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The Middle East's First Automotive, Tires and Parts Magazine.

7th

ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

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SANJAY KHANNA

Managing Director, Dunlop Brand EMEA



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DRIVING BUSINESS FORWARD

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Al Dobowi Group recently held their global distributor conference in Dubai, and showcased a number of new products to be introduced in 2013



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SANJAY KHANNA

Managing Director, Dunlop Brand EMEA

Where does the name Dunlop come from and what does it mean?

Well the name comes from the founder John Boyd Dunlop, who was inspired to make his son's bicycle ride more comfortable by fitting his tricycle with tires made of canvas bonded with liquid rubber - what turned out to be a very big idea.

What is the legacy behind Dunlop tires?

The legacy is of innovation and racing. Our tradition is built on high performance technology that connects the driver and road like never before. Dunlop's first ever motorsport victories saw us winning the Grand Prix and 24 Hours Le Mans as early as the 1920s and we have gone from strength to strength ever since.

When was Dunlop tire brand born and who was its founder?

Dunlop was originally a brand of tire produced by the Dunlop Pneumatic Tire Company at the end of the 19th century, taking its name from John Boyd Dunlop. Nowadays as you know, Dunlop is known for its use in many different industries including construction and aerospace – we all know it for the tires used for every kind of passenger, sports and commercial vehicles.

Why did the tire labeling system start in Europe?

This initiative results from a regulation by the EU Commission released in 2009. It is part of the Energy Efficiency Action Plan, designed to improve the energy performance of products, buildings and services to reduce energy consumption by 20% until 2020. Manufacturers of tires for cars, light and heavy trucks must specify fuel consumption, wet grip and noise classification of every tire sold in EU market starting in November 2012, so it is a fairly recent system.

Why is the new tire called Sport BluResponse?

The new Dunlop Sport Bluestones is derived from Dunlop's work in motor sport, where the desire for low fuel consumption and good wear properties are starting to become as important as the pure grip of the tire. The new Dunlop Sport Bluestones comes with motor sport derived polymers, which deliver increased grip and performance, yet still allow an impressively low rolling resistance to aid fuel consumption.

How does the technology in the Sport Bluestones tire relate to Motor sport?

The Sport Bluestones has a compound and construction that optimizes the rolling resistance of the tire whilst still providing high grip levels, particularly in the wet. This is the same as on our latest race tires for projects such as the Gerent Hydrogen powered Le Mans car, where the success of this car is dependent on energy efficiency. The further this car can go on its Hydrogen power, the less pit stops it has to make.

What's new about the Sport Bluestones "Adaptive Compound"?

The tire's new tread compound contains a unique blend of high molecular weight polymers, derived from our Motor sport technology. This delivers superior grip thru larger micro-contact thanks to its enhanced adaptability to the road roughness, without compromising mileage and Rolling Resistance.

What is Dunlop "Optimized Construction" which can also be found in the tire?

The term Optimized Construction comprises several technology advances which directly affect the tire's rolling resistance. It comprises an improved construction with special light weight materials in the carcass of the tire; an enhanced building and manufacturing process and an innovative compound technology with a new formulation delivering excellent results in mileage and rolling resistance.

Where did you start in your career and how long have you been with Dunlop?

I started my career in the UK with Procter and Gamble following my graduation from Edinburgh University. Having worked on some of the most iconic brands like Vicks, Ariel, Fairy and Gillette in P&G, I built a strong insight into consumer understanding and the need to delight users with performance to turn them into your loyal consumers. I apply the same fundamental thinking to our European designed Dunlop brand since I joined them 5 years ago. Our focus is primarily on providing high performance in the area of Durability, Grip and Mileage.

Why have you chosen the Yas Marina circuit for this launch?

The Yas Marina circuit is the highest quality venue in the region, and perhaps even most of the Middle East. To enable our guests and media from the EMEA region to test our new tires in the best conditions, we wanted to ensure we offered the best terrain – so Yas Marina was selected. It was purely a quality choice.

Why does Dunlop sponsor the 24 hour race which takes place in the autodrome and why not any other event? How do you choose the events?

Dunlop's current focus is on endurance and touring car racing, which is integral to our 'race to road' development strategy.

There are many areas where developing the ultimate racing tire can help create the ultimate road tire. For Dunlop, racing is part of the R+D laboratory, and learnings on the construction and compound of tires are applied in road tires. For example, to win in endurance racing, racing tires have to balance grip, durability and consistency with aerodynamic performance, low weight and low rolling resistance, so a race car can consume (and therefore carry) less fuel.

We participate in numerous races around the world as well. We have been the most successful tire manufacturer in the history of the famous Le Mans 24 hour race, and repeating our 2011 and 2012 LMP2 wins in this race, along with winning championships in the related World Endurance Championship and European Le Mans Series. In 2012, Dunlop won in the prestigious Nürburgring VLN Championship with AMG and we aim to build on this success in 2013. In addition, we are sole suppliers to some of the biggest international touring car championships such as Australian V8 Supercars, GT Open and the British Touring Car Championship

What more can we expect this year from Dunlop?

Dunlop will continue to focus on "fuel efficient" and "high grip" tires for all weather conditions. In addition, Dunlop will continue to lead relationships with premium car manufacturers to ensure that its technology is well suited to the new generation of high performing cars coming into the market. Today, we have "original equipment" fitment on many models of German, French, UK and Japanese manufacturers' car models because these manufacturers know that European Dunlop products do in-depth testing in more than 50 criterion for the satisfaction of our end users.

Most premium tire companies have been developing new technologies, as a leading brand in the industry what are Dunlop's latest technologies?

The very first pneumatic tire to be used in a competition a century ago was a Dunlop innovation and the pace of change has continued to accelerate. In the 1980s Dunlop's Denloc tires had a unique rubber rib attached to the bead that "locked" into a recess in the wheel that would prevent the tire from coming off the rim and suddenly deflating in the event of a puncture. This was a safety innovation used on race cars, then on high performance road cars, before the advent on Dunlop's latest RunOnFlat technology. More recently, Dunlop innovations such as Multi Radius Tread (MRT) has had a profound impact on safety and road feedback. A more precise curvature manages the pressure across the tire, which in turn means the shape of the tire changes more smoothly when driving from a straight to a curved road.

What differentiates Dunlop from other Tire manufacturers?

Dunlop was born for tires and is one of the oldest tire brands in the market. It has clearly stood the test of time and continues to have the same winning spirit as it had when it was founded 125 years ago. Dunlop's product testing is very comprehensive where it is tested in extreme weather and stress conditions so that consumer can choose it with confidence.

Arab Inventor Abbas Ibn Firnas Honoured Through Rolls-Royce Bespoke Collection

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars has created a unique collection of Bespoke Rolls-Royce Ghost vehicles honouring legendary Arab inventor Abbas Ibn Firnas, who is most famous for being the first man in history to make scientific attempts at flying.

The British ultra-luxury carmaker unveiled the 'Rolls-Royce Ghost Firnas Motif' collection of vehicles, which are available exclusively through Abu Dhabi Motors, the sole dealer of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain. The unique models were conceptualised by Kadhim Al Helli, Rolls Royce Brand Manager at Abu Dhabi Motors before being hand-crafted by specialists at the home of Rolls-Royce in Goodwood, England.

Abbas Ibn Firnas was a 9th century Arab inventor and poet in Cordoba during the Umayyad Dynasty, who made contributions to a host of different sciences including Physics, Astronomy and Chemistry. The story of his attempted glider flight using man-made wings and feathers is taught in textbooks in many Arab and Muslim countries, and given him legendary status in the Middle East, where he has postage stamps, streets and even airports named after him.

The Bespoke "Rolls-Royce Ghost Firnas Motif" collection goes beyond the conventional perception of luxury by introducing subtle yet exotic features that encapsulate the true essence of Arab Andalusian culture, while retaining the core values that make the Rolls-Royce brand unique.

A host of delicate touches have been added to bring the spirit of the Arabian legend alive in this vehicle. The vehicle features a hand-painted twin-coachline, finished with the Firnas Logo, exclusive to "Rolls-Royce Ghost Firnas Motif" collection.

The personalised flight emblem is featured throughout the vehicle's design, on the control display panel set against elm cluster veneer and in the embroidery on the front and rear headrests. The car also features a personalized tread plate with the wings design and personalised message: "Firnas motif – one of five".

"Abbas Ibn Firnas was a great man who made significant contributions to the field of science and dared to dream that man could fly a millennium before the Wright Brothers did. It is hard to ignore the synergies between him and the Rolls-Royce brand, which is rooted in the pioneering heritage of its founders, Charles Rolls and Henry Royce. This unique collection honours his achievements and encapsulates his bravery and innovation in the world's most luxurious vehicle," said Arno Husselmann, General Manager of Abu Dhabi Motors.

"Very few international brands as respected and revered as Rolls-Royce have created special edition models that commemorate a symbol of Arab and Islamic culture in such a unique way, and as a result we have seen strong interest in the collection from customers here in the United Arab Emirates and overseas to own one," he added.

The Bespoke Programme is a service offered to Rolls-Royce clients whereby the client may specify features of the car, in order to create their own unique model. The Bespoke team at Goodwood, home of Rolls-Royce Motor cars, is dedicated to finding new paints, materials and engineering solutions that meet each client's demands to ensure he receives a truly unique and exceptional car.

Abu Dhabi Motors leads the global sales in Bespoke vehicles for the past 3 years in a row. In the past 9 years Abu Dhabi Motors received 5 Global awards to establish itself as a benchmark in the Industry for this pinnacle brand.





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The All-New Santa Fe receives top honours all over the world



Winning these awards is recognition of Hyundai's commitment to building vehicles of superior quality to its competitors, in line with our new 'Modern Premium' brand direction.

All three awards will provide Middle East consumers with further confidence in Hyundai's new SUV, reinforcing its reputation as a superb vehicle. With the residual value of a car reflecting how well a model holds its value, the ALG award is a clear indication that consumers and experts alike recognise the high levels of quality offered by the All-New Santa Fe.

The continually improving perception of quality offered by Hyundai cars has helped the company to overtake Toyota, Nissan, VW and Ford to claim second place in ALG's 2012 Mainstream Brand Residual Value Rankings. This was helped by awards for the Azera, in the full-sized car category, and the Elantra in the compact car category – its third win in consecutive years. Both models have enjoyed impressive success across the Middle East region with sales in 2012 exceeding 78,000 units.

Tom Lee, Head of Hyundai's regional headquarters in the Middle East, said: "Winning these awards is recognition of Hyundai's commitment to building vehicles of superior quality to its competitors, in line with our new 'Modern Premium' brand direction. The All-New Santa Fe is set to be a big hit with customers across the Middle East, and they can be reassured that motoring experts from around the world already agree that Hyundai has hit new heights with this model."

The all-new Hyundai Santa Fe introduces distinctive 'Storm Edge' styling, which captures the strong and dynamic shapes created by nature during the formation of a storm, as well as cutting-edge technologies and practical use of space in a premium quality package. It has been influenced by Hyundai's new brand direction 'Modern Premium', consequently featuring luxury elements that have traditionally been reserved to more premium models.

The All-New Santa Fe is available in the Middle East in a sporty five seat model, with the option of two fold-down seats in the boot. The new model offers a choice of two powerplants: a new 3.3l V6 engine producing 270bhp and up to 318Nm of torque and a 2.4l 4-cylinder unit delivering 176 bhp and maximum torque of 227 Nm. Customers have a choice of 2 or 4WD, and six-speed manual or automatic transmissions.



Hyundai's All-New Santa Fe has been praised by automotive experts from across the Middle East following its recent launch in the region, and it has now received further recognition with three prestigious awards in three continents. The Korean company's acclaimed SUV received the Residual Value Award in the Midsize Utility Vehicle category at the North American ALG Residual Value Awards, while it was also named Best Medium SUV in the 2012 Australia's Best Cars awards, and in the Middle East, won Best SUV of 2012 from Wheels Magazine.

ALG's annual Residual Value Awards cover the whole of North America and recognise the vehicles that are predicted to retain the highest residual value percentage of their original price after a conventional three-year ownership period. Australia's Best Car 2012 awards involved over 330 models being assessed across 15 categories by 12 high profile motoring journalists from across the country, with the Santa Fe triumphing in the Best SUV Over Aus\$40,000 category.

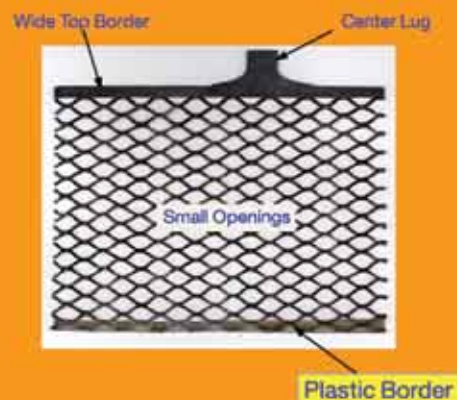
All-New Santa Fe was awarded Best SUV of 2012 by Wheels Magazine, a publication distributed in the UAE. The award was given to the SUV for its modern and improved design, high quality interior and smooth ride over varied terrains.



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- ◆ **Longer Service Life due to less active material shed**

MINI takes a look back over the most successful year in the brand's history.



The British premium small car manufacturer MINI can look back on an eventful year marked by new sales records, successful model launches and expansion into new markets worldwide. 2012 once again served up a wealth of highlights for brand aficionados, as well as being the most successful year to date for MINI. Not only has the vehicle line-up been extended to seven models, meaning more choice than ever, but MINI is now represented in over 100 markets around the globe for the very first time. Worldwide sales of the MINI brand totalled 301,526 units last year, more than in any previous 12-month period. The MINI review of 2012 summarises the year's most important, most extraordinary and most astonishing events.

January: MINI kicked off the year with yet another first when the British carmaker showcased its model range at the Auto Expo in the Indian capital of New Delhi for the very first time. This coincided with the opening in New Delhi and Mumbai of MINI's first showrooms on the subcontinent. It also made India the 100th market in which MINI is active. There is obviously a huge appetite for premium small cars there too, with 50,000 fans registering on MINI India's Facebook page in the space of just a few weeks. In Europe, the year commenced with the introduction of two special-edition models, the MINI Baker Street and MINI Bayswater, whose exclusive design and equipment features have injected some contemporary London style into the streetscape.

February: The launch of the MINI Roadster extended the brand's line-up to six models. The first open-top two-seater from the British carmaker radiates an aura of puristic sportiness. The manually operated soft-top roof, steeply raked windscreen, low centre of gravity that has been weighted forwards, and an automatically extending rear spoiler allow driving pleasure to be experienced at its most intense. The MINI Roadster range boasts a choice of four particularly feisty engines and is spearheaded by the MINI John Cooper Works Roadster with 155 kW/211 hp – never before have MINI drivers been able to feel such a vigorous rush of wind through their hair. The MINI brand reinforced its presence in the Middle East sales region with its market entry into the Kingdom of Jordan. The MINI showroom in the heart of the capital Amman presented customers with a choice of the entire MINI range from day one.

MINI is now represented in over 100 markets around the globe.

March: The MINI John Cooper Works Countryman received its world premiere at the Geneva Motor Show. It is the first John Cooper Works model to direct the power from its engine to all four wheels. Developed with the aid of motor racing knowhow, the turbocharged engine comes in its most powerful 160 kW/218 hp version and teams up with the standard ALL4 all-wheel-drive system to

guarantee tremendous fun at the wheel over any terrain. The list of standard equipment also includes sports suspension, 18-inch alloy wheels, a sports exhaust system, as well as an aerodynamics kit. The MINI John Cooper Works Countryman can also be specified with an optional six-speed automatic transmission. Meanwhile, the introduction of the MINI Highgate Convertible brought some real style to bear in the world of open-top motoring. The new special-edition model fuses exclusive flair and individuality with a generous dose of Brit-cool.

April: Individuality was very much the focal point of MINI's show stand at the Auto China in Beijing, where the MINI Clubman Hyde Park celebrated its world premiere. There was also a debut for the MINI's forefather, with five classic Mini cars taking part in the Allgäu-Orient Rally for the first time. This alternative race for classic cars and recent classics sets off from the village of Oberstaufen in Bavaria before heading for the Azerbaijani capital of Baku, over 5,000 kilometres (3,100 miles) away. MINI also took the opportunity to join in congratulating the international language of Esperanto on reaching a special milestone: 125 years ago it began to take the world by storm, eventually becoming a cultural asset that is fondly cherished in over 100 countries – very much in the mould of the MINI.

May: The former F1 circuit in Le Castellet, France was the place to be for the global MINI Community when it hosted MINI United 2012. Some 30,000 delighted MINI enthusiasts were able to revel in three days of top international music acts, motor racing action and a throbbing party atmosphere, all themed around the MINI. The stage buzzed to the sound of live performances from bands such as Iggy and the Stooges and Gossip. The same month saw MINI supporting the Life Ball in Vienna, Europe's biggest charity event, for the 12th time. The Life Ball combines a fashion show with doing some good for society. MINI continued its tradition of donating for auction a vehicle specially designed for the occasion, the proceeds of which go to projects that have been set up to combat HIV and AIDS. Over 4,000 classic Mini fans descended on Lake Balaton in Hungary, meanwhile, for the International Mini Meeting, the largest gathering in the classic Mini Club calendar.

June: MINI unveiled yet another new model, this time one that had been designed with special transport tasks in mind. The MINI Clubvan combines all the practical strengths of a compact delivery van with the driving fun for which the brand is renowned along with highly distinctive looks. It comes with two seats and 860 litres of load space, which owners can easily make the most of thanks to the split door at the rear. Not only is the first premium vehicle of its kind highly versatile, it also makes an ideal mobile calling card for tradespeople who are anxious to create a stylish impression when delivering goods to their customers. The trade publication "Automobilwoche" awarded its top rating of "Triple A" (Automobilwoche Award Autohandel) to the MINI sales force in Germany. In a study into the professionalism of personnel in car dealerships, MINI salespeople emerged as the best source of advice for potential customers amongst the premium brands.

July: London calling – yet more highly alluring special-edition models were brought out in the guise of the MINI Hyde Park and MINI Green Park, which celebrate the British way of life with far more than just their names. Their exclusive colour scheme and classy appointments fuse extravagance with understatement to superb effect. In the United States, MINI extended an invitation to take part in a unique coast-to-coast rally with the slogan MINI TAKES THE STATES: the MINI Community set out for Los Angeles from New York on 4 July, Independence Day.

August: The brand's sporty streak was on show once again at the opening of the Moscow International Automobile Salon, with a stand that centred around the new John Cooper Works models.

September: The seventh model in the brand's line-up, the MINI Paceman, made its world debut at the Paris Motor Show. With two doors and a large tailgate, powerful proportions, flowing coupé-like lines, plus



a lounge-style interior featuring two individual seats in the rear, this is the first Sports Activity Coupé in the premium compact segment. The MINI Paceman can be equipped with the ALL4 all-wheel-drive system as an option. The fastest MINI ever built blasted onto the scene as the second crowd-puller at the Mondial de l'Automobile – but not for long. The MINI John Cooper Works GP is being built in a limited run of just 2,000 units for racing enthusiasts all over the world. Awaiting them is a scintillating and exclusive sports machine featuring a 160 kW/218 hp turbocharged four-cylinder power unit, adjustable coilover suspension, an ultra-powerful sports braking system, Driving Stability Control with GP race mode and precisely honed aerodynamic measures, along with model-specific alloy wheels and sports tires. The MINI John Cooper Works GP was fine-tuned on the Nürburgring's legendary Nordschleife circuit, where it recorded a best time of 8:23 minutes. This same month, the classic Mini scooped a great accolade in its home country when, 53 years after it first went into production, readers of the UK car magazine "Autocar" voted it the "Greatest British car ever made". And nowhere are the sheer thrill of this British classic and its phenomenal go-kart feel more apparent than on the BMW Group's test track in Aschheim near Munich, where the classic Mini driver training courses are held.

