall dependability for three-year-old vehicles improved 4 percent from last year, according to the J.D. Power 2019 U.S. Vehicle Dependability Study (VDS), said J.D. Power spokesman Geno Effler.

“Vehicle dependability continues to improve, but I wouldn’t say that everything is rosy,” said Dave Sargent, vice president of Global Automotive at J.D. Power. “Vehicles are more reliable than ever, but automakers are wrestling with problems such as voice recognition, transmission shifts and battery failures.

“Flawless dependability is a determining factor in whether customers remain loyal to a brand, so manufacturers need to help customers who are currently experiencing vehicle problems and address these trouble spots on future models.”

The study, now in its 30th year, measures the number of problems experienced per 100 vehicles (PP100) during the past 12 months by original owners of three-year-old model-year vehicles.

The 2019 study measures problems in model year 2016 vehicles. A lower score reflects higher quality, and the study covers 177 specific problems grouped into eight major vehicle categories.

FCA spokesman Berj Alexanian said that the aim of any automotive brand is to improve quality, and that’s just what FCA’s Chrysler brand has done, with numbers backed up by the J.D. Power 2019 VDS.

The Chrysler Brand led all FCA



2016 Chevrolet Equinox



2016 Chrysler 300



2016 Ford Expedition

US brands and the entire industry in the J.D. Power three-year dependability improvement with a 30 percent growth in the brand’s score from last year’s study, said Alexanian.

In addition to the Chrysler Town & Country minivan finishing tops in its category, the 2016 Dodge Challenger was the only vehicle that earned a ranking in the Large Sporty Car category, Alexanian said. Chrysler said its PP100 went from 211 down to 146 in the latest study.

“This is quite an accomplishment for the brand,” Alexanian said. “FCA, of course, would like to see improved scores for all its brands. We do a lot of pre-sale testing, but we really don’t know how well we’ve done until these vehicles get into the hands of the consumers. That’s when we start seeing real-life data.”

J.D. Power offers two different quality studies, Alexanian said. One is the VDS score, which measures quality going back three years, so the recent Chrysler scores are based on 2016 model years.

The second study is the Initial Quality Survey (IQS), Alexanian said. This measures quality of vehicles 90 days after purchase.

“What we’ve found is that the IQS scores are a good predictor

of what the VDS numbers will be down the pike,” Alexanian said. “And our IQS, from what we’ve been seeing, is good news for future VDS numbers.”

Alexanian said that the current Chrysler brand VDS numbers include the 2016 Chrysler 200, as well as the 300 and the brand’s minivans.

“We are always looking to improve our scores,” Alexanian said. “We’ve been able to improve our scores because we listen to our customer. That’s what every smart automotive brand does.”

And while it’s very difficult for a brand to see its scores improve, when compared to other brands, it’s relatively easy to see those scores decline. So FCA can’t rest on its laurels.

“The future looks good for us,” Alexanian said. “At least, according to our internal data and information we’re getting from J.D. Power, which shows that our quality numbers are going to continue to go up.”

FCA wasn’t the only Detroit automaker to see good VDS scores. GM and Ford also did well. Both companies had vehicles that were tops in certain model segments, while GM had a total of 16 vehicles named in the J.D. Power study.

The Ford expedition was the top-rated vehicle in the Large SUV category, and the Ford Super Duty was one of only two vehicles named in the Large Heavy Duty Pickup category. The Chevrolet Silverado HD was the top vehicle.

The Buick Regal was named in the Midsize Car category, while the Buick LaCrosse was number one in the Large Car category, finishing just ahead of the Chevrolet Impala.

Buick did well in the Small SUV category, with the Encore tying for second.

The Chevrolet Equinox was tops in the Compact SUV category, finishing just ahead of the GMC Terrain.

Both the Chevrolet Colorado and the GMC Canyon made the top three in the Midsize Pickup category, while the Chevrolet Traverse finished second in the Midsize SUV category.

The Chevrolet Tahoe and the Chevrolet Suburban made the top three list for the Large SUV category, while the Chevrolet Silverado was only one of two trucks named in the Large Light Duty Pickup category.

The Chevrolet Sonic took top marks in the Small Car category, while the Buick Verano was tops in the Compact Car category.

“GM led the industry with its segment-winning vehicle awards and all the models that were named in the Top Three of their segments,” said GM spokesman David Darovitz. “These models represent 63 percent of our sales volume during this VDS window.

“Chevrolet set the pace for GM with its best-ever performance, improving by nine PPH and advancing two positions to fourth in the industry. These results confirm that our focus on launching with excellence is working, and will continue to improve our performance. We take all third-party feedback seriously to validate successes and address opportunities for improvement.”

Ford spokesman Mike Levine said that the J.D. Power study confirms what Ford’s internal numbers have shown.

“Ford and Lincoln are committed to delivering the best quality for our customers by responding to their feedback and rapidly implementing solutions to enhance their experiences in our vehicles,” Levine said. “Ford’s internal quality data, as well as third-party results – such as No. 2 among all automakers in the 2018 J.D. Power Initial Quality Study – validate our continuous and considerable progress as we work to ensure best-in-class quality.”

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## Ford Developing Tech Helps Vehicles' Communication

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vey their location to other vehicles, ensuring that everyone on the road is aware of people who may be out of their direct line of sight.

Communicating with infrastructure such as stoplights and road signs, meanwhile, means cities have even easier ways of making sure drivers get the information they need to move more freely and safely, Butler said.

With C-V2X, a traffic light can send signals alerting drivers about when it will turn green or red, or whether a driver is at risk of running a red light.

Road signs could provide advance warning of recent accidents or provide more context regarding road construction, giving drivers the opportunity to reroute or more safely move through work zones.

Further out, cities could even use this technology to enable smart vehicles to “talk” to smart traffic management systems.

“Our move to deploy this technology builds on our prior commitment to equip every model we release in the United States with conventional cellular connectivity by the end of 2019,” Butler said. “C-V2X will work with Ford Co-Pilot360, our advanced suite of driver-assist and safety features standard across North America on new passenger cars, SUVs and trucks, including F-150, going forward.”

Driver-assist technologies today and autonomous vehicles of the future utilize on-board sensors much in the way people use their eyes to navigate complex environments. C-V2X could complement these systems in ways similar to how our sense of hear-

ing complements Ford’s vision to improve our ability to operate in a complex world, Butler said.

C-V2X will enable vehicles to receive updates about potential traffic developments and risks that are beyond the range of what sensors can pick up, provide warnings or could even be tuned to activate Ford Co-Pilot360’s automatic emergency braking system to brake for drivers if they do not respond.

With plans to roll out 5G cellular networks under way, C-V2X can complement the sensors of self-driving cars. While these vehicles will be fully capable of operating without C-V2X, the technology could add to its comprehensive view from the LiDAR, radar and camera sensors.

For instance, if emergency vehicles were equipped with C-V2X transmitters, they could notify self-driving vehicles that may be on their route so the vehicles pull over or reroute in plenty of time, Butler said. Self-driving vehicles could even get real-time updates on road conditions that affect their routes.

“A conducive regulatory environment must be in place for C-V2X to be deployed,” Butler said, “which is why we are working just as much with industry and government organizations to create such a technology-neutral environment.

“This technology will only live up to its full potential if many vehicles on the road as well as roadside infrastructure take advantage of it.

“That’s why we are inviting other automakers, infrastructure and road operators, as well as government agencies to work with us to accelerate momentum for C-V2X.”



## Mopar Charger Driver Makes Final Race

Mopar-powered Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat Funny Car driver "Fast Jack" Beckman stormed to his 57th career finals appearance at the rain-delayed 59th annual NHRA Winternationals at Auto Club Raceway at Pomona, said FCA spokesman Darren Jacobs.

The rest of the DSR Dodge Mopar contingent had mixed results on Feb. 11. Tommy Johnson Jr. continued his Pomona magic aboard the DSR Make-A-Wish Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat, turning on a pair of win lights after reaching the final to close out 2018 at the Fairplex.

Ron Capps, a three-time Winternationals champion, raced the NAPA Auto Parts Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat into the second round while two-time reigning Winternationals champion Matt Hagan was upset in the first round. Leah Pritchett scored an upset win in her HEMI-powered Sparkling Ice/Mopar Top Fuel Dragster before coming up short in the second round.