October: MINI sought and found 25 test drivers from the Munich area for the brand's first-ever all-electric car. For five months, the testers taking part in the latest field trials will drive the MINI E under everyday conditions; their impressions and experiences will subsequently be incorporated into the scientific analyses of both user behaviour and the infrastructure requirements for electric vehicles.

November: An intense racing sensation with fewer refuelling stops – a transformation is taking place under the bonnet of the John Cooper Works models. The latest incarnation of the turbocharged engine with motor racing

breeding now goes about its business even more efficiently. The 155 kW/211 hp four-cylinder unit's twin-scroll turbocharging and direct petrol injection technology is now supplemented by variable valve timing, which enhances both engine responsiveness and fuel efficiency. The MINI Paceman received its US premiere at the Los Angeles Auto Show, where new paint finishes and detailed interior styling modifications for the MINI Countryman were also revealed. The MINI One Countryman and MINI Cooper Countryman models now meet the EU6 emissions limits as standard. In London, highly creative use of space resulted in not one but two entries in the Guinness Book of Records: on the same day that 28 female gymnasts managed to squeeze into a MINI, 23 members of the same gymnastics team from East Sussex succeeded in cramming themselves into a classic Mini, setting another world record.

December: This time it was the turn of MINI to set a new personal best, with annual vehicle sales topping the 300,000 mark for the first time. To be exact, worldwide MINI deliveries up to the end of the year totalled a record-breaking 301,526, meaning that the brand's sales were up by 5.9 per cent compared to 2011. Sales were once again strongest in the USA, followed by MINI's home country, the UK, and Germany. The forecasts for 2013 similarly make for positive reading. The MINI Paceman is due to be launched in March, while the brand also plans to move into more new markets. Central America provides the latest evidence of MINI's successful expansion. The new age predicted by an ancient Mayan calendar dawned there just a few days before Christmas – with absolutely no sign of the end of the world, but with plenty of good omens for the MINI brand.



Speed, performance, thrills

Adrenalin fuelled Mercedes-AMG driver training at YAS

No longer is speed, performance and thrills enjoyed on the racetrack exclusively for the pros. The Middle East arrival of the high-performance AMG Driving Academy training programme promises to push driver abilities to the limit in a premier selection of the latest AMG vehicles on one of the world's most testing racetracks, the YAS Marina Circuit. Under the guidance of professional instructors and among fellow AMG enthusiasts, it's a high-speed, gut-twisting, adrenaline-packed driving adventure like no other.

Teaching drivers to harness their full driving potential to reach unexpected levels, the AMG Driving Academy ADVANCED level UAE programme provides the knowledge and experience for perfect control of vehicles, coupled with great passion and the utmost in driving enjoyment. Participants are catapulted into driving greatness in the most captivating AMG high-performance models currently available, including the CLS 63 AMG, E 63 AMG, C 63 AMG, C 63 AMG Coupé and the SLK 55 AMG roadster.

The flagship of the academy, making its Middle East debut at the media launch and first intake of the AMG Driving Academy on 9th January, is the newly launched SLS AMG GT - evolved through the incredible success of its brother in arms, the SLS AMG GT3, which announced its arrival in the 2011 season by securing 26 victories in the FIA GT3 Series. Making its first ever track debut for regional media at the launch was the SLS AMG Roadster - a perfect synthesis of open-top driving pleasure, outstanding driving dynamics and systematic lightweight construction, with the overall visual appearance of the new two-seater marked by its purist design.

Briefing the drivers at the academy, Frank Bernthaler, Director, Sales and Marketing, Mercedes-Benz Cars Middle East & Levant, said: "Everything Affalterbach puts into AMG vehicles was learned at the track, so it makes sense that enthusiasts can now share in that too. 2012 was the Year of AMG in the Middle East, with a record number of drivers getting behind the wheel to feel the precision, power and emotion of AMG. With the AMG Driving Academy, our customers can now experience the full passion of AMG driving performance, developing new found skills to explore the extreme limits of what these machines can deliver."

"The AMG Driving Academy's ADVANCED training ensures safe and confident reactions. With the dual personality of AMGs - at home both on the track and the drive to the office - these are skills that not only deliver maximum enjoyment of track racing, but also the well-being of our customers and their families on even the most challenging public roads," added Bernthaler.



The AED 7,750 single day AMG Driving Academy ADVANCED skills programme concentrates on developing driving skills and sporty driving. In addition to the fundamentals of driving physics, the theoretical introduction primarily covers cornering technique, the ideal line and braking points. The mode of functioning of the various driver assistance systems, safety rules and driver behaviour also play a central role in this unit.

Section training on the race circuit sees the instructors explore in detail the particular characteristics of each section of corners, while guided driving behind the instructor makes it easier for the participants to identify the ideal line and braking points.

An AMG driver training team are on hand to answer all technical questions about the vehicles, and can accommodate two groups of 10 participants each. One instructor is assigned to each group and two participants share each car. The event rises to a suitably thrilling climax with the chance for the participants to sit in the passenger seat as a professional racing driver takes them for a spin in the SLS AMG GT Race Taxi.

The new SLS AMG GT was born to perform and with enhanced driving dynamics, further pushes the boundaries of this already legendary car's capabilities and passionate driving enjoyment.

With a maximum output of 591 hp the optimised AMG SPEEDSHIFT DCT 7-speed sports transmission and the redeveloped AMG RIDE CONTROL Performance suspension, the SLS AMG GT - which is available both as a Coupé and a Roadster - has raised the bar even higher. As a further highlight, the new high-quality AMG design Exclusive STYLE leather is now also available as an optional extra for all SLS AMG models.



Masculine and decidedly athletic with darkened headlamps and tail lights as well as red-painted brake callipers, the new SLS AMG GT also features a unique look. The wing-shaped cross fins and the star recess in the radiator grille retain a high-gloss finish, as do the exterior mirrors and the fins on the bonnet and wings. The AMG logo on the right of the boot lid also features the additional letters "GT", letting other road admirers know this is no ordinary SLS AMG.

Thomas Buehler, Head of AMG Middle East & Levant, said: "The new SLS AMG GT demonstrates the incredible potential that lies in AMG's super sports cars. With even higher levels of performance and design details, the SLS AMG GT excites the moment one lays eyes on it, reaching a roaring crescendo as it demonstrates its prowess and performance on the race track."

One look at the technical specifications highlights the fact that AMG has succeeded in enhancing the dynamic profile of the SLS AMG GT even further. The maximum output of the AMG 6.3-litre V8 front mid-engine is 591 hp at 6800 rpm, while the maximum torque is 650 Nm at 4750 rpm. The SLS AMG GT accelerates from zero to 100 km/h in 3.7 seconds, and can reach a speed of 200 km/h in 11.2 seconds.



AMG Driving Academy arranges complete incentives

The AMG Driving Academy also arranges complete incentive trips for companies, customers or business partners. The programme covers all types of individual wishes, including AMG factory tours, a guided tour of the SLS AMG production plant in Sindelfingen, guided excursions with the latest AMG high-performance vehicles, race track training or visits to motor sport events including a full supporting programme followed by evening function, for example. A personal incentive scout puts an exciting

Audi keeps its foot on the gas pedal AED 65 billion in capital expenditures through 2016



Despite challenging economic circumstances, Audi is maintaining its ambitious capital-expenditure program. The Audi Group plans on investing AED 65 billion through 2016 to continue resolutely maintaining its course for growth as per its Strategy 2020. Expenditures will primarily address the development of new products and technologies as well as the construction of new plants. Nearly AED 40 billion will be invested in the German sites of Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm.

Audi is maintaining its robust capital-expenditure program to the tune of AED 65 billion in coming years. "We will keep investing large sums to pursue our growth strategy," explains Axel Strotbek, Member of the Board of Management for Finance and Organization at AUDI AG. He added that the Group wants to spend more than AED 10 billion every year on new products and technologies.

All in all, more than AED 52 billion is to be allocated through 2016 to modernizing and expanding Audi's portfolio of products as well as financing core areas of expertise such as lightweight design/construction and electric mobility. Conventional powertrains are to be rendered even more efficient.

Nearly AED 40 billion has been earmarked just for the German sites of Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm in the next five years. In addition, expansion of the site in Győr, Hungary will be completed in 2013. Audi is building a body-manufacturing shop, a paint shop and a press shop in Győr. The Group is expanding capacities in China, as well. Automobiles with the four rings are expected to begin rolling off the assembly line in Foshan, China in early 2014. Moreover, a plant in San José Chiapa, Mexico is scheduled to start producing Audis by 2016.

"The expansion of our global manufacturing infrastructure will help us to continue growing," says CFO Strotbek. Audi wants to sell more than two million vehicles annually by 2020 to become the perennial Number One premium brand in the world. To this end, Audi hopes that its innovations will attract customers everywhere to the brand. Last but not least, the company seeks to appropriately balance financial success with social and environmental concerns to further consolidate its unsurpassed image worldwide.



Return of the Stingray

The 2014 Chevrolet Corvette

ENGINE

	LT1 6.2L V-8
Displacement (cu in / cc):	376 / 6162
Bore & stroke (in / mm):	4.06 x 3.62 / 103.25 x 92
Block material:	cast aluminum
Cylinder head material:	cast aluminum
Valvetrain:	overhead valve, two valves per cylinder
Fuel delivery:	direct injection
Compression ratio:	11.5:1
Horsepower / kW:	450 / 335 (est.)
Torque (lb-ft / Nm):	450 / 610 (est.)

Chevrolet is redefining modern performance with its debut of the all-new Corvette Stingray. And only a Corvette with the perfect balance of technology, design and performance can wear the iconic Stingray designation.

The 2014 Corvette Stingray is the most powerful standard model ever, with an estimated 450 horsepower and 610 Nm of torque. It is also the most capable standard model ever, able to accelerate from 0 to 60 mph (0 to 97 km/h) in less than four seconds and achieve more than 1g in cornering grip. It is expected to be the most fuel-efficient Corvette, exceeding the EPA-estimated 9 L/100km of the current model.

"Like the '63 Sting Ray, the best Corvettes embodied performance leadership, delivering cutting-edge technologies, breathtaking design and awe-inspiring driving experiences," said GM North America President Mark Reuss. "The all-new Corvette goes farther than ever, thanks to today's advancements in design, technology and engineering."

The all-new Corvette Stingray shares only two parts with the previous generation Corvette. It incorporates an all-new frame structure and chassis, a new powertrain and supporting technologies, as well as completely new exterior and interior designs.

Highlights include:

An interior that includes real carbon fiber, aluminum and hand-wrapped leather materials, two new seat choices – each featuring a lightweight magnesium frame for exceptional support – and dual eight-inch configurable driver/infotainment screens

Advanced driver technologies, including a five-position Drive Mode Selector that tailors 12 vehicle attributes to fit the driver's environment and a new seven-speed manual transmission with Active Rev Matching that anticipates gear selections and matches engine speed for perfect shifts every time

An all-new 6.2L LT1 V-8 engine combines advanced technologies, including direct injection, Active Fuel Management, continuously variable valve timing and an advanced combustion system that delivers more power while using less fuel

Lightweight materials, including a carbon fiber hood and removable roof panel; composite fenders, doors and rear quarter panels; carbon-nano composite underbody panels and a new aluminum frame help shift weight rearward for an optimal 50/50 weight balance that supports a world-class power-to-weight ratio

A sculptured exterior features advanced high-intensity discharge and light-emitting diode lighting and racing-proven aerodynamics that balance low drag for efficiency and performance elements for improved stability and track capability



BRAKES

Type:	front and rear power-assisted discs with four-piston fixed front and rear calipers (slotted rotors with Z51)
Rotor diameter (in / mm):	front: 12.6 / 320 (13.6 / 345 with Z51) rear: 13.3 / 338

WHEELS / TIRES

Wheel size: front: 18-inch x 8.5-inch (Stingray)
front: 19-inch x 8.5-inch (with Z51)
rear: 19-inch x 10-inch (Stingray)
rear: 20-inch x 10-inch (with Z51)
Tires: Michelin Pilot Super Sport run-flat
front: P245/40R18 (Stingray)
front: P245/35R19 (with Z51)
rear: P245/35R19 (Stingray)
rear: P285/30R20 (with Z51)

Track-capable Z51 Performance Package including: an electronic limited-slip differential, dry-sump oiling system, integral brake, differential and transmission cooling, as well as a unique aero package that further improves high-speed stability.

"Stingray is one of the hallowed names in automotive history," said Ed Welburn, GM vice president of global design. "We knew we couldn't use the Stingray name unless the new car truly lived up to the legacy. The result is a new Corvette Stingray that breaks from tradition, while remaining instantly recognizable as a Corvette the world over."

The new Corvette Stingray will be built at GM's Bowling Green, Ky., assembly plant, which underwent a \$131-million upgrade, including approximately \$52 million for a new body shop to manufacture the aluminum frame in-house for the first time.

"We believe the Corvette represents the future of modern performance cars because it delivers more power, more driving excitement and better fuel efficiency," said Tadge Juechter, Corvette chief engineer. "The result is better performance by every measure. The 2014 Corvette delivers the fastest acceleration, the most cornering grip, the most track capability, the best braking performance and what we expect to be the best fuel economy ever for a standard Corvette."

The 2014 Corvette Stingray coupe goes on sale in the Middle East market in the fourth quarter of 2013.

Maserati Honored as 'Best Italian Company in the UAE'

Maserati, the iconic Italian luxury vehicle manufacturer, received the annual award following a successful year of sales growth and increased brand penetration across the Emirates. The award is given by H.E. Giorgio Napolitano, President of the Republic of Italy, who recently called upon UAE and Italian companies to build a strategic partnership by exploring investment opportunities offered by each other's countries.

The award was presented by the Italian Chamber of Commerce to Mr. Umberto Cini, Managing Director for Maserati Overseas Markets, who commented "It is an honor to receive this prestigious award given the strength of Italian companies in the UAE. The Emirates constitute an important market for us and the success of 2012 provides a solid base to continue strong growth this year and beyond. This is a very exciting time for Maserati with our high performance luxury sports saloon, the Quattroporte, being launched in the region at the end of the month, and three further new release models expected in the next four years"





The first cars didn't have steering wheels. Drivers had to steer with a lever! So basically, it was just like a games console... but REAL!

ALL-NEW RANGE ROVER HAILED AS LUXURY CAR OF THE YEAR BY *WHAT CAR?*

Land Rover opens the New Year in the same winning style as it closed 2012, with a major award for the all-new Range Rover. The fourth generation model has been named Luxury Car of the Year by UK automobile magazine *What Car?*

Announcing the award at a presentation dinner in London, the magazine's Editor-in-Chief Chas Hallett said: "The Range Rover combines all the merits of a 4x4 with those of the finest luxury limos in the world.

The vast expanse of glass and armchair-like driving position make this a great place to travel. The sense of security brought to the mix by the high-tech four-wheel-drive system helps to make this about the most relaxing way, bar none, to cover the miles."

Accepting the award, John Edwards, Land Rover Global Brand Director, said: "This award rewards everyone at Land Rover who has helped make the fourth generation Range Rover a landmark vehicle. At the same time as we have succeeded in delivering the highest standards of luxury, we have remained true to Land Rover's core engineering heritage to ensure there is no compromise in Range Rover's exceptional 4x4 capabilities."

The all-new Range Rover displays its luxury character in its clean, modern design, use of high quality materials and exceptional equipment features. The cool and contemporary interior makes excellent use of high technology to create a relaxing cabin environment, however, demanding the conditions outside. Key elements include a four-zone climate control system, seats with integrated massage functions, seamless connectivity for mobile devices and sophisticated LED ambient lighting.

Range Rover's advanced chassis and driver assistance technologies not only ensure supreme handling performance and safety, they also deliver exceptional comfort for everyone on board, too. The new model makes advances in this area with its new two-channel Dynamic Response active lean control, and Adaptive Dynamics with continuously variable damping.

In addition to its *What Car?* honour, Range Rover has also been named Top Gear magazine's Luxury Car of the Year and the best 4x4 in the Sunday Times Driving supplement's Top 100 Cars.



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Audi RS 7 Sportback debuts at Detroit Auto Show

Audi is expanding its RS model lineup: The RS 7 Sportback is making its debut at the North American International Auto Show 2013 in Detroit. Aesthetic design, innovative technology and impressive sportiness: The RS 7 Sportback, the large five-door coupe from Audi, combines many strengths to produce a fascinating character. A market launch in the Middle East has been confirmed for 2014.

Its strong heart is the 4.0 TFSI, which takes Audi's downsizing strategy to the high-end category. The twin-turbo V8 displaces 3,993 cc and develops awesome power, with 560 hp available between 5,700 and 6,700 rpm. A constant 700 Nm of torque are available between 1,750 and 5,500 rpm.

The RS 7 Sportback sprints from 0 to 100 km/h in just 3.9 seconds. Audi limits the top speed in the standard configuration to 250 km/h. Top speed with the optional dynamic package is 280 km/h and 305 km/h with the dynamic package plus. Yet the new top model of the model series consumes on average just 9.8 liters of fuel per 100 km. This top value is due in part to the standard start-stop system and innovative thermal management. The standard eight-speed tiptronic is specially tuned to the sporty character of the Audi RS 7 Sportback.

The most innovative efficiency technology in the new Audi RS 7 Sportback is the cylinder on demand (COD) system. To increase efficiency the 4.0 TFSI runs as a four-cylinder engine at low to medium loads and engine speeds.

The Audi RS 7 Sportback comes standard with quattro permanent all-wheel drive for its decisive advantage in traction and driving safety compared with its two-wheel-drive competitors. Audi also offers the optional sport differential for the rear axle, which uses two superposition gears to actively distribute the power between the wheels.

The character of the Audi RS 7 Sportback is immediately obvious. A series of specific design details give a sporty edge to its flowing coupe design. These include the distinctive bumpers and high-gloss black protective grille with honeycomb structure at the front of the car as well as add-on parts in matt aluminum. At the rear of the car, which features a power extending spoiler, the diffuser and the two large, elliptical tailpipe trims of the exhaust system catch the eye. The elegant dynamics carry over to the cockpit of the Audi RS 7 Sportback, for example displays for boost pressure and oil temperature plus a lap timer round out the RS 7-specific menu.

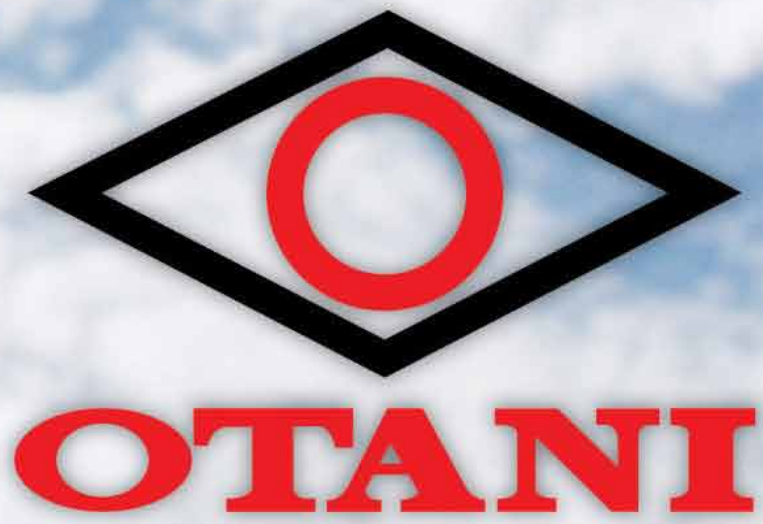
The body of the Audi RS 7 Sportback includes up to 20 percent aluminum and includes many parts of high-strength and ultra high-strength steels. Its high rigidity is the foundation for the precise handling, excellent workmanship and quiet cabin free of intrusive noise.

The Audi RS 7 Sportback comes with a generous list of equipment, including LED headlights, a tire pressure monitoring system, the parking system plus, three-zone automatic air conditioning, cruise control and the Audi sound system in addition to features mentioned previously. High-end options include a head-up display, a comfort package, the dynamic package and the dynamic package plus.

Long Version

Audi is expanding its RS model lineup: The RS 7 Sportback, which is making its debut at the North American International Auto Show 2013 in Detroit, stands for dynamics at their most beautiful. The large five-door coupe uses a 4.0 TFSI engine producing 560 hp. The sprint from zero to 100 km/h takes just 3.9 seconds, and the speed governor can be deactivated upon customer request to permit a top speed of up to 305 km/h. Despite this superior performance, the Audi RS 7 Sportback consumes on average just 9.8 liters of fuel per 100 km.





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Al Tayer Motors Sweep Ford Motor Company's Middle East Customer Service Excellence Challenge Titles



Al Tayer Motors, the UAE importer-dealer of Ford and Lincoln vehicles, bested all participants in Ford Motor Company's regional edition of this year's Service Excellence World Cup, clinching awards for Best Service Advisor, Best Parts Advisor and Best After-Sales Team. Steered by Ford Customer Service Division – Export & Growth, the Service Excellence World Cup aims at recognising the best performing after sales teams among Ford dealers within the entire Export Operations organisation.

Rejish Raj, Service Advisor from Al Tayer Motors garnered first place in the Service Advisor category going home with USD1,000 cash prize and trophy. Coming in second was Mohamed Ali of Almoayyed Motors from Bahrain and third was Shajimon Joseph of Al Jazirah Vehicles Agencies from Saudi Arabia.

New category entry for 2012, the award for Best Parts Advisor went to Al Tayer Motor's Guillen Pecayo. Pecayo demonstrated the best customer service skills among his counterparts in the region and took home a USD1,000 cash prize as well as recognition of being the top among his peers. Biju Anthony from Arabian Car Marketing in Oman and DierTaha from NIVA in Iraq, came second and third, respectively.

Al Tayer Motors also showed its superiority winning the Best Team of the Service Excellence regional competition, which looks at the combined skills of the after-sales team and its different functions that work together to provide customer service.

"We congratulate Al Tayer Motors for this remarkable feat, it was well-deserved!" said Chris Noel, director of Customer Service at Ford Middle East. "Healthy competition among our own service and sales personnel is just one way we can keep our dealers' frontline staff motivated as well as provide them an opportunity to be recognised for their product knowledge and hard work. We are proud that quite a large number of them are quite adept and made the competition fiercer. With that in mind, Ford can assure its customers that they can always look forward to a knowledgeable and efficient advisor available to them."

For his part, Raj said: "Every day my work is not only fulfilling but also helps me to improve my technical skills and boost my confidence level on the job. I dedicate this victory to all my colleagues and managers who have generously shared their knowledge to be a successful team."

"We were determined to bring home pride and honor to our company, Al Tayer Motors, and we did it," added Pecayo. "I would like to acknowledge our Training Manager and the rest of the Training department for a well-planned strategy, their dedication and hard work and for believing in me."

On Al Tayer Motors winning as Best Team, Boulos Massoud, General Manager Aftersales of Al Tayer Motors said: "It was quite exhilarating to see three out of four awards being won by Al Tayer Motors. All the contestants were thrilled to see that their hard work paid off. The level of the competition has gone up tremendously and every year we see the bar is being raised. The team has performed extremely well under pressure. The competition gave us an opportunity to improve our skills, processes and training methods. The winners are role models for other employees in our company and they will be imparting their skills to others to reach the level of excellence. We thank Ford Motor Company for providing a platform to showcase the dealers' skills and helping us to go forward in improving customer satisfaction."

Ford's service advisors, parts advisors and technicians need to first complete all required Ford Motor Company training and certification curriculum to be able to enter the competition. Participants then must go through and win the Local Dealership competition before they can move on to the final level or the regional challenge.

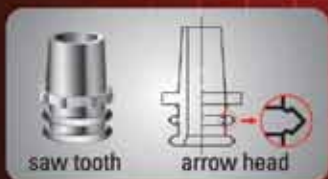
For the 2012 Service Excellence World Cup competition, the Best Parts Advisor category has been added to expand the scope of the customer service match.

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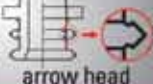
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Bentley reveals new performance flagship convertible

The Continental GT Speed Convertible, Bentley's new open-top performance flagship - and the world's fastest four-seat convertible - made its international debut on 14th January at the North American International Auto Show, Detroit.

The new GT Speed Convertible combines the sensory pleasures of roof-down luxury touring with the shattering performance of a 625 PS (616 bhp) twin-turbocharged 6.0 litre W12, while delivering a fifteen per cent improvement in fuel efficiency. The close-ratio eight-speed transmission, uprated and lowered suspension and retuned steering provide exhilarating acceleration and sharp, communicative handling without detriment to the renowned ride comfort of Bentley's Continental convertible. Permanent all-wheel drive ensures optimum traction and power delivery whatever the road conditions.

Taking its place at the pinnacle of the Bentley Continental range, the new GT Speed Convertible has a top speed of 202 mph (325 km/h) and in true Bentley style, no compromises have been made in craftsmanship, luxury or refinement to deliver this unrivalled performance.

Subtle sporting design cues include exclusive 21-inch alloy wheels, dark-tint grilles and 'rifled' exhaust tail pipes. Inside its handcrafted cabin, the GT Speed convertible features the Mulliner Driving Specification as standard, blending contemporary luxury with a distinctly sporting character.



Commenting on the new Continental GT Speed Convertible, Bentley Chairman and Chief Executive Dr Wolfgang Schreiber said: "Following the recent successful introduction of the GT Speed, the new GT Speed Convertible will appeal to drivers who seek the sensory thrills of the world's fastest four-seat soft-top and the practicality of a year-round grand tourer, together with unrivalled levels of luxury and refinement. It is designed for those who accept no compromise."

Powertrain: 12 cylinders, 625 PS (616 bhp) and 8 gears

The Continental GT Speed convertible shares its powertrain specification with its Bentley stablemate the GT Speed coupé. The 625 PS (616 bhp) twin-turbocharged, 48-valve, W12 engine powers the new convertible to 60 mph in 4.1 seconds (0-100 km/h in 4.4 s.) and onto a top speed of 202 mph (325 km/h). Nought to 100 mph (160 km/h) is despatched in only 9.7 seconds. Peak torque – an impressive 800 Nm (590 lb.ft) – is reached at just 2000 revs/min and maintains that level through to 5000 revs/min for effortless, refined performance at all times.

The latest ME17 engine management system, capable of performing 180 million individual calculations per second, provides enhanced turbocharger control and torque management, enhancing driveability. In common with all W12-engined models, the GT Speed convertible features an energy recuperation system. Together with a close-ratio, quick-shifting eight-speed transmission, this has resulted in a 15 per cent improvement in fuel economy and CO2 emissions compared with the first generation Speed, with a commensurate increase in tank range.

The new GT Speed Convertible's powertrain is even more tractable than its Speed predecessor, and just as fuel-efficient as the new W12 Continental GT. Switching the gear selector to 'Sport' mode however demonstrates the dual personality of the new GT Speed convertible, delivering a sharper throttle response, gear-shifting at higher engine speeds and faster 'block shifting' (eg 8th direct to 4th gear) for instantly accessible acceleration. The enhanced performance is accentuated by a glorious baritone snarl from the free-breathing exhaust, a thrilling soundtrack to the magnificent powerhouse under the bonnet.



ENGINE

Type 6-litre twin-turbocharged W12

Max Power 616 bhp / 460 kW / 625 PS @6000 rpm

Max Torque 800 Nm / 590 lb.ft @ 2000 rpm



BRAKES

Front 405mm ventilated discs (optional 420mm Carbon Silicon Carbide, cross drilled)

Rear 335mm ventilated discs (optional 356mm, Carbon Silicon Carbide, cross drilled)

Wheels and Tyres: Wheels 9.5J x 21", Tyres 275/35 ZR21

PERFORMANCE

Top speed 202 mph / 325 km/h 205 mph / 330 km/h

0-60 mph 4.1 secs / 4.0 secs

0-100 mph 9.7 secs / 9.0 secs

0-100 km/h 4.4 secs / 4.2 secs

0-160 km/h 9.7 secs / 9.0 secs

Another practical feature, the neck warmer, makes open air driving an appealing and comfortable prospect even on the cooler days of spring and autumn. With the hood down, the Continental GT Speed convertible offers sensational performance with the sensory amplification of open-air motoring. Hood up, it's as practical a year-round proposition as its coupé stablemate.

As with every Bentley Continental model, the GT Speed convertible offers the reassuring stability of permanent all-wheel drive, biased 60:40 in favour of the rear so the spirited driver can control the car's line with the throttle. The rear-biased torque split also minimises understeer during hard cornering while the system varies torque between the front and rear axles for optimum grip in all road and weather conditions.

The result is an exhilarating combination of performance and practicality; a Bentley that can tackle sun-drenched boulevard or snowy alpine pass with equal aplomb.

The thrill of the open road, 365 days a year

The new Continental GT Speed Convertible offers the luxury and refinement of a coupé yet transforms into a head-turning open tourer at the touch of a button. The four-layer hood ensures high levels of refinement and acoustic insulation. Exhaustively tested in all conditions from -30°C to +50°C or more, it resists even monsoon-force rain and maintains comfortable, draft-free warmth even on the coldest days.



New 2013 Fiat 500c Abarth

The Ultimate High-performance Italian Small Car Adds Open-air Driving Excitement

The Fiat 500 Abarth brought world-class performance and precision, purposeful and aggressive styling, high power-to-weight ratio and limited-production volume to North American driving enthusiasts in 2012. Adding even more excitement to Karl Abarth's line of "small but wicked" cars, the new 2013 Fiat 500 Cabrio (500c) Abarth harks back to his open-air track cars of the 1960s, while delivering the most visceral experience of any modern Cinquecento to date.

"The new Fiat 500c Abarth delivers the wicked attitude and track-proven capabilities of the hatchback model, now with the rush of open-air Italian performance," said Tim Kuniskis, Head of FIAT Brand for North America - Chrysler Group LLC. "And with the push of a button our new turbocharged cabrio can unleash that added sense of freedom, while offering one of the most respected soundtracks of all-time, the rasp from its

signature Abarth-tuned dual exhausts."

Open-air freedom with an intelligent power cloth top and rigid structural design. With the Fiat 500 Abarth's high-performance DNA intact, the new 2013 Fiat 500c Abarth is engineered with the same track-proven attributes that have made the hatchback model a success on European and North American roadways and racetracks, but now brings even more fresh air and the unmistakable Abarth-tuned exhaust note into the cabin.

With just the push of a button, the Fiat 500c Abarth's power-operated cloth top retracts up to the rear spoiler during speeds up to a best-in-class 60 mph (a midway point can be chosen

by pressing the button anytime in between). Press the roof button again, and the roof will neatly fold all the way open and tuck neatly behind the rear head restraints (up to 50 mph). The power operated cloth top is also intelligently designed.

For access to the Fiat 500c Abarth's trunk, premium "parallelogram" liftgate hinges conveniently position the liftgate out of the way, while the power-operated cloth top automatically retracts back to the rear-spoiler position to avoid any obstruction.

In addition to its cleverly designed multi-position power-retractable cloth top, the Fiat 500c Abarth's fully stamped body-side silhouette retains the iconic Cinquecento form while delivering added structural strength and 70 percent less header shake than key competitors. In addition, its longer windshield and minimized header design maximize rear-seated passengers' outward visibility, while minimizing cabin turbulence." and enthusiast-desired "ESC Full Off."



NISSAN TRAINING PROGRAMME CROSSES 2,000TH GRADUATE LANDMARK

Nissan recently celebrated the 2,000th graduation from its state-of-the-art training centre in the United Arab Emirates.

The centre opened in 2008 and offers service technicians, engineers and fleet and government specialists from across its distributor network comprehensive instruction in the latest vehicle technologies.

"Nissan is acutely aware that the relationship with the customer does not end when they buy a vehicle from our extensive model range," said Samir Cherfan, sales & marketing director, Nissan Middle East.

"Maintenance and servicing are critical in keeping a vehicle's performance at optimal levels, and ongoing training makes Nissan-certified technicians best qualified to undertake this vital work. As a brand which is constantly introducing innovative new and exciting features throughout our model range, owners can only be certain that Nissan-certified technicians have received all the instruction necessary to keep them abreast of these developments."

The Nissan Training Centre conducts around 30 courses a year for focused groups of between 10 and 25 people. The principle behind the programme is to 'train the trainer' with each representative receiving skills that will enable them to train their teams when they return to their own market.

In line with this commitment the center recently conducted a session exclusively for its fleet and government owners' technicians from Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Qatar. A total of 22 technicians took part in the session, with a focus on Nissan's legendary 'Hero of All Terrain', the Nissan Patrol, an iconic vehicle specifically designed for the Middle East.

"Fleet and government sectors represent over 30% of total sales in the GCC and Middle East, and are highly valued contributors to achieving Nissan Middle East's growth and corporate objectives. We utilize our training facility to ensure our fleet owners are always up-to-date with the latest knowledge of Nissan's high service standards and products. By doing this we are passing on the advantages to our third party customers as well," said Cherfan.



Regular car maintenance drives down accidents and improves fuel consumption says Al-Futtaim Motors

Joint awareness campaign with Government departments attracts 650 Toyota owners

As part of the on-going strategic relationship between Al-Futtaim Motors and many of the Dubai Government departments a service awareness campaign designed to improve employee vehicle safety, reduce the rate of accidents on the UAE roads and help improve fuel consumption has been completed.

During the ten-day campaign, 650 Toyota owners working for Dubai Municipality, Dubai Police and Dubai Civil Defence received a free five-point vehicle inspection service by Al-Futtaim Motors' technicians and service advisors which addressed motorists' queries pertaining to their vehicles and explained the basics about routine car maintenance.

"Al-Futtaim Motors is always committed to customers' wellbeing and safety and these joint initiatives were an ideal opportunity to create awareness about the



importance of regular check-ups and routine maintenance. Not only does this help prevent vehicle breakdown and improve fuel consumption but it also lowers the long term costs of ownership," said Alan Carpenter, General Manager - Sales & Marketing, Al-Futtaim Motors.

The employees who participated in the campaign also received service vouchers for a complementary comprehensive 42-point vehicle check in addition to car wash tickets. One government employee was also lucky enough to win exclusive VIP tickets to the Abu Dhabi F1 Grand Prix at the culmination of the activity.

NOKIAN TIRES RENEWS ITS WINTER TIRE RANGE

The new generation of Nokian winter tires set new standards for winter driving

Nokian Tires renews its winter tire range for northern conditions by introducing three new products into the unique Hakkapeliitta winter tire family. The world's best-known winter tire is already a legend in all areas which experience true winter. In addition to the core products, Nokian Tires is also introducing two new winter tires for the Central European and North American markets.

This is the biggest launch in the history of our company as we renew most of our winter tire range. The

This is the biggest launch in the history of our company as we renew most of our winter tire range.

new generation of Hakkapeliitta tires is a significant upgrade to our long line of test winning products. We are looking forward to introducing the finely tuned safety and handling properties to

the consumers, says Kim Gran, President and CEO for Nokian Tires.

When designing the new Hakkapeliitta tires, the focus was on creating authentic winter tires that perform safely and reliably under the demanding and varying northern conditions, from extremely low temperatures to wet weather.

The studded Nokian Hakkapeliitta 8 masters all the elements of winter. Unique stud technology from the inventor of winter tires brings grip like never before for ice and snow. The design of this next-generation studded Hakkapeliitta tire is based on the Nokian Hakkapeliitta 7 that was introduced in 2009. This multiple test winner holds a world record in its field: over 30 test wins in car magazines between 2009 and 2012.

Nokian Hakkapeliitta R2, the new non-studded winter tire, will safely tackle even the trickiest winter conditions. The new innovations maximise the grip of this Nordic non-studded tire on ice. The new Hakkapeliitta R2 has made a significant leap of progress in this particular field. Nokian Hakkapeliitta R2 is the number one choice for those who value unique driving comfort and eco-friendly travelling. In addition to the extremely low rolling resistance, developments have also been made in handling on ice, snow, and wet roads, all for the benefit of drivers.

The world's northernmost tire manufacturer is also introducing the non-studded Nokian Hakkapeliitta R2 SUV winter tire, specially tailored for sport utility vehicles. The new innovations in the tread patterns and compounds of this stable, rugged new product ensure that the Nokian Hakkapeliitta R2 SUV's handling and grip properties are top-notch.

Nokian Tires is introducing the new Hakkapeliitta products to its most important partners at its own testing centre in Ivalo, Finland in the coming weeks. In addition to the launch in Ivalo, the Nordic countries and Russia will have their own promotional tours. All of the Hakkapeliitta products are aimed at the company's core markets in the Nordic countries and Russia. The tires will start shipping to retailers in early 2013.

During the spring, the company is also launching the Nokian WR SUV 3 winter tire, developed for Central Europe's varying winter conditions and the ever-increasing SUV segment. The new Nokian WR G3 for passenger cars, on the other hand, is an extension of the Nokian Tires' All Weather Plus product line for the North American market.

Trelleborg's acquisition of industrial tires operation finalized

Trelleborg's acquisition of Maine Industrial Tire, a U.S.-based market leader specializing in solid tires for vehicles such as forklifts, has been finalized. The transaction broadens Trelleborg's product portfolio within the industrial tires segment, enabling Trelleborg to maintain its global leadership in the supply of solid tires.

Trelleborg is a global industrial group whose leading positions are based on advanced polymer technology and in-depth applications know-how. Trelleborg develops high-performance solutions that seal, damp and protect in demanding industrial environments. The Trelleborg Group has annual sales of about Approximately AED 13 billion, with about 15,500 employees in over 40 countries. The Group comprises three business areas: Trelleborg Sealing Solutions, Trelleborg Wheel Systems, and Trelleborg Engineered Systems. In addition, Trelleborg owns 50 percent of TrelleborgVibracoustic, a global leader within antivibration solutions for light and heavy vehicles, with annual sales of Approximately AED 8 billion and about 8,000 employees in 17 countries. The Trelleborg share has been listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange since 1964 and is listed on the NASDAQ OMX Nordic List, Large Cap.

Bridgestone To Acquire New Site for the Relocation of its Shenyang Plant in China

Bridgestone Corporation announced that its subsidiary in China, Bridgestone (Shenyang) Tire Co., Ltd. (Shenyang Plant), has acquired a new site to relocate its manufacturing facility. The Shenyang Plant, located in Shenyang City in the Liaoning Province of China, manufactures truck and bus tires.

In accordance with Shenyang City development policies, which were revised following urbanization of the area surrounding the Shenyang Plant, the new plant will be relocated to Shenyang Chemical Industry Park. The new site will encompass approximately 395,000 square meters, and the Shenyang Plant will make a total investment of US\$99.9 million as the acquisition of the new site, etc.

Globally the Bridgestone Group strives to work together with local governments to contribute to the development of the regions where we operate. At the same time, the Group is developing systems to enhance its "speed to market" in order to quickly meet the product needs of its customers.

Overview of the Shenyang Plant

1. Company name: Bridgestone (Shenyang) Tire Co., Ltd.
2. Location: Shenyang City, Liaoning Province, China
3. Products: Truck and bus tires
4. Plant Representative: Kazuya Ikeda
5. Ownership: Bridgestone Corporation - 100% (including indirect holdings)
6. Plant site: Approximately 395,000 square meters (after relocation)
7. Production capacity: Approximately 3,700 tires/day (as of December 31, 2012)
8. Number of employees: 1,199 employees (as of November 30, 2012)

THE PNEUMATIC TIRE CELEBRATES ITS 125TH BIRTHDAY, AND SO DOES DUNLOP



- 1840: Birth of John Boyd Dunlop
- 1888: Patent of the first inflatable tire
- 1889: Foundation of Dunlop Pneumatic Tires Co. Ltd.
- 1889: Willie Hume wins four races on his bicycle fitted with Dunlop tires.
- 1902: Establishment of a manufacturing subsidiary: Dunlop Rubber Co. Ltd
- 1902: Dunlop wins the Paris-Vienna race
- 1921: Death of John Boyd Dunlop
- 1923: Dunlop's first Grand Prix victory (Henry Segrave's Sunbeam)
- 1948: Launch of a tire featuring a self-sealing layer (to prevent further air leaks in the event of a puncture)
- 1950: Dunlop becomes a supplier of Formula One and motorcycles racing tires
- 1959: Formula 1 World championship title (Jack Brabham, Cooper)
- 1966: 500cc World Championship (Giacomo Agostini, MV Augusta)
- 1969: Dunlop's eight Formula 1 World Championship (Jackie Steward, Matra)
- 1970: Dunlop withdraws from Formula One to focus on rally and racing in Sport & Touring
- 1984: Victory in the Paris-Dakar rally (Rene Metge & Dominique Lemoyne, Porsche 911)
- 1994: First ultra-light tire reducing the weight of the vehicle by approximately 12 kg.
- 1998: Dunlop develops the DSST system, enable the vehicle to drive on flat tires
- 1999: Dunlop introduces "Warnair", the first tyre pressure loss detection system with sensors incorporated into the tire
- 2008: Kevlar® EE, one of the most revolutionary synthetic fibers in the world, is introduced in the apex of the latest Dunlop tire, the SP Sport Maxx TT.
- 2012: Dunlop introduces Sport Maxx Race - a road tire for the track
- 2012: Dunlop launches its first AA labeled tire as a concept on the first day of voluntary European tyre labeling
- 2013: Dunlop launches Sport BluResponse with a high European tire label score of BA

DRIVING BUSINESS FORWARD

Al Dobowi Group recently held their MEA & Asia partners meet in Dubai, and showcased a number of new products to be introduced in 2013

The "Infinity Partners' Meet 2013" brought together members of the Al Dobowi family, Infinity distributors and manufacturers from around the world, from North America, Europe, the Middle East, Far East and Australia, with the purpose of building bonds, boosting business and launching new products. Held over four days in January, it was a popular success.

The proceedings began on Thursday, with guests arriving from all corners of the globe, ready to renew old acquaintances and welcome new members to the Al Dobowi family. Proceedings began with a gala reception and dinner at the Chairman's residence in Emirates Hills, a truly glittering occasion in celebration of the past year's achievements.

The following day was a chance to experience the home of Al Dobowi Group, with a visit to Ski Dubai in the morning, and a complete contrast in the afternoon, a desert safari. Such informal time was invaluable for frank and easy discussions between agents, distributors and sales teams, sharing the challenges they face and the solutions they have found. These ideas will be shared later in strategic discussions at the main conference.

The centerpiece of the gathering was the Infinity Conference, held in the Radisson Blu Deira Creek, on the Saturday morning. The main purpose of this was to share information, both about new products and business developments, but also feedback from distributors, and the chance to discuss any challenges they face, or suggestions they wished to make.

Opening the Infinity Conference business symposium on the third day, Chairman Surender Kandhari reflected on the history of the company, the achievements of the year past, and anticipated some of the events to come and the opportunities they present to the group. "When we first came to Dubai to set up the company, we needed a name, an Arabic name, and the man at the municipality said "Shukret Al Dobowi al tarab", and that means "The Man from Dubai Tire Company". That was in 1976, and it has been a very lucky name for us ever since. Infinity was our product name when we started in Nigeria, where the company is called Infinity Tires Limited, and so we took the name from our companies in Nigeria and Ghana, and now today I'm glad to say Infinity is a global brand. We have our friends from our manufactures the Ling long Tire Company, Mike and Helen with us today, and it is my sincere wish that for our manufacturers, our distributors and sales people, that everyone around the world in the tire industry will know the name Infinity."

"But this is only possible with your support. We must all work together to achieve that success."

Mr. Kandhari went on to say that within the Infinity family tire programme there are two sections, the European section, and the Middle East and African section. In the European section there are more than sixty people representing Infinity in Europe, and the Middle East and Africa sections are represented by thirty seven people. He said that the company intends to grow the business in this area, as well as appoint representatives in more countries.



"We are very happy to have representatives in more than sixty countries in the European sector and thirty seven in Africa and the Middle East. Your support can make us grow further."

Mr. Kandhari's opening remarks were followed by a series of presentations on different aspects of the Al Dobowi Group business, with a focus on new products. Vikas Anand kicked off the proceedings with a review of the Al Dobowi Group's recent performance. He explained to the audience that the group presently has more than 1,600 employees, in four continents, and has a manufacturing base in Africa, Europe and the Middle East. He went on to detail the company's partnerships and agencies worldwide, including CEAT, Hankook, Pirelli, Continental, Goodyear and General Tyre. Products supplied cover the full range of tires and rubber products, from passenger car, light truck and heavy trucks to tractors, mine machinery and conveyor belts.

The company is also increasingly active in automotive and traction batteries, representing Yuasa, ATLAS-EX, Exide, Delkor, and its own new brand offering, Infinity Batteries. The group represents Chloride and Eternity in the traction market. A measure of the success of this division is that Al Dobowi has the exclusive contract to supply and manage batteries for the entire fleet of Dubai Taxis as part of their Power Management Solutions service.

Following a break for coffee, the company welcomed two representatives from the Linglong Manufacturing Company. Engineer Mike Liu gave an informative and detailed presentation about the next generation of Infinity brand tires, with a number of new designs to be launched over the coming months in line with Infinity's vision to become the leading low cost, high quality premium alternative in the replacement tire market.



With this purpose in mind, a number of new models are in production now, and will be progressively introduced as more sizes become available. Heading the new range is the Ecomax, an ultra-high performance tire offering enhanced handling, precise cornering and excellent grip on both wet and dry conditions. The use of a new silica compound also ensures durability and high fuel efficiency for reduced emissions.

This is complemented by the Ecosis, which is designed to be the replacement tire of choice among those who choose to minimize their environmental impact. It combines, comfort, durability, grip and performance in a low impact package and minimum energy loss.

Also new is the Enviro-SUV HP tire, which brings the same benefits to owners of ultra-high performance SUVs. It combines enhanced driving pleasure, precise cornering and excellent grip with the same minimum energy loss through the use of the silica tread compound.





Ecovantage is the name given to a van application tire aimed at fleet and commercial operators.

Eng. Mike went into great detail about the testing, certification and European standard marks of the new range, which approaches and sometimes exceeds the performance ratings of popular European benchmark products from rival manufacturers. Infinity is particularly proud of the high scores achieved by the new range of tires.

The final session was presented by Kiran, announcing of the launch of a new range of Infinity branded batteries, manufactured exclusively for Infinity by specialist producers ATLAS-EX. These batteries are sealed and maintenance-free, they will feature a new wrought and closed-edge grid design for long life and reliable performance. The range covers all applications from small passenger cars up to bus and heavy truck, and will be available in all popular sizes and ampages.

The conference was closed by Mr. Kandhari's son Jasjeev Kandhari, who thanked the assembled delegates for their attendance, congratulated them on the new products available and wished all a successful and prosperous year ahead. He was confident that Infinity has the products, and its dealers the service quality standards that are necessary to exceed the expectations of all their customers.

Following the conference and its refreshingly frank exchange of ideas, the assembled guests went on to enjoy a final glimpse of the city with a tour of Dubai, rounded off with a dhow cruise and dinner taking in the sights and sounds of the city from the magical setting of the Creek.

In all, it was a memorable four days, a mix of entertainment and relaxation tempered with hard facts and business strategy. There was a lot to take in, but the prospects looked promising for all the delegates involved. The guests all left with eager anticipation of the next Al Dobowi family gathering. The Infinity Parnters meet is held every two years. This year it was held in Dubai to show the partners Al Dobowi Group's home, and Kandhari announced that the next event will be held in Bangkok, Thailand in January 2015, where the group will celebrate the launch of a new tire manufacturing plant in that location.



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DUNLOP LAUNCHES A HIGH PERFORMANCE AND HIGH EUROPEAN LABEL GRADE TIRE

The new Sport BluResponse is all grip, no compromise

Dunlop, one of the world's leading manufacturers of high and ultra high performance tires, announces that it is launching a new breed of tires. The new Sport BluResponse, a touring summer tire designed to be fitted on passenger cars, delivers impressive benefits including excellent performances in wet grip, no compromise on mileage and important savings on the fuel consumption.

Built on 125 years of winning races, the tire comes with motorsport derived polymers, which deliver increased adaptability to the road surface for improved wet grip and braking performances. With a European BA label on rolling resistance and wet grip respectively, the tire is also one of the highest graded tires available on the market today.

"Recent research among Dunlop consumers revealed that, amongst the main criteria considered to select a new tire, most consumers pay attention to the brand first, then wet grip as a reflection of safety, and then fuel efficiency", states Sanjay Khanna, Managing Director, Dunlop Brand. "That makes Dunlop, with its new Sport BluResponse a big player on the market. However, we would not be Dunlop if we did not focus on the overall performance and not only the label grades. Independent test results from TÜV SÜD clearly show that, even with high label grades, we have not – and will not – compromise on performance".

On wet, the new Sport BluResponse benefits from large central grooves that evacuate water efficiently, especially at high speed, delivering high quality aquaplaning performance. Compared with several key competitors, the new Dunlop also offers impressive wet braking, with up to 3 meters shorter braking distance versus the average results of competitors in test. Its superiority also appears in wet handling, with up to 3% versus the average scores of tested competitors. Its solid wet grip gives the Sport BluResponse an A grade on the European tire label scale.

Thanks to the low heat generation bottom compound and its optimized shape and construction, the new Sport BluResponse also offers a significantly improved rolling resistance. Compared with its predecessor, Sport BluResponse's rolling resistance is 30% better, making it a B in European tire label terms. The B is supported by other top performing features of the tire, including a reduced noise level thanks to closed shoulder grooves and optimal pressure distribution for improved mileage.








ZEETEX



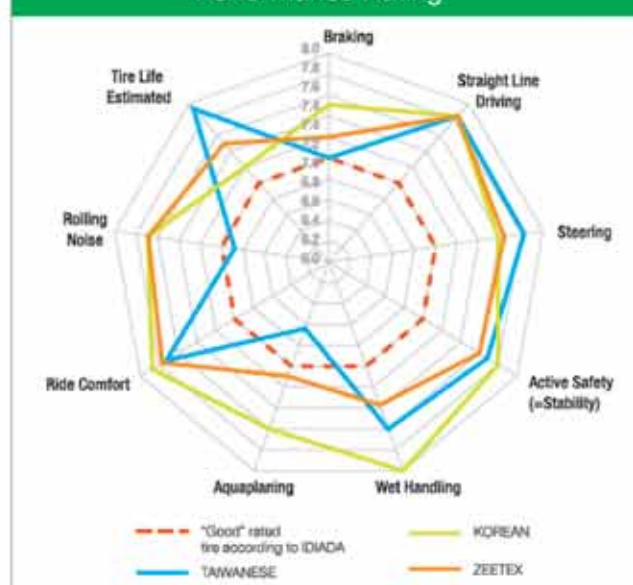
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FEATURES:

-  Eco friendly because of the curved edge of pattern blocks that ensures efficient wear resistance, increasing tire service life
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-  Well positioned wider grooves & slightly curved lateral grooves help in quicker dissipation of water thereby enhancing braking & stability on wet conditions
-  Continuous 3 center ribs with optimal block distribution provide steering stability performance at a high speed
-  Unordered and optimal pitch design provides exceptional driving comfort and also lower the noise

Performance Rating



To learn more about how well ZT1000 has done in IDIADA performance test, please visit www.zeetex.com

Apollo Tires opens its Global R&D Centre in the Netherlands



Apollo Tires Ltd announced the opening up of its global R&D centre in Eschewed, the Netherlands. This state-of-the-art facility will serve as a hub for the development and testing of car and van tires for all product brands — Apollo, Gradstein and Dunlop (32 countries in Africa) — of the company. Apollo Tires Global R&D BV will start operations with more than 100 R&D specialists from various parts of the world, including 20 car tire specialists from India and South Africa, and will later be scaled-up to nearly 150 people.

“Apollo has taken a bold strategic decision to centralize its R&D activities for car tires in Europe.

“The Global R&D Centre is an important milestone in our journey to become a \$6 billion tire company by 2016. This world-class centre will play a key role in bringing cutting-edge technology and innovation in the development of car and van tires of the future,” said Okra S Kantar, Chairman, Apollo Tires Ltd during the inauguration of the R&D centre.

Deputy Chief of Mission from the Indian Embassy to the Netherlands, R K Singh and Mayor of Eschewed, Honorable Peter den Ouster, inaugurated this facility in the city of Eschewed. Okra S Kantar, Chairman and Neural Kantar, Vice Chairman & Managing Director along with the senior management team of Apollo Tires were present on the occasion.

R&D Restructuring

Recently, Apollo Tires restructured its Research and Development team, across its 3 key geographies, to create synergy and greater alignment to the company's growth aspirations; and to generate speed and relevance while entering new markets. The new structure connects the entire organization via 2 major R&D centres — for commercial purposes and car tires. In line with this strategy, the company is bringing together its R&D resources comprising almost 250 people in Africa, Europe and India to create two global R&D hubs — Eschewed, the Netherlands for Car and Van tires and Chennai, India for Commercial Vehicle tires.

The 2 locations were chosen based on current and potential markets. The Middle East and Asia form nearly 59 percent of the global market for commercial vehicle tires, while Europe and North America represent 51 percent of the car tire market. Both R&D departments will be in close contact with OEMs and replacement clients, test centers, raw material suppliers and research institutes.

Neural Kantar, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Apollo Tires Ltd said, “While we have merged our research and development resources, smaller teams across key markets will work on customizing each global product to market requirements and testing under local conditions. Going forward, R&D will continue to be the cornerstone of our vision, as we plan to ramp up the R&D spend to 3% of our sales revenue.”

According to Peter Snell, Group Head, PV R&D, Apollo Tires Ltd, “Apollo has taken a bold strategic decision to centralize its R&D activities for car tires in Europe. Given that Europe is one of the most advanced automotive markets in the world, the facility will help Apollo to further step up efforts to build tires for the future. It will also strengthen our relationship with the global OEMs.”

New Maxxis Drift DVD



“The Maxxis British Drift Championship offers us the ideal platform to showcase our high performance tires, including the popular MAZ1 on which the specialist MAZ1 Drift tire used to such tremendous effect by 2012 Super Pro champion Paul Smith and constructors’ title winners Team Japspeed where Paul is based,” said Maxxis International UK’s managing director Derek McMartin.

“As we look forward to 2013, this new DVD is a superb reminder of the amazing skills on display during a season in which all the titles were won at the final round showdown at Knockhill, and national TV coverage helped to swell the sport’s fan base.”

Produced by Greenlight TV - which was instrumental in generating huge exposure for drifting and put the Maxxis brand in front of a TV audience of hundreds of millions via coverage on Channel 5, ESPN and Sky Sports - this new DVD reinforces Maxxis’ standing in the sport. It gives a real insight into drifting, with close ups of the cars plus driver introductions and technical explanations of what drifting is all about, including the rules and judging.

‘Go Hard or Go Home’ is out now and motorsport fans can get a taste of the high octane action at: <http://youtu.be/wdEDJt0-kRE>

Maxxis has announced the release of a new DVD which captures the tire smoking action from all six rounds of the 2012 Maxxis British Drift Championship.

Motorsport fans can now relive the excitement of an exhilarating season with this official review of the Maxxis-sponsored series by Duke Video. Titled ‘Go Hard or Go Home’, it chronicles the full story of the Semi Pro, Pro and Super Pro championships and features some creative camera work, including on board footage that puts the viewer at the centre of the sideways action.



MICHELIN CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF X RADIAL TRUCK TIRE

First Introduced In 1961 in Gulf Countries X Radial Tire Marks 51 Years Of Success In Region

one difference between a high quality tire and a low quality tire is the breaking/ stopping distance achieved when breaking. The high quality tire will have lower breaking distance.



Michelin is celebrating the 60 years since its Michelin X Radial truck tire first launched in France. Patented in 1952, the tire represented nothing less than a revolution for the transport industry. The first Michelin tire to be sold in the Gulf countries was an X Radial Truck Tire in Saudi Arabia back in 1961, and it marked the start of Michelin's radial tires success story in the region. The technology reached the UAE in the early 70s.

The cross-ply bias tire conventionally found in the first of the 20th century clearly showed its design limits: many vehicles were sometimes out of service because of tire-related incidents, mainly due to poor resistance to high speeds and to heat build-up, let alone problems of longevity and overall reliability. In the late 1930s, a Michelin researcher named Marius Mignol designed a concept tire whose sidewalls were replaced by widely spaced, radial metal cables. Tests and measurements confirmed that the tire's tread did not heat up, while the movements of the cross-ply layers of a conventional tire generated most of their heat in the sidewalls.

After Michelin filed the patent for the first radial X tire for cars in 1946, the radial tire clearly demonstrated its superiority. Radial tires for other vehicles soon followed: trucks in 1952, earthmovers in 1959, aircrafts in 1981 and motorcycles in 1984.

Michelin's history has been shaped by innovation and there's no better proof of that fact than the radial tire. And innovation has ever since remained the main driver for Michelin's success, continuously promoting better, safer, more efficient mobility while enhancing driving enjoyment and, already in the past, protecting the environment.

As the consumer society grew, so did the demand for transport of goods as well as people. The goal of a public transit company is not just to carry more passengers but also to transport them faster, more safely and on buses with more seats.

These developments demonstrated the value of the X radial tire for truck and bus operators as it delivered a range of benefits that enabled them to clearly optimize their profitability. Compared with a conventional cross-ply tire, the MICHELIN X Radial offered a host of advantages, including:

- Safety
- Superior road-holding.
- Enhanced resistance to cuts and scrapes.
- Increased longevity.
- Greater driving comfort.
- Reduced fuel consumption.
- Lower total cost of use.

And to prove these performance improvements, Michelin offered a large number of transport operators the opportunity to test the X Radial tire and compare it to the conventional cross-ply tire in real conditions of use.

The results were striking: the truck drivers said they preferred the X Radial tire because it provided clearly superior comfort and road-holding as well as many other performance benefits. Thanks to word-of-mouth advertising and the undeniable, fact-based benefits delivered by the new tires, the transport industry quickly began to shift to radials.

The benefits of the Michelin X Radial truck tire were showcased on advertising posters around the world. In Arab, Finnish, Flemish, English, Portuguese, German, Spanish and many other languages, thereby helping to expand awareness of the Michelin brand and the quality of its products.

The Michelin X Radial truck tire has totally transformed the road transport industry and incited other manufacturers to pursue the same path. Michelin is proud of this innovation, which has helped to make the road transport industry safer and more efficient. Today, it can be said that the worldwide market has shifted to radial tires, including the Middle East.

Today, transport companies have two main concerns:

- 1) To ensure the robustness of their business with reliable vehicles capable of protecting the merchandise carried and meeting their customers' requirements.
- 2) To lower their main expense items, in particular by reducing fuel consumption as well as maintenance and repair costs.

With the goal of providing a comprehensive response to the major challenges facing the transport industry through innovation, Michelin is deploying an end-to-end strategy that focuses on three aspects of its new tire ranges:

-A comprehensive solution to make trucking safer. The new MICHELIN Truck tires deliver enhanced grip, endurance and resistance to cuts and scrapes.

-A comprehensive solution to make trucking more cost-effective. Michelin is addressing this issue from all angles: fuel savings, total mileage and the "multiple lives" of a tire.

-A comprehensive solution to support sustainable development. At Michelin, tire performance and manufacturing performance go hand in hand. Regarding tire performance, greater fuel efficiency means less CO2 and fewer tire casings to cover a given distance (thanks in particular to InfiniCoil technology). As for manufacturing performance, Michelin tires are produced in ISO 14001-certified plants. For Michelin, the challenge is to simultaneously improve performance in several areas, including grip, tread life, durability, damage resistance and fuel efficiency. Michelin's strength resides in its ability to never sacrifice performance in one area to improve it in another. That's why MICHELIN tires deliver the best performance.

Bridgestone Park opens at JAFZA, Dubai

Bridgestone Middle East and Africa (BSMEA) officially opened its new 21,678 m2 facility – Bridgestone Park – in the South Zone of Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA). Bridgestone Park was formally inaugurated by Mr. Ibrahim Mohamed Al Janahi, Deputy CEO of Jafza, and Talal Al Hashimi, Managing Director –Economic Zones World (EZW) - UAE Region; also present at the opening ceremony were Kunitoshi Takeda, Vice President Asia Pacific, China, Russia, Middle East and Africa Tire Operations, Bridgestone Corporation; Shoichi Sakuma, President, Bridgestone Middle East and Africa; as well as senior officials from JAFZA and Bridgestone's local business partners.



The new Bridgestone Park includes a training facility serving the Middle East and Africa (MEA) region. The Training Center will be used by Bridgestone employees, distributors, and business partners across MEA to develop and enhance their knowledge and skills. Through the center, Bridgestone is keen to increase professional training standards and take learning and acquiring knowledge to a higher level.

Bridgestone Park features a FirstStop retail store – Bridgestone's passenger car service center; the Truck and Bus Tire Service Center (BTTC); and a Bandage Learning Center, which specialises in retread training. The FirstStop, BTTC, and Bandage Learning Center facilities at Bridgestone Park will be used as models to educate and train regional business partners as these new Bridgestone brands and services are introduced across the region.

Bridgestone Park is an extension of the company's long-standing business in the Middle East and Africa and is operated by BSMEA, Bridgestone's Headquarters for the MEA region, based in Dubai.

Speaking at the inauguration Mr. Shoichi Sakuma said: "The investment in this stunning new facility gives Bridgestone the opportunity to provide our regional customers with new and enhanced services and to train

our staff to deliver the highest possible standards of customer care. Bridgestone Park will become a new, strategic and state-of-the-art hub for BSMEA to enhance our employees', partners', and distributors' skills and knowledge, in order to serve our customers and communities better."

Mr. Ibrahim Mohamed Al Janahi, Deputy CEO of Jafza, speaking on the occasion said: "Bridgestone's significant investment in its new sustainability focused facility in Jafza reflects the company's deep commitment to the region and their trust in the Free Zone. I am sure the "Bridgestone Park" will help Bridgestone serve the region more efficiently and in elevating the level of professionalism in the auto industry in the Middle East and African countries. I wish them great success and assure them of our full support, whenever, they need."

FirstStop is Bridgestone's pan-European network of Passenger Tire and Auto Care service centers which consists of over 2,000 stores with 19 years of professional experience and service excellence in Europe. The FirstStop shop at Bridgestone Park will be the retail brand's model store as it is rolled out to new markets in the Middle East and Africa.

FirstStop not only offers its customers a complete tire service, but also a unique Auto care experience with exceptional service standards. Its dedicated team will offer free safety checks on vehicles, with customer safety on the road its number one priority. As part of its commitment to provide superior quality products and services, the shop will stock a full range of tires and auto-care products. Adding to First Stop's comprehensive tire services - which include alignment, balancing, repair, and rotation - and auto-care services including oil/filter change, and battery change - First Stop's mission is to become its customers' "Tire & Auto Care Partner".

The new Bridgestone Truck Tire Center (BTTC) is a unique facility that caters to the maintenance and service of commercial vehicles – a segment in which tire safety awareness and economy are critical. Through BTTC, Bridgestone intends to increase the safety of commercial vehicles and improve the lifespan of truck tires through its decades of expertise in tire and maintenance services, in addition to increasing levels of safety awareness among those working in the industry. As well as the service area with the latest professional machinery, the center has a dedicated area for drivers to relax and enjoy some tea or coffee while their vehicle is being serviced.

The Bandage Learning Center houses state-of-the-art equipment that will be used for training. The Bandage brand, the world's leader in rethreading for more than 50 years, has been part of the Bridgestone Corporation since 2007. At the Center business associates will enhance their skill and knowledge of the rethreading process. The learning center emphasizes the safety and reliability of the Bandage system retreads, and showcases the economical and environmental value of rethreaded tires. Bridgestone is committed to helping ensure a healthy environment and rethreading is a sound ecological solution as it uses up to 75 per cent less energy and resources than making a new tire.

"Safety and becoming ever-more eco-friendly remain our core values at Bridgestone. Through our work at Bridgestone Park we hope to increase road safety levels, build environmental awareness, and bring the best in customer care, to fulfill our commitment of Serving Society with Superior Quality," added Shoichi Sakuma Bridgestone's Middle East and Africa President.



TALKIN' TIRES WITH THE NEW GT RADIAL BLOG

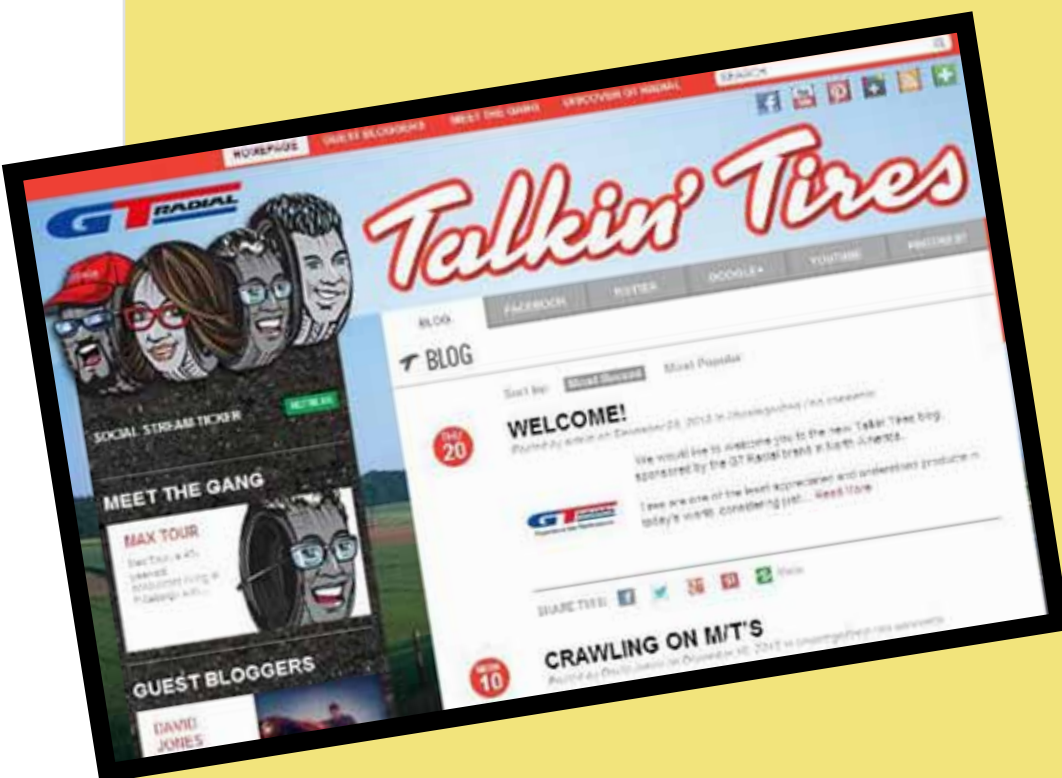
A new blog called "Talkin'Tires" -- <http://talkintires.com> -- utilizes illustrated characters to promote the GT Radial brand in North America and provide helpful information to consumers on tire and automotive topics.

According to Julianto Djajadi, vice president of marketing for GTI Tire USA, the blogs will be written by internal company experts, but using the illustrated characters will help the brand relate to its key consumer segments.

"The blog will have relevant posts for all of our key consumer segments; not just auto and truck enthusiasts but others such as suburban moms and value-seeking dads," he said.

Blog posts will also be submitted by a team of guest bloggers, including drifting competitor Tyler Wolfson, off-road enthusiast David Jones and auto mechanic Charles Sanville.

Djajadi said the blog will be promoted through social media, news media, and the GT Radial website.



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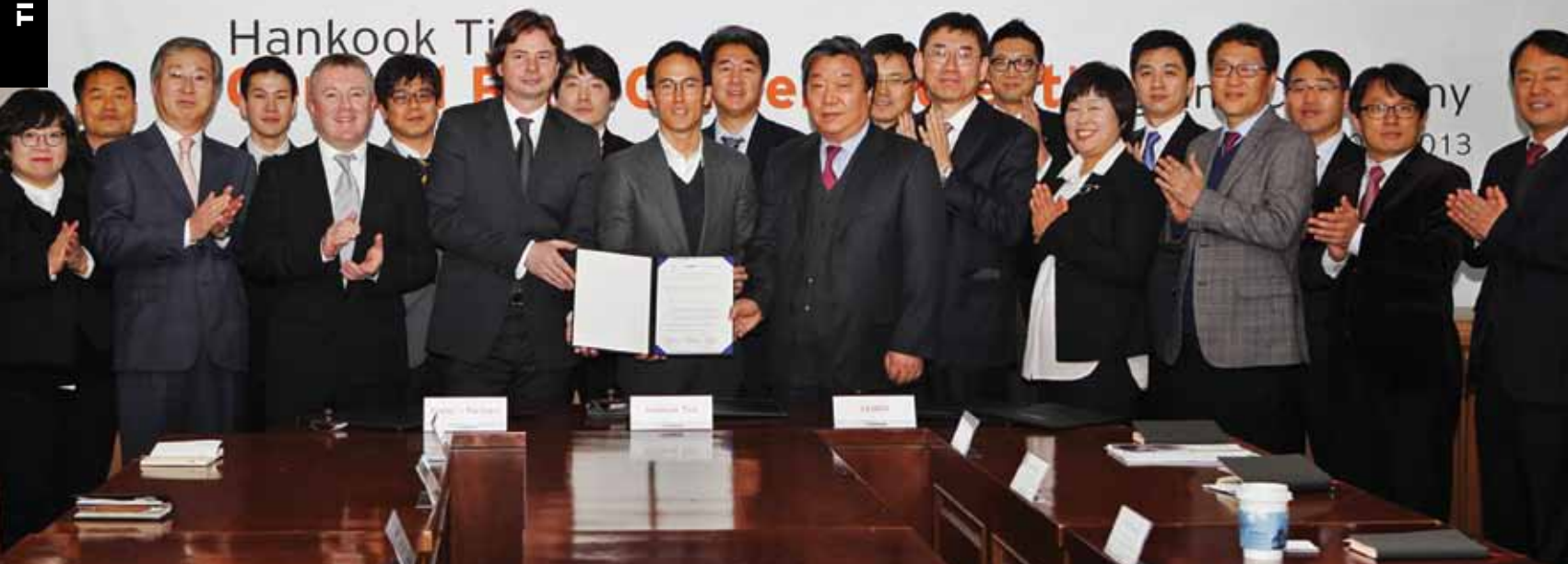
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HANKOOK TIRE ANNOUNCES NEW GLOBAL R&D CENTRE

Tire manufacturer Hankook has unveiled plans for the construction of the company's new central R&D facility in Korea. For the realisation of the project the company has contracted a partnership agreement with renowned architects Foster+Partners, who will work on the architecture and interior design of the building.

Hankook's new R&D center, covering the total area of around 100,000 m², will be located at Daedeok Innopolis, South Korea's premier research complex located in Daejeon, about 150 km south of Seoul. The construction of the new facility is projected to be completed by the end of 2015.

Mr. Hyun Bum Cho, President and Chief Marketing & Corporate Management Officer at Hankook Tire said: "Upon completion of the new R&D facility, Hankook will be able to further strengthen research capabilities to develop cutting-edge tire technology." He also added, "The new R&D center will enable us to accelerate the introduction of new tires with even more advanced features, fulfilling our customers demand for premium quality products."

On 7th January, Hankook Tire and Foster+Partners held a signing ceremony in Daejeon, Korea, in commemoration of the new partnership for this project. The firm, founded by the distinguished British star architect Sir Norman Foster, is famous for its high-tech, future-oriented architectural designs and has undertaken various important international large-scale projects, such as the Millennium Bridge and new Wembley Stadium in London, the Reichstag dome in Berlin, the Hong-Kong and Beijing airports as well as the New York Hearst Tower.

Hankook Tire recently also announced the expansion of its research and development efforts in Europe as the company's German-based Europe Technical Centre (ETC) inaugurated new facilities in Hannover. The ETC focuses on the development of bespoke tire solutions for the European markets as well as original equipment according to the requirements of leading European car manufacturers. The expansion reflects the growing importance of Hankook's OE supplies in Europe and is in line with the company's global strategy of innovative excellence and continuous and sustainable growth.

Toyo Tires Group Charter of Corporate Behavior

Establishment of "Toyo Tires Group Charter of Corporate Behavior" and "Toyo Tires Group Code of Conduct"

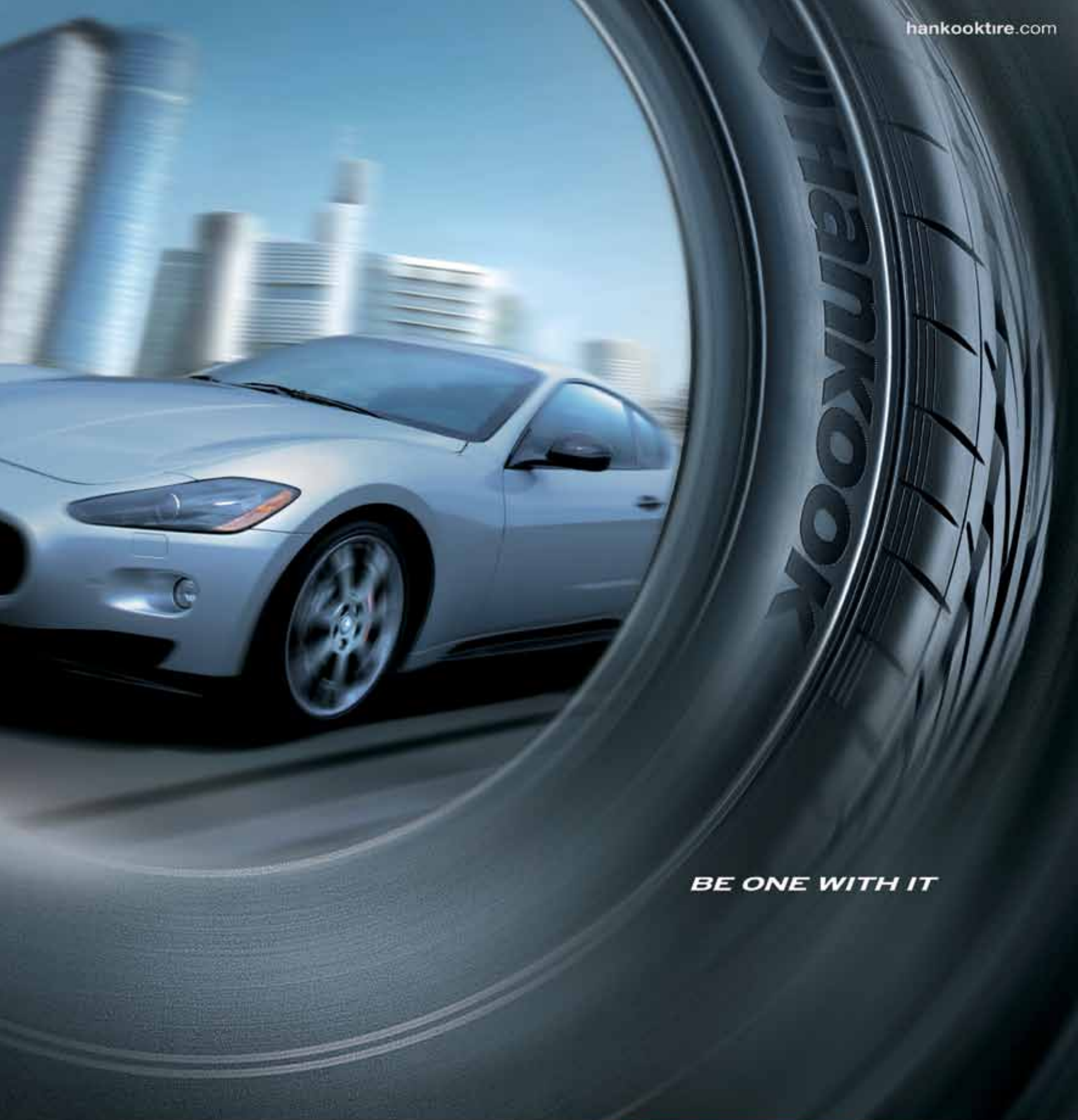
Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd. (Kenji Nakakura, president) has recently announced the establishment of "Toyo Tires Group Charter of Corporate Behavior" and "Toyo Tires Group Code of Conduct" as new Group policies.

The trend in recent years toward tighter international regulations requires enhancement of governance and internal controls as a corporate group. Additionally, in light of environmental and other issues CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) has become more important than ever.

In such an environment, Toyo Tires realized the need for a set of common action principles to enable all domestic and overseas group companies, officers and employees to conduct business with sincerity and integrity, and has established a new "Toyo Tires Group Charter of Corporate Behavior" and "Toyo Tires Group Code of Conduct," which place top priority on compliance. In following with the Company Group's global growth, the Charter and Code will be produced in multiple languages with important criteria clearly articulated in simple, easy-to-understand wording.

The "Toyo Tires Group Charter of Corporate Behavior" sets forth 10 action principles to be shared by each group company. The "Toyo Tires Group Code of Conduct" sets forth 15 rules of conduct for each individual to follow in order to put the Charter into practice, and it also functions as a guideline for each group company to formulate its own individual code of conduct.

Moving forward, the Toyo Tires Group will further reinforce its compliance management under these new action principles while continuing its effort to realize its CSR policy set forth under the Company's Vision 2020 strategy.



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YOKOHAMA develops "AERO-Y" EV Concept Car Using Proprietary Technology



The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd., presented the "AERO-Y" that is the company's conceptual electric vehicle (EV) at the Tokyo Auto Salon 2013 with NAPAC. The "AERO-Y" had been designed for the research and development of YOKOHAMA proprietary technologies.

YOKOHAMA created the "AERO-Y" by using the company's environment-friendly technologies in every aspect for the growth of EV motorization in the future. It is a conceptual car manufactured based on the company's desire to make users feel intuitive sense of "pleasure of driving". In developing the "AERO-Y", YOKOHAMA focused on "aerodynamic drag reduction" as the theme and intensively utilized its latest technologies cultivated at various divisions through the aerodynamics-based designing of tires and bodies and the development of aerospace products and HAMATITE adhesives and sealants. In designing the "AERO-Y" body, MOONCRAFT. CO., LTD. represented by Mr. Takuya Yura*, a racing car designer, cooperated with YOKOHAMA.

Under the theme of "harmonize the pleasure of driving with the environment" and "the research and development of EV tires", YOKOHAMA has continued to promote EV technological development. In addition to its many years of supporting various EV races and events, YOKOHAMA has participated in "Pikes Peak International Hill Climb" a world-famous hill-climb race with EV racing cars and broke the EV-class world speed records for 3 straight years from 2010

Federal Shines at 2012 Taiwan Excellence Award

For two consecutive years, Federal has been highly recognized by The Ministry of Economic Affairs in Taiwan to receive the honorable "2012 Taiwan Excellence Award". Two latest models from Federal – Himalaya ICEO winter tire and Couragia XUV All-season Touring tire were selected with their reputable performance and world-class quality in product innovation, design and manufacturing, all of which demonstrating advantages of Taiwan-based Federal products meet perfectly to maintain its competitive edge in the global markets.

Federal Tires is thrilled to outstand amongst other competitors, and we are proud to be able to deliver the perfect user experiences, while fulfill expectation of today's consumers. Such excellence will be enhancing the overall image of the industry and the country through over 120 overseas sales channels.

"Being accredited as one of well-known tire brands around the world, Federal Tires will continue its relentless effort to boost Federal as an international brand image and reputation of Taiwan and its dynamic industries in the business arena," commented Geoffrey Chang, Marketing Manager of Federal Corp. "This award recognizes the outstanding hard work of our engineers, as well as our efforts to bring innovative new products to market," he concluded.

The featuring of two product development which won the accolade are as follow.

Couragia XUV All-season Touring SUV tire-

Developed especially for drivers of sport utility vehicles, crossing over among urban cities roads, Couragia XUV is a new SUV All-season Touring tire that delivers excellent stability and comfort for pleasant handling. The sophisticated symmetric cutting blocks design of the tire that not only prevents uneven tire wear, but also ensures smooth riding confidence.

Himalaya ICEO studless winter tire-

Known for its durability and reliability in wintery driving, the newly developed new winter compound of Himalaya ICEO is designed with orientation on Japanese market, which is also described as "nordic" or multicell / foamy rubber compound with addition of high distribution silica to maintain efficient grip on ice and snow.



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EVENT	DATE	INFORMATION	LOCATION
MC Messen	01-03-March 2013	MC Messen, Norwegian Motorcycle Show is the largest industry owned and supported showcase in Sydney and combines the motorcycle brands and a broad range of accessory and aftermarket products under one roof...	Lillestrom, Norway
The Automotive Training Expo	01-03-March 2013	The Automotive Training Expo will be held for a period of three days in Seattle, United States Of America. This international trade show will prove to be beneficial for the eminent experts related to automotive industry and trainers and consultants related to this field...	Seattle, United States Of America
Geneva International Motor Show	07-17-March 2013	Geneva International Motor Show is one of the chief automobile sector trade shows in Switzerland. The event boasts of high overall visitor counts at each of its editions and the latest industry innovations and updates are closely reviewed at the show...	Geneva, Switzerland
Automechanika Asia	07-09-March 2013	Automechanika Asia will be an international event organized every year based on automobile industry. In 2009, 133 exhibitors were participated from 14 countries and this year expectation will be higher than before...	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
AVTOPROM Russia	12-14-March 2013	AVTOPROM Russia, a mega show of automobile first time of its own in Russia. It is an excellent platform for you to generate good business fortunes, unparallel exposure to automobile fraternity, cross-fertilization of ideas an opportunity to present your proposition to consumers.	St. Petersburg, Russia
Automation World Show Seoul	13-16-March 2013	Automation World Show is one of the most professionally organized trade events in Korea, dedicated exclusively to the automotive industry. Organized at the Coex Exhibition Center in Seoul, the show brings in more than 30000 qualified and well targeted buyers at each of its editions.	Seoul, Korea

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EVENT	DATE	INFORMATION	LOCATION
Motortec	13-16-March 2013	Motortec is the flagship event for the Spanish motor industry. The show offers a line-up of all new, re-designed or upgraded production models and concept cars from around the world.	Comunidad De Madrid, Spain
Dallas Auto Show	13-17-March 2013	Dallas Auto Show is a hopeful sign for the automotive industry and the overall economy as well. This show is all about the consumer and event organizers promise to deliver one of the best auto shows in the nation.	Dallas, United States Of America
Atlanta International Auto Show	13-17-March 2013	Atlanta International Auto Show is going to be an important event that is going to deal with various important vehicles and this event is mainly for the area auto dealers. This event is going to take place in Atlanta, Georgia, USA for a period of five consecutive days.	Atlanta, United States Of America
Middle East Motor Tuning Show	14-16-March 2013	Middle East Motor Tuning Show is a premier exhibition showcasing the latest design and trends in car customization. The show attracts car lovers and auto enthusiasts in large numbers from across the Middle East region.	Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
Dhaka Motor Show	28-30-March 2013	The Dhaka Motor Show now stands as one of the flagship events of CEMS-Global in Bangladesh and has become an icon of the country as the One & ONLY International Automotive Exhibition of Bangladesh	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Vancouver International Auto Show	27-30-March 2013	Vancouver International Auto Show is a premium event for automobiles which is held at Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The event takes place for 6 days revealing the latest of the innovations in the world of automobiles.	Vancouver, Canada



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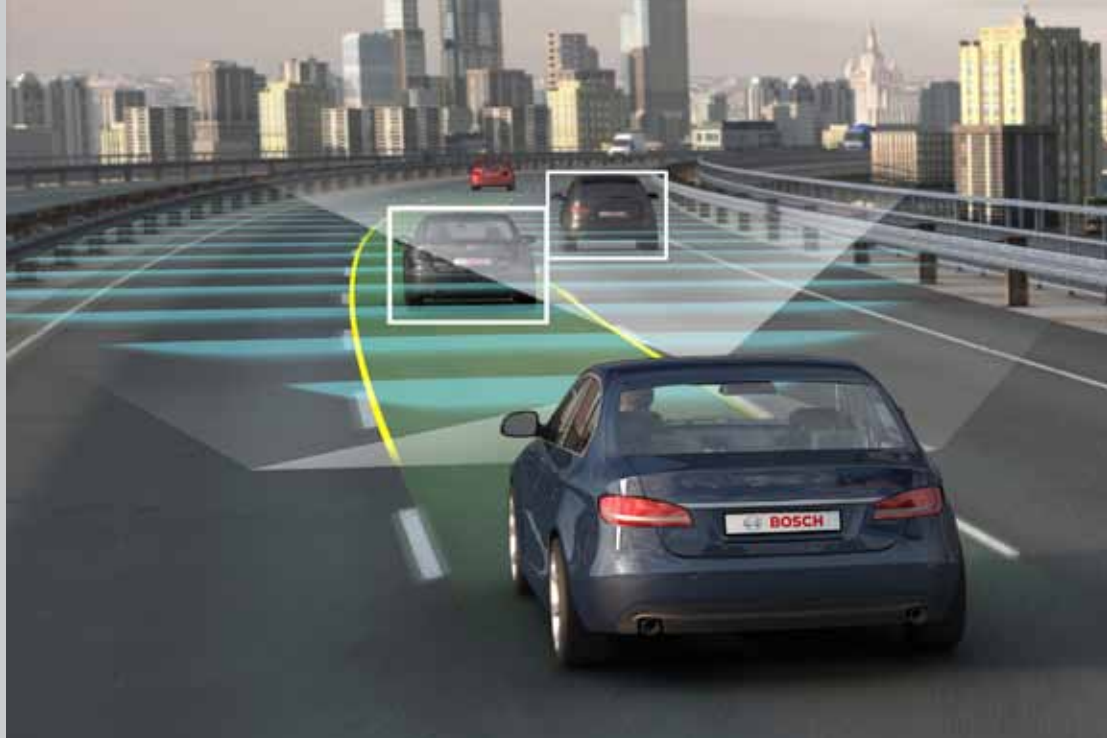
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Less stress during traffic jams Bosch works on autonomous driving



High-performance assistance systems already help drivers reach their destinations safely and more comfortably. Such systems control speed and the distance between vehicles. They also warn drivers of traffic jams and help them maneuver into even the tightest of parking spaces. Bosch, the global supplier of automotive technology and services, is set to expand its range of driver assistance systems in the years to come. In the future, these systems will take on a growing role in guiding vehicles through traffic jams. More specifically, they will brake, accelerate, and steer completely autonomously. The traffic jam assistant will step in when the vehicle is moving at speeds between 0 and 50 kilometers per hour. This means that it will operate in most stop-and-go traffic situations. According to the German motor club ADAC, the total length of tailbacks in Germany alone amounted to 405,000 kilometers in 2011. "The traffic jam assistant helps drivers arrive more relaxed

at their destination, even in dense traffic," says Gerhard Steiger, president of the Bosch Chassis Systems Control division. The first generation of the traffic jam assistant is expected to enter series production in 2014. In the following years, the feature will be enhanced to cover ever-faster speeds and more complex driving situations. Eventually, the traffic jam assistant will serve as a highway pilot, making fully autonomous driving a reality.

Today, adaptive cruise control already tracks the vehicles ahead and adapts the distance and speed of the driver's own vehicle accordingly. Acting in combination with the ESP® system and with the additional support of lane-detection cameras and electromechanical steering, this forms the technical basis for autonomous driving. High-performance software now calculates

the appropriate driving instructions for a safer and less stressful driving. Automatic lane changing is the next functional step. It calls for two additional features. First, a rear-mounted radar sensor that also detects fast-approaching vehicles and, second, a dynamic navigation map. Such maps, which operate via a mobile network connection, can keep drivers informed of current roadwork sites and local speed restrictions. And although drivers remain responsible for driving, they can limit themselves to monitoring the actions of the driver assistance system.

The Bosch portfolio offers all the required sensors and components

As well as the ESP® and electrical steering, Bosch offers all the sensors required to detect the full range of traffic conditions relevant for drivers and their vehicles. Depending on the extent of onboard functions offered by a particular vehicle, front detection is carried out by a radar sensor combined with a mono camera, or by a stereo camera. With the LRR3, Bosch offers a high-performance long-range radar sensor. With an aperture angle of up to 30 degrees, this sensor can detect objects at a distance of 250 meters. The new mid-range radar sensor, scheduled to go into series production in 2013, offers a range of 160 meters and an aperture angle of 45 degrees. Its cost is significantly lower, since it is designed to meet the requirements of the mass market. In addition to the currently available multi-purpose video camera that is equipped with one sensor element, Bosch has developed a stereo video camera that detects objects in 3D with the help of two sensors. As a result, it is able to calculate exactly how far objects are from the vehicle, as well as in which direction they are moving. Both sensor configurations enable full predictive emergency braking. Two adapted mid-range radar sensors assume the task of observing traffic behind the vehicle. These sensors have an aperture angle of 150 degrees and can detect objects up to 100 meters away. Finally, the parking assistant's ultrasound sensors provide support during close-range steering maneuvers.

Level of automation continues to grow

"Fully autonomous driving will come about one step at a time," Steiger says. At first, driving on highways with an ever greater degree of automation and at ever higher speeds will be possible, until the highway pilot can take over the entire trip. Two major challenges remain. First, inner-city driving, since automated vehicle functions have to deal with dense traffic involving a large number of road users traveling in every direction. Second, developing a concept to ensure that the system's functions operate reliably in all types of driving situation.



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In Transit to 3D Printing Boom, Ford a Major Player in Digital Revolution

In Ford's Silicon Valley Lab, Dave Evans creates a custom vehicle gauge and emails the 3D design to Zac Nelson in Dearborn. Nelson uses the MakerBot® Thing-O-Matic™ at his workstation and prints up a physical prototype. The future of research and development is happening right here and now at the desks of these Ford engineers.

Just like laser printers today, expect 3D printers to be commonplace tomorrow. Engineers throughout the industry will have the ability to visualize a design on a computer screen and have the physical prototype show up at a colleague's desk on the other side of the country in minutes. With this capability, the most qualified experts in each domain can make changes that feed into a tangible model. They can then share a 3D CAD design with the improvements.

"We've been shifting from the tangible world to the computer world, and the reality is that a hybrid model works best," says K. Venkatesh Prasad, senior technical leader, Open Innovation, and a member of Ford's Technology Advisory Board, Research and Innovation. "There is nothing like having a tangible prototype, but it has always been time consuming and expensive to create.

"Now, at the press of a button, you can have the product or component at your fingertips," he adds. "With a model in one hand, you can then input your changes back into the computer model. The best decisions are made from the highest quality engineer and at the best pace."

Currently thought of as a do-it-yourself tool for independent entrepreneurs and hobbyists, MakerBot enables users to design and produce products in various plastic materials. Ford is using this low-cost 3D printing in similar ways to other technology companies, mainly for small developments like shift knobs, gauges and display modules.

"We encourage our engineers to have the same entrepreneurial and creative spirit that started this movement," says Prasad. "When we first got the machine, we made a scaled-down replica Model T and engineers have even made superheroes. We like that people are having fun with it and experimenting for it is that type of creativity that will lead to great uses and discoveries."

Where we are now

Ford is using 3D printing in the manufacturing world, bridging the gap between abstract and practical.

Large industrial rapid prototyping machines have made significant gains in the manufacturing world, and Ford is fully invested in the latest commercial 3D printing innovations.

Recently, many of the components for the 3.5-liter EcoBoost® engine in the all-new Transit Van were developed with the aid of 3D rapid manufacturing. Cast aluminum oil filtration adaptors, exhaust manifolds, differential carrier, brake rotors, oil pan, differential case casting and even rear axles were prototyped with the technology, specifically utilizing selective laser sintering, stereolithography and 3D sand casting.

Additionally, Ford is a leader in a new variation on this technology: 3D printing with sand allows for the creation of casting patterns and cores with multiple printers in-house.

The technology enables engineers to quickly create a series of evolving testable pieces with slight variations to develop the absolute best vehicle for mass production. This results in improved efficiency and time to market, reduced time spent waiting on iterations and increased cost savings.

Examples of 3D sand printing include:

- C-MAX, Fusion Hybrid: Rotor supports, transmission cases, damper housings and end covers for the new HF35 hybrid transmission built at Van Dyke Transmission Plant in suburban Detroit
- Escape: EcoBoost four-cylinder engines in the 2013 Escape built at Louisville Assembly Plant
- Explorer: Brake rotors for the 2011 Explorer built in Chicago. The rotors were modified late in development to address a brake noise issue discovered in durability testing
- F-150: Exhaust manifolds for the 3.5-liter EcoBoost built in Cleveland and used in F-150

Where this could lead

In the not-so-distant future, if a part breaks on your refrigerator, you may be able to scan the barcode or a model number, take the information to an in-home rapid manufacturing machine, and actually print up a useable replacement piece.

"Many have referenced this technology as ushering in a third industrial revolution," says Harold Sears, Ford additive manufacturing technical specialist. "While that is yet to be determined, we do know manufacturing is continuing to go digital, the speed of these technologies is increasing, and the variety of materials is expanding. This all leads us to believe the potential of micro-manufacturing presents great opportunity for the manufacturing industry overall."

Bracketron launches new line of in-vehicle mounting solutions



Bracketron has unveiled a new line of suction mounts for in-vehicle use. They offer viewing of mobile devices for hands-free applications.

The Mi-T Grip Dash Mount's patented Temporbond technology allows it to adhere to any hard surface in your car, boat or home for viewing and accessibility. The Universal Tablet Window Mount (pictured) provides a low-profile way to secure an iPad mini or tablet to your windshield for safe, hands-free navigation.

The Mi-T Grip Mount boasts a patented, breakthrough Temporbond technology that allows it to be mounted to both the dash and window. It features a grip with rotating head that holds devices with or without a case in portrait and landscape modes, and allows full access to device controls. The suction mount is infused with a patented polyurethane ring that allows it to attach to most hard or textured surfaces in your home or vehicle.

The Universal Tablet Window Mount offers a remedy for mounting your iPad or tablet when you're on the go. It features a reinforced articulating arm and 360-degree rotation for angle adjustments and precise positioning. The universal design allows full access to all device controls and allows you to mount your iPad or tablet for front seat navigation as well as front passenger entertainment.

CHRYSLER GROUP'S UCONNECT LAUNCHES INDUSTRY-FIRST DEALER ACTIVATED NAVIGATION SYSTEM



The growing importance of navigation systems is not lost on Chrysler Group. Accordingly, the company has unleashed the power of its celebrated Uconnect system to accommodate customers seeking a change in direction. In an industry-first, Chrysler Group dealers can activate navigation functions in vehicles equipped with certain Uconnect systems. Uconnect offers navigation capability, but not all customers choose the option at the time of sale.

"Sometimes customers don't realize what they want until they need it," says Marios Zenios, Vice President- Uconnect Systems and Services. "That's fine. We can help. With dealer-activated navigation, we are adopting a 'no-customer-left-behind' attitude." Dealer-activated navigation, featured here at the 2013 Consumer Electronics Show, makes its debut this year. It will be initially available on the 2013 Ram 1500 full-size pickup, SRT Viper and the 2014 Fiat 500L.

Because the necessary hardware already is resident in the vehicle, dealer-activated navigation affords a major convenience over portable devices, which create clutter and require charging or smartphone data plans – or both.

Dealer-activated navigation boasts the same map data as pre-ordered systems, including:

- Points of interest
- Junction views
- Lane guidance
- Speed-limit information-
- Intersection zoom
- Trip programming

In addition, dealer-activated navigation features turn-by-turn audio instructions to further encourage drivers to keep their focus on the task at hand – driving. Dealer-activated navigation bodes particularly well for used-car buyers, Zenios says.

Ford Launches App Developer Program Marking New Course for Customer-Driven Innovation and Value Creation

Providing developers the information and tools needed for the creation of relevant, voice-activated experiences inside the car, Ford Motor Company today announces the launch of the Ford Developer Program (<http://developer.ford.com>) at the 2013 International CES.

Utilizing the SYNC® connectivity system and AppLink™ application programming interface (API), Ford becomes the first automaker in the world to launch an open developer program that enables software developers to directly interface with the vehicle and create apps that will enhance the driving experience.

“The Ford Developer Program marks a dramatic shift in how we will innovate new features and add value to our vehicles throughout the ownership period,” said Hau Thai-Tang, vice president of Engineering, Ford Global Product Development. “Opening the car to developers gives consumers a direct voice and hand in the creation of apps that can help our products remain relevant, up to date and valuable to our customers.”

According to a recent Nielsen survey, more than half of all American mobile subscribers now use smartphones of some kind and two-thirds of newly activated phones can run apps. Globally, there are now more than 1 billion smartphone users, a population that is expected to double by 2015. More than 55 billion apps have been downloaded from the leading digital markets, and American users have an average of 67 apps on their devices.

“When we first introduced SYNC in 2007, there was a need for an appropriate way to connect and control cellphones and digital music players in the car due to the massive consumer adoption trend,” continued Thai-Tang. “Offering voice control so drivers can keep their hands on the wheel and eyes on the road has proven to be popular with our customers. Now, with an even faster adoption rate of smartphones, there is a need for a renewed focus on voice control for the unique capabilities of these devices, especially for the use of apps.”

A recent Frost & Sullivan study shows one in five survey respondents acknowledge using apps while driving with absolutely no connection to the vehicle. While SYNC provides connectivity and voice control for phones and music players



via Bluetooth® or USB, AppLink provides a voice-activated interface, allowing drivers to control smartphone apps without the need to pick up their devices. First launched in 2010, SYNC AppLink provides industry-leading voice command and control of mobile apps including popular services like Pandora personalized radio, Stitcher smart radio, NPR News, iHeartRadio digital radio and Scout personal navigation.

“The car presents an all-new opportunity for developers, especially the millennial market, and we’re looking forward to seeing what results,” said Thai-Tang. “Engaging innovators outside of the company is a key part of our strategy to be consumer-driven in all aspects of our business, helping us not only satisfy what’s going on today, but setting us up for innovative solutions to the challenges coming in the future.”

Millennials – those aged 18-33 – are particularly interested in customizing their experience with consumer products. Four in 10 respondents to a survey of millennials by Edelman 8095 want the opportunity to influence the products they use. Selecting and using apps is one of the easiest ways to personalize the functionality of both communications devices and vehicles they connect to for a unique user experience.

Ford Developer Program

Ford has been in a beta test with a group of invited developers as they work out details of the software development kit (SDK), documentation and technical support systems. With more than three dozen AppLink-compatible apps publicly available on Apple iOS and Google Android, the SDK is now mature enough that Ford engineers are ready to let the vast ecosystem of developers try it out.

The Ford program is similar to those at technology companies including Apple, Google and Facebook. App developers who want to enable their creations for AppLink can now register at <http://developer.ford.com> to download the AppLink SDK. The SDK contains code libraries and documentation for the APIs that enable two-way communication between mobile apps and the vehicle including voice commands from the driver.

“Since launching AppLink, we’ve worked with developers ranging from a two-man startup at Roximity to large organizations like National Public Radio and Major League Baseball,” said Julius Marchwicki, global product manager for Ford SYNC AppLink. “The experience we gained from these projects as well as supporting hackathons at TechCrunch Disrupt and Facebook has helped us refine the development and testing process.”

In addition to the libraries and documentation, developers will have access to technical support directly from Ford engineers and online discussion forums where they can share lessons learned with other developers.

Developers who have a great idea for an app but need some help building it can turn to jacAPPS. Michigan-based jacAPPS will be the recommended mobile app development house for the Ford Developer Program. The company has been chosen to provide development and technical support to third-party developers wanting to create voice-activated smartphone apps for Ford SYNC AppLink.

“Our focus is to enhance the driving experience by minimizing the distractions caused by hand-held usage of smartphones while driving,” added Marchwicki. “We know consumers are using apps such as music and navigation while driving; therefore, by making AppLink available to developers, we can help ensure relevant apps can now be voice-controlled.”

Currently, the three main categories of AppLink-enabled apps include: News and Information, Music and Entertainment, Navigation and Location.

Once a developer has incorporated AppLink code into the app, it will be submitted for review by Ford engineers to ensure it works properly and is suitable for use in the vehicle. Once approved, Ford will then work with the developer to provide a distribution license, after which the app is submitted to the relevant app marketplace.

New AppLink-enabled apps

In addition to the launch of the Developer Program, Ford has worked with several new partners to offer SYNC AppLink-equipped vehicle owners all-new voice-activated versions of their apps.



To showcase the global nature of the Developer Program and launch of AppLink in Europe and Asia later this year, Ford has announced a collaboration with Sina to enable its Weibo mobile app with AppLink for use in Ford vehicles to provide news, weather, microblogging and location-based services. Sina is an online media company serving China and the global Chinese communities. The digital media network of SINA.com (portal), SINA.cn (mobile portal) and Weibo.com (social media) enables Internet users to access professional media and user-generated content in multimedia formats from the Web and mobile devices and share their interests with friends and acquaintances.

"Our Developer Program is open and available to anyone around the world," said John Ellis, global technologist for Ford Connected Services. "A key advantage of our approach is the ability to quickly have relevant apps and services to support the launch of AppLink in Europe and Asia, by making it easy for local developers to tell us what the most popular and important apps are to suit the buyers in that region."

Other new app partners that joined the existing Ford AppLink ecosystem include:

News and Information

- Wall Street Journal – The Journal's interactive app now features live and on-demand

radio programming to stay on top of the latest news, markets, technology and lifestyle coverage from the nation's largest newspaper

- USA Today – Get 24/7 access to the latest USA TODAY content. Hear headlines from News, Money, Sports, Life, Tech and Travel categories. Play, pause, skip and go back within and between stories, for an easily customized listening experience

- Kaliki – Radio talent reads audio versions of the most compelling articles from a variety of magazines and newspapers such as Shape Magazine, TV Guide, Men's Fitness, OK! and Agence France-Presse. Launching with local papers in Detroit and Los Angeles with more publishers to come later in the year. All the content in Kaliki is free, with no subscription required

Music and Entertainment

- Amazon Cloud Player – Drivers can listen to their personal music collection streamed from Amazon's cloud-based music locker service

- Aha Radio – Voice control of more than 30,000 stations of your favorite Internet content – radio, on-demand music services, news, entertainment, podcasts, audiobooks, social feeds, personalized restaurant, coffee, weather and hotel stations, and more

- Rhapsody – Listen to millions of songs, plus radio stations and expert-created playlists from America's top premium subscription music service on the road

- Greater Media – Listen to live streams of favorite radio stations from around the United States

Navigation and Location

- Glympse – Provide friends and family with an ETA and update of your location in real time on a dynamic map, completely hands-free

- BeCouply – Get instant suggestions for cool date ideas in your area



German motor oil specialist becomes premium sponsor of Moto3 world champion Sandro Cortese

With the Moto3 world champion Sandro Cortese the German motor oil specialist LIQUI MOLY is beginning its biggest sponsorship in motorcycling so far. When Cortese lines up in this year's higher performance Moto2 class, the LIQUI MOLY logo will be with him on his bike and overalls. 'A high-quality racing series, international environment and a top rider – we do not want to miss this opportunity,' says Peter Baumann, Marketing Manager at LIQUI MOLY.

This sponsorship is to strengthen the recognition of LIQUI MOLY in the motorcycle sector. 'Many people only think of cars when they think of LIQUI MOLY, but in the Racing line we have our own product range for motorcycles,' explains Baumann. The company wants to approach this market segment more aggressively, including internationally. 'The Moto2 Series is the optimal environment for this: exciting races across the world ensure a large media presence for us and make especially high-value customer events available to us in precisely the area that we want to accelerate.' This sponsorship also allows us to test our own motorcycle products under the hardest of conditions.

Sandro Cortese (22) started riding in pocket bike races at just 8 years old. After the 125 cm3 class was developed into the Moto3 class in 2012, he convincingly won the world championship at the first attempt. This year he is switching to the Moto2 class. It is a hard-fought prototype racing class within the FIM motorcycle road world championship. 600 ccm four-cylinder four stroke engines with around 128 bhp are used. The new team Intact GP was created just for him in which only he rides – a first in the history of the racing series. 'It is great to have in LIQUI MOLY not just a sponsor from home, but also a real role model,' says Cortese.

LIQUI MOLY was voted the most popular oil brand by readers of numerous car publications in Germany over the past year. 'We want to create a similar standing in the motorcycle segment with our involvement with Sandro Cortese,' says Baumann.

The Moto2 World Championship season opener takes place on 7 April 2013 with the Night Grand Prix in Doha, Qatar.

Delphi at 2013 International CES Features Technologies to Keep Drivers Informed, Connected and Wirelessly Charged Without Compromising Safety

Delphi Automotive announced a range of powerful connectivity, infotainment, safety and wireless-device charging technologies. These Delphi technologies are designed to help keep the driver's focus on driving while connecting in new ways for communication and fun.

Delphi enables this driving experience through several advancements:

- Smart, active safety that places all critical information in the driver's forward view through a high-mount display, controlled at the steering wheel or by voice
- Maximizing and extensively integrating in-vehicle computing power for easy and flawless entertainment and navigation capabilities through a Connected Navigation Radio
- Allowing a driver to track, locate, access, secure and diagnose their vehicle anywhere at any time with a smart device or browser
- Wireless, automatic charging for smartphones, tablets and portable navigation devices that fully charge each of these with the flexibility of placement within the vehicle

These technologies reflect Delphi's passion about driver safety while enhancing the consumer experience, as well as its dedication to enabling the connected digital lifestyle in and out of the vehicle. In these new approaches, Delphi's expertise in integration and connectivity allows drivers and passengers to seamlessly share content with one another inside the vehicle.

"Delphi believes driver safety and connectivity are achieved through eyes on the road, hands on the wheel and mind on the mission," said Jeffrey J. Owens, Delphi chief technology officer. "By enabling drivers to keep their hands on the wheel while viewing the information they need, commanding entertainment and navigation systems, and supporting their handheld devices, we are helping to furnish new ways to make the driving experience safe and fun for everyone in the car."

Delphi's latest contributions to automotive safety, connectivity and power are embodied in the technologies demonstrated at CES, including MyFi® Connecting with Safety, MyFi® Maximum Computing Power, Delphi's Connected Car, the magnetic-resonance-based wireless charging system and a portfolio of products that offer fast and comprehensive connectivity.

MyFi® Connecting with Safety

Reflecting Delphi's continuous commitment to mitigating distractions by enabling drivers to keep their eyes on the road, Delphi's MyFi® Active Safety human-machine interface (HMI) controls place all important information in the driver's field of view, with the ability to control all major functions by the touch of a button on the steering wheel or by voice recognition. Helping the driver keep "eyes forward" is a high-



mount, transparent display with reconfigurable clusters that keeps critical data in the driver's line of view at all times. Delphi's driver state sensor and workload manager deliver information in a safe manner, while actively conditioning the driver to focus and passively minimizing distraction. The technology proactively adjusts features based on real-time conditions. For example, MyFi® monitors traffic conditions and the driver's incoming text messages; but if traffic is heavy and the driver needs to focus, Active Safety will not read the messages aloud.

MyFi® Maximum Computing Power

Delphi has developed a Connected Navigation Radio, a highly integrated infotainment platform designed to offer increased connectivity and navigation features to the consumer. The Delphi Connected Navigation Radio is an embedded system that is rich in features, offering vehicle manufacturers the opportunity to differentiate their cars and trucks with the flexibility of individualized entertainment, information and communication. The radio's features include:

- The ability to sync with nomadic devices of drivers and passengers
- Full-color map navigation
- Flexible entertainment options, such as AM/FM, digital and high-definition radio

Delphi's media module consumer ports now have AUX, USB, SD and HDMI connectivity, with custom solutions to fit any interior style. In the future, Delphi's media module could include Bluetooth capabilities that can support in-vehicle communications. The Connected Navigation Radio is the latest example of how Delphi harnesses the power of dozens of in-vehicle computers to make simple, reliable systems.

Connected Car

Delphi announced at CES 2013 the release of its innovative cloud-based automotive connectivity system. Delphi developed a device that provides a groundbreaking car-to-cloud/cloud-to-car connectivity service, allowing a driver to track, locate, access, secure and monitor his or her family's vehicles anywhere at any time with a smartphone or browser. The first-in-its-class device works in nearly every vehicle sold in the U.S. from 1996 onward.

Wireless Charging for Consumer Devices

Traveling with chargers, cords and adapters? Delphi is developing technology to eliminate clutter and take the consumer into a truly wireless experience. Delphi's Wireless Charging for consumer devices will automatically transfer power to mobile electronic devices without any need for cords, plugs or adapters, providing a safe and convenient way to charge devices. Wireless-charging technology transfers electric power over short distances without physical contact. Delphi's Wireless Charging requires no cables or pads and charges multiple devices at a rate comparable to that of most residential plug-in chargers. The hands-free system will activate the moment a device is within range and is engineered to provide a safe, robust and fast charge.

Data Connectivity Kiosk

To meet the increasing consumer demand for more entertainment and data exchange capability in cars and trucks, Delphi has developed an expanding portfolio of cables, connectors and consumer ports that allow communication of audio, video and navigation data within the vehicle.



Digital Tachograph Communicates with Smartphones

Smartphones have long since become the constant companion of many a long-distance truck driver on the road, supplying reliable information via the Internet and providing a means of communication with the fleet headquarters. Now, with the new DTCO SmartLink and the VDO Driver app, drivers can use their smartphones to access digital tachographs. To do this, DTCO SmartLink establishes a direct connection via Bluetooth between the tachograph and the driver's smartphone.

All the driver has to do is plug DTCO SmartLink into the interface on the front of the DTCO. As soon as a connection is established with the smartphone, it can be used as a remote control for the tachograph. Once VDO Driver app is activated, drivers can then carry out operations on the tachograph conveniently via their own smartphone. But this interplay between the two devices offers even greater advantages: Drivers can also have their driving and rest times displayed on the smartphones in easy-to-read graphics. To do this, the app uses the

data from the VDO Counter that is implemented in DTCOs version 2.0a and higher. VDO Counter calculates the remaining driving and rest times in real time and outputs them directly to the DTCO 2.0 screen, or to the smartphone using DTCO SmartLink and the VDO Driver app. Drivers can then see at a glance how long they have left to drive, or when they can stop resting.

The smartphone display has a user-friendly design that makes it easy for drivers to plan their breaks. Other functions in the VDO Driver app include a calendar display that outputs driver information to the smartphone when the driver card is inserted. Moreover, VDO TIS Web customers can take advantage of the TIS Web Fleet app: This has the same functions as the VDO Driver app but with an additional messaging service. It provides a quick and simple means for drivers and fleet managers to communicate and at the same time access VDO TIS Web fleet management data. DTCO SmartLink is compatible with all DTCO versions from series R1.3. With DTCO version 2.0a and higher, users have access to VDO Counter data. The VDO apps are available for smartphones running on Android; a similar app for iPhones will be available later.

Dr. Michael Ruf, Head of Commercial Vehicles & Aftermarket at Continental: "With DTCO SmartLink and our app solutions, we are adding one more element to our vision of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS). We provide the means for efficient driving by delivering a maximum of information about the vehicle, and for permanent data-sharing between drivers and fleet headquarters."

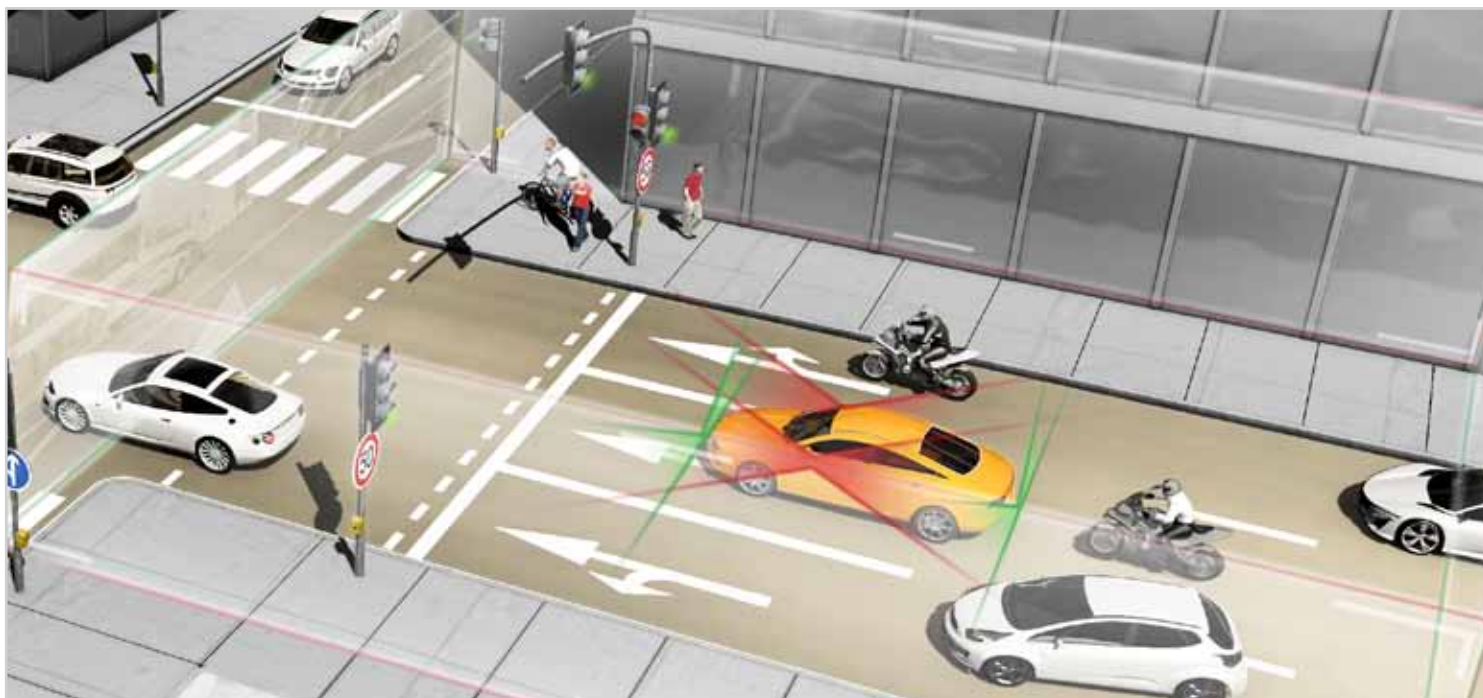
We provide the means for efficient driving by delivering a maximum of information about the vehicle, and for permanent data-sharing between drivers and fleet headquarters."

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Continental Acquires ASL Vision, a Specialized Company for 360-Degree Surround Detection



The international automotive supplier Continental announced the acquisition of ASL Vision, based in Lewes, England. The companies agreed not to disclose the price for the acquisition. "Continental is one of the world's leading suppliers of advanced driver assistance systems, which warn, support and assist drivers in many driving situations by detecting the vehicle's surrounding via camera, infrared and/or radar. With this step, we are enhancing our technology portfolio by adding a strategically important building block, 360-degree surround detection, while at the same time further developing our competence in the camera sector in a targeted way," said Friedrich Angerbauer, Head of the Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) Business Unit in the Continental Chassis & Safety Division.

"Surround view" systems optimally detect the entire vehicle surrounding and are an excellent addition to the ContiGuard safety concept. ContiGuard integrates active and passive safety systems, which will become even more effective and comprehensive through surrounding sensors and their coordinated interactions. In particular, the fusion of radar and camera will allow new and expanded features, and it is an important prerequisite for implementing automated driving. "By acquiring ASL Vision, we are accelerating the existing growth activities in the area of advanced driver assistance systems. 'Surround view' will also allow us to safely master complex traffic situations such as lane changes, passing other cars and challenging parking circumstances," said Dr. Ralf Cramer, Member of the Board of Continental AG and President of the Continental Chassis & Safety Division.

"Surround view" camera systems for 360-degree detection

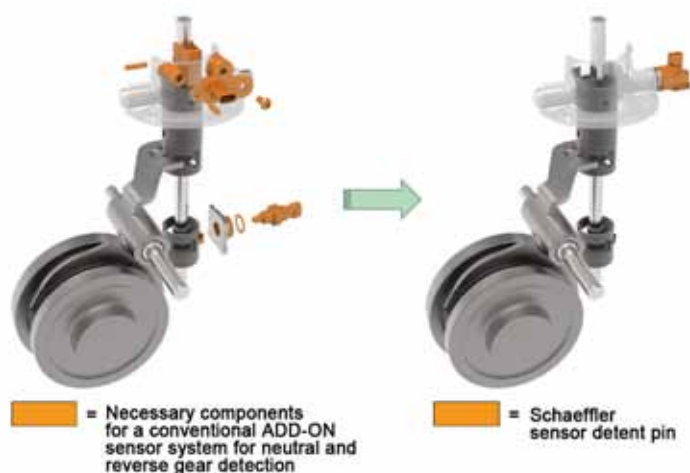
As a general rule, a "surround view" system consists of three to five cameras as well as an electronic processing unit. ASL Vision offers a range of technological solutions. One is a camera system like those already available in the passenger vehicle sector, with a display feature for the camera images on the dashboard, that is overlaid with intelligent displays such as the vehicle trajectory display when driving backward. ASL Vision also has a successful system that was developed especially for the aftermarket and is already in use in the industrial sector and in mining, for instance. In the future, Continental will work on and further develop "intelligent" "surround view" systems with features such as free-space and object recognition, as well as reading curb edges for highly precise parking.

At its headquarters in Lewes, England, as well as at its German site in Kronach, Bavaria, ASL Vision has a total of 53 employees, primarily engineers, who specialize in the areas of software, algorithms, image processing and hardware. All of these employees will join Continental, and the company is planning to add further engineers both in England and Germany for these technology areas. The Lewes site will combine the competences in the areas of systems, software and algorithms for "surround view". At the same time, the research and development center in Ulm will become an additional site for 360-degree camera systems. In the future, the site will work on issues such as hardware, cameras and application projects.

"To facilitate rapid growth in the automotive market, to harness creativity and to bring innovations successfully into volume series production, close cooperation with leading automotive suppliers is essential. Continental provides the ideal environment for this," said Ian Saward, the current and future joint Managing Director of ASL Vision. In addition to Saward, Wolfgang Fey, head of the newly created "Surround View" segment within the ADAS Business Unit at Continental, will also become joint Managing Director at ASL Vision. "With the highly qualified ASL Vision employees and their many years of automotive experience as well as their high quality standards, we are gaining experts in their field. The products have already been in series production with vehicle manufacturers for several years, so we are taking over an ambitious but also experienced and highly motivated company," said Fey.

Schaeffler sensor detent is an efficient component for modern drive concepts

Innovative detector of neutral gear position is a key element in advanced start-stop systems



Whereas first-generation neutral gear detection systems mostly comprise an add-on sensor with a separate magnet and are fitted on three mounting locations, Schaeffler's new sensor detent does not require add-on components and it is fitted in only one installation location. Furthermore, the new detent means the selector shaft and the housing do not need to be additionally machined for mounting.

"The new sensor detent offers a highly-integrated solution for detecting neutral and reverse gear for manual transmissions and it creates one of the prerequisites for engine start-stop systems", explains Stanislav Massini, Director of Advance Development and Mechatronics at the Shift Systems Product Line at Schaeffler. "Its high level of integration means some components, various fixing elements and some steps of the manufacturing process are no longer required."

The new sensor system makes an important contribution to reducing fuel consumption and cutting harmful emissions and also enables vehicle weight and costs to be optimized. The Schaeffler sensor detent is already in volume production and is available for start-stop applications.



The electrification of drive trains based on internal combustion engines, engine start stop (ESS), hybridization and automation are placing new requirements on manual transmissions. Whereas the first engine start-stop systems are still based on traditional components, advanced generations of these systems will increasingly be integrated in the flow of information of vehicles thereby creating significant potential for improvements in comfort and energy efficiency. An important component for modern drive train solutions in this regard is Schaeffler's sensor detent, a sensor element for detecting neutral gear. It reliably detects the selected drive position and sends this information to the control units incorporated in the vehicle. The system is characterized by high component functional integration and it is the result of consistent further development of existing components to incorporate new functions.

Classic detents have always traditionally been part of Schaeffler's product range. We provide automobile manufacturers all over the globe with a large number of solutions that can be used to customize the gearshift "feel" of vehicles with manual transmissions to match specific brands and vehicles.

Schaeffler's new detent combines an existing detent with a sensor for measuring lift. The Schaeffler sensor detent functions as follows: The forced stroke of the detent that occurs during gearshift operations is recorded and processed in the gearshift unit using the sensor on the detent and the relevant signal is sent to the integrated connector. Depending on requirements, the sensor can handle PWM (pulse width modulation) or SENT (single edge nibble transmission) protocols and can also output analog signals.

The sensor detent positions the gearshift unit in neutral in all shift gates and simultaneously detects this position. This ensures high accuracy.

In conjunction with the second detent of the gearshift, the system means that customer-specific demands in terms of gearshift and selection forces are met and the required gearshift comfort is ensured. The sensors used mean neutral position is detected without contact and therefore without wear. The sensor detent also detects reverse gear position and outputs the relevant signal. This means the contact reverse light switch and all mechanical interfaces are omitted. The standardization of the layout of the electronics and the programmability of the sensor (end of line programming) provides ideal adaptability.

Valeo signs contract with U-Shin for the sale of its Access Mechanisms Business

Valeo announced the execution of a contract for the sale of its Access Mechanisms Business to Japan-based U-Shin for an enterprise value of 223 million euros.

Closing is subject to approval by the competition authorities and is expected to occur no later than March 31, 2013.

The Access Mechanisms Business, which is primarily mechanical based, comprises products such as locksets, steering column locks, handles and latches. Broadly present in Europe and South America the business is expected to generate 580 million euros in sales in 2012. It operates 12 plants and has 4,500 employees.

The proposed divestment is aligned with Valeo's strategy of focusing on solutions to reduce CO2 emissions and on stepping up its development in Asia and in emerging markets.

U-Shin is one of Asia's largest producers of automotive access mechanisms. Through the acquisition of Valeo's Access Mechanisms Business, U-Shin would become a global market leader with a diversified customer base and a front-rank presence in Asia, Europe and South America.

iON Worldwide Launches Speed Pro Video Camera in North America; Is Named Official Camera of Miller Motorsports Park



iON Worldwide, the global consumer electronics company known for bringing Shoot/Share™ Wi-Fi connectivity to point-of-view (POV) cameras, has announced the North American availability of the iON Speed Pro™, a high-definition (HD) video camera specially designed for shooting and sharing fast-paced motorsports action. It also announced a major partnership with Miller Motorsports Park in Tooele, Utah, one of the pre-eminent racing and training facilities in North America, which is a division of the Salt Lake City-based Miller Sports Properties. Under the terms of the multi-year agreement, the iON Speed Pro will become the Official Camera of Miller Motorsports Park.

The Speed Pro is one of three cameras iON is unveiling at CES 2013 in its quest to deliver a full line of cameras tailored to meet the diverse needs of a broad range of pro and consumer users. Also being announced are the iON Air Pro 2 with new 14-megapixel sensor and 180-degree lens and the GPS-equipped iON Adventure, designed for travelers and adventure-seekers.

With full 1080p HD resolution and a 170-degree wide-angle lens, the ultra-lightweight and waterproof iON Speed Pro is optimized for high-speed motor and marine sports. A variety of easy-to-use mounts allow users to attach the camera to their car, motorcycle, boat

or other vehicle, ensuring that it's always perfectly positioned to capture the action. When paired with iON's signature Wi-Fi PODZ™, the Speed Pro camera enables users to immediately upload their videos to social sites using the iON Camera app for iOS and Android. The Speed Pro's capabilities can be seen in newly released videos shot by Team iON member and world-famous rally driver Petter Solberg in France and Finland.

Simultaneous to the Speed Pro launch, iON is kicking off its partnership with Miller Motorsports Park, which has hosted many of the world's most significant racing series and is home to a performance driving and motorcycle school. iON cameras will be the exclusive POV cameras used and sold at Miller Motorsports Park, and iON will be the title sponsor of a major event at Miller Motorsports Park in 2013. iON will also have a visible presence at Miller Motorsports Park, with signage prominently displayed throughout the venue as well as on helmets used in Miller's driving and riding schools and kart center. iON cameras will be used by instructors and made available for student use at all Miller Motorsports Park schools.

"We are very pleased to name the iON Speed Pro as the Official Camera of Miller Motorsports Park," said John Larson, General Manager of Miller Motorsports Park. "iON is a very innovative organization, and their Speed Pro camera is perfect for motorsports applications. We look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship with iON, and to creating many great memories for our staff and our guests with the iON Speed Pro camera."

"The iON Speed Pro is being increasingly used by professional racers and we're honored that it is now the Official Camera of Miller Motorsports Park," said Giovanni Tomaselli, CEO, iON Worldwide. "With the worldwide availability of the iON Speed Pro, consumers and pros alike can now shoot and share their high-speed adventures. We are excited to be helping racing enthusiasts capture and share their biggest moments."

The iON Speed Pro will be sold through the company's new Motorsports and Marine Division, led by longtime motorsports executive Daniel Gatto. Gatto recently joined iON as sales director; he was previously an executive at Contour camera.

KYB LAUNCHES NEW SUPPORT TOOL

KYB Europe has launched a new support tool at Automechanika. The tool is the latest in a portfolio designed to help make it easier for technicians to fit shock absorbers, coil springs and mounting kits.

KYB product boxes will soon display a QR code next to the part number. Anyone fitting this part will be able to scan the QR code using a smart phone, via any scanner application which can be downloaded free of charge from the smart phone provider. They will be offered a choice of information to help them with the fitting of that part.

The information includes: fitting videos (where available), fitting instructions (specific to that vehicle application), common information for fitting shock absorbers and coil springs, plus a visual inspection prompt. More useful information will be added next year.

Jean François Huan, Senior Product Manager for KYB Europe, commented "In Europe, KYB believes training and support are key elements in the success of its customers. KYB is working hard to provide valuable technical assistance for its customers and this QR code scheme adds to our training programme for technicians to help replace shock absorbers and coil springs on a car".

The project launches with 700 references and will grow quickly over the next few months. It will also become integrated into KYB Europe's website, so that technicians who do not have access to a smart phone can still use the support for fitting KYB parts.

Worldwide, KYB manufactures more than one million shock absorbers a week and is one of the world's largest original equipment (OE) suppliers to vehicle manufacturers, with one in four cars leaving production lines being fitted with KYB shock absorbers as standard.

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INRIX Introduces The Industry's First Global Parking Navigation Service

Kenwood First to Implement Parking in New In-Dash Receivers; INRIX Launches Traffic Information Service in China; New INRIX Traffic App Gets Social

INRIX®, a leading international provider of traffic information and driver services, launched at the 2013 Consumer Electronics Show (CES) the industry's first parking navigation service.

As a real-time connected service, INRIX Parking goes beyond static parking Points-Of-Interest (POIs) to provide the current cost to park, real-time information on the number of available spaces and detailed location information for a continuously expanding and updated database of off street parking locations in North America and 36 countries throughout Europe.

"INRIX is connecting the car to the apps and services people need now to enhance their driving experience," said Bryan Mistele, president and CEO of INRIX. "By making it easier for drivers to find a place to park, we help reduce traffic congestion for everyone."

Kenwood will be the first consumer electronics manufacturer to implement INRIX Parking in its new in-dash DVD entertainment receivers debuting at CES. As the industry's aftermarket first receivers with built-in WiFi communication capabilities via Kenwood's cloud services, INRIX provides owners of the Excelon DNN990HD and DNN770HD receivers with up-to-the-minute traffic information, parking, fuel and weather services designed to help drivers save time, fuel and frustration wherever their travels take them.

Experts estimate drivers searching for a parking space accounts for 30 percent of all urban traffic congestion³. A global survey of commuters in 20 international cities conducted by IBM found that nearly six out of 10 drivers have abandoned their search for a parking space at least once and drivers often spend an average of nearly 20 minutes in pursuit of a coveted spot.¹

INRIX Parking solves this problem by helping drivers quickly identify and navigate to the entrance of their preferred parking location most convenient to their destination. The INRIX database includes more than 18,000 parking facilities in North America and 42,000 in Europe sourced both for in-car and mobile use from leading providers ParkMe and Parkopedia.



"Through our partnership with leading traffic provider, INRIX, we will bring the industry an automotive grade parking service to drivers in North America," said Sam Friedman CEO and co-founder of ParkMe. "This partnership is another major step in ParkMe's mission to improve navigation by fundamentally changing the way drivers search for parking."

Added Parkopedia CEO Eugene Tsyklevich, "In the era of the connected car, driver access to dynamic parking information is not just a necessity, it's a requirement. We're excited to work with INRIX to deliver premium services to the automakers."

Other new INRIX-powered products, services and customers announced at CES include:

Premium Traffic Services in China. INRIX opened offices in Beijing and has partnered with China's leading traffic information services provider, CenNavi, to deliver premium real-time, predictive and historical traffic services in 28 cities across China. The collaboration leverages INRIX's sophisticated Traffic Intelligence Platform, vertical market expertise and connected services technologies with CenNavi's abundant real-time traffic information and advanced technologies, deep domestic experience and automotive relationships. The partnership furthers both companies' efforts to deliver premium traffic information, traffic-powered applications and analytics to

help automakers, government agencies, mobile app providers, wireless carriers, and media companies improve mobility for travelers in the fastest growing and largest automotive market in the world.

New INRIX Traffic App for iPhone and Android. With drivers wasting up to 80 hours last year in the world's worst traffic cities², INRIX Traffic helps cut the cost of gridlock with several new features including:

- **Glance n' Go:** INRIX Traffic makes it easy to quickly tell if traffic is better or worse than normal for a particular time and day of the week. Drivers instantly see trouble spots along their route giving them the ability to identify major delays and faster routes to their destination before it's too late.

- **Social Network Traffic Alerts:** With Facebook, Twitter, text and email integration, drivers can alert friends and family members in their social networks as well as other INRIX Traffic to accidents, construction and other traffic-causing delays to avoid on the road.

- **INRIX Departure Times:** Eliminate the guess work of when to leave or how long it'll take to get there. An accident causing serious delays on your route home? Is it better to leave the office now or stay and get a few things done while the traffic dies down? INRIX Traffic provides insight into the best time to leave to help you be there on time for the important people and events in your life. INRIX Traffic also lets you share your arrival time via text or email letting friends and family know when you'll be there, taking the "E" out of ETA.

"We look forward to working with INRIX applying our combined expertise to solve one of China's biggest problems," said Haijun Tao, president of CenNavi. "This problem presents us with a significant market opportunity to deliver to automakers, mobile app providers and municipalities high quality traffic information and applications that improve urban mobility for everyone in China."

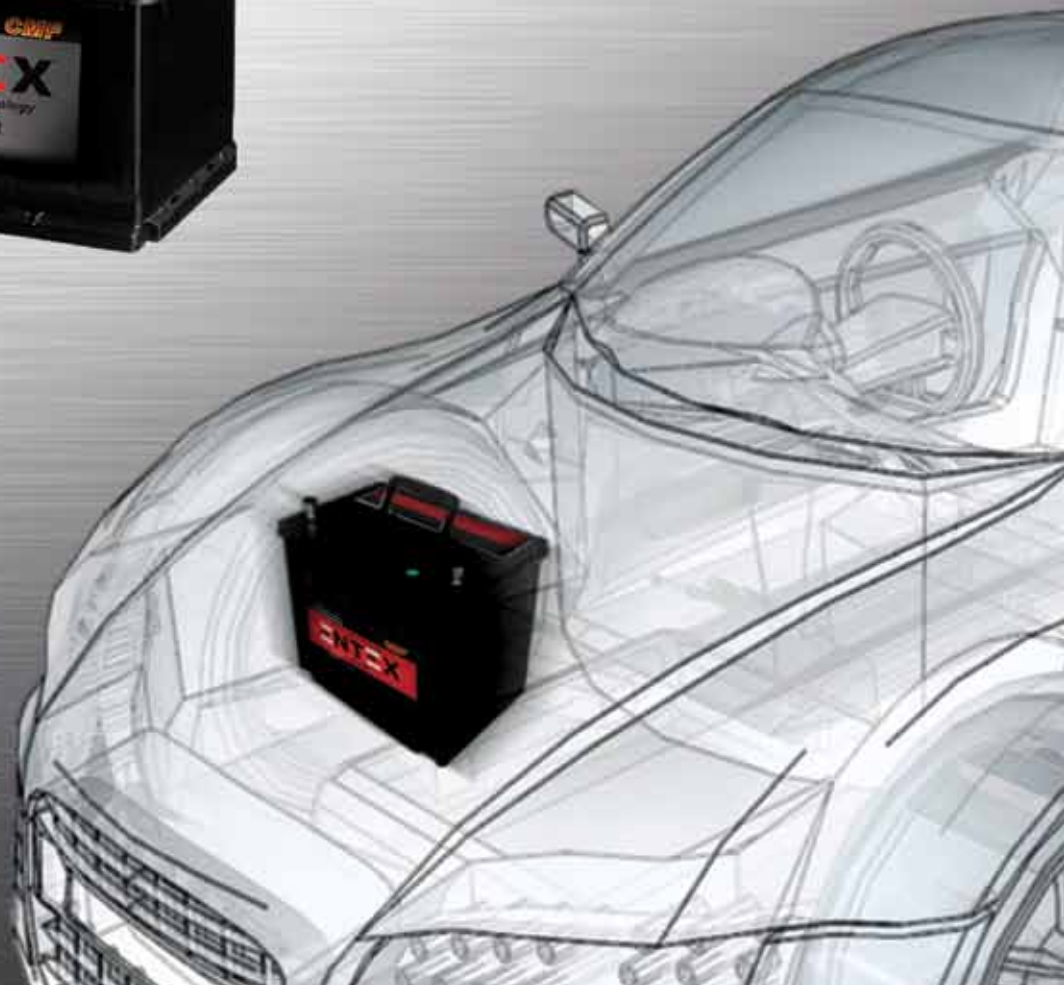
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The idea of the fragrance is "be-yourself". Transparent, silky and very sexy. A fresh woody fragrance unisex with a fresh opening of bergamot, mandarin, juniper, lavender, peppermint and green notes. In the heart of the composition is jasmine, orchid, freesia, magnolia with a fresh hint of peach. There are cedar, amber, musk, sandal and vanilla in the base. The perfume was created by Ann Gottlieb 1996. Two popular fragrances CK One and CK Be by the house of Calvin Klein were introduced in 2009 as limited edition in a special and very interesting collection called WE ARE ONE.



Sony's Stylish and Intuitive Xperia Tablet S

The Xperia brand delivers mobility in addition to design, cross-device connectivity and network services to enhance user experience