Beckman was set up for success in eliminations thanks to a stout qualifying run of 3.900 Feb. 9. After a workman-like triumph over Phil Burkart in the first round with a run of 4.102 ET, the Norco, Calif., native posted his best lap of the weekend (3.875 ET) to defeat Cruz Pedregon in his Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat and set up an all-DSR semifinal versus Johnson.

The Make-A-Wish Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat left first, but a clean run by Beckman put him in position to finally secure a Pomona victory. It was the 41st meeting between Beckman and Robert Hight, 11th in the finals. Hight left first, but Beckman was right there through the run ultimately losing by .0073 seconds.

Johnson carried momentum from last November's run to the final, qualifying third and taking down formidable foes Tim Wilkerson in round one and Shawn Langdon in the second round to set up an all-DSR semifinal.

Johnson took the starting line advantage, but couldn't maintain traction and was finished for the weekend.

Ron Capps completed the top-five in qualifying, driving the NAPA Auto Parts Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat and looking strong in racing past Gary Densham in round one of eliminations. He battled John Force to the wire in round two, but his pass of 4.092 ET wasn't enough to take down Force.

Matt Hagan, who qualified the Mopar Express Lane Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat No. 4, had an early advantage on Force in the opening round, but slowed to a lap of 4.140 and couldn't advance when Force put up a session-best run of 3.890 ET.

## Two Jeep Models Named as 'Best Value' in Canada

A pair of models from the Jeep brand have earned 2019 Canadian Black Book Best Retained Value Awards.

For the ninth year in a row, the iconic Jeep Wrangler won in the Compact Crossover/SUV category, while the rugged Jeep Renegade took the top spot in the inaugural year of the Sub-compact Crossover category, said FCA Canada spokeswoman LouAnn Gosselin.

Handed out annually, the Canadian Black Book (CBB) Best Retained Value Awards recognize vehicles that have retained the greatest percentage of their original MSRP over the past four years (since 2015). The designations are meant to guide consumer choice when buying a car.

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 • Level 1  
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**WITH BLACK APP./LEVEL 2**

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 24 Mos. \$1300 due  
 • Tonneau  
 • Spray In Bedliner  
**Lowest Lease Payments!**

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**2018 JEEP COMPASS 4X4**

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 J8-12219

**Altitude SALE PRICE \$19,115\***  
 J8-11874

**Presidents' Day Specials!**

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**YOUR CHOICE**

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 J9-20480

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**2018 Dodge Charger GT AWD**

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 D8-71314

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**PRESIDENTS' DAY DEALS ARE HERE!**

**NEW 2017 DODGE CHARGER R/T 392**

**SALE PRICE \$34,911\***  
 D7-71020

**NEW 2017 DODGE CHALLENGER GT AWD**

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 D7-50079

**2019 DODGE CHARGER SXT AWD**

**LEASE FOR \$226\*\*/MONTH**  
 24 Mos. \$1995 down  
 D9-71000

**2018 DODGE CHALLENGER R/T**

**SALE PRICE \$28,688\***  
 D8-50074

**NEW 2017 GRAND CARAVAN SXT**

**SALE PRICE \$24,614\***  
 D7-40926

**2018 DODGE DURANGO SXT AWD**

**SALE PRICE \$29,869\***  
 #D8-30081

**2018 DODGE DURANGO GT AWD**

**SALE PRICE \$32,472\***  
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The ARIV eBikes were engineered and designed in GM facilities in Michigan and Oshawa, Ontario. The ARIV design team combined its automotive and cycling expertise to create an innovative eBike design that addresses the unique needs of urban com-

“ARiV eBikes are backed by the power of General Motors and are focused on helping people move more freely in cities by creating solutions that reduce emissions and congestion,” Parish said. “We believe ARiV eBikes are a fast, fun and healthy way to reach a destination.”

This action affects approximately 1.48 million vehicles in North America, including approximately 1.26 million in the United States and federalized ter-

Ford is not aware of any reports of accidents or injuries resulting from this condition.

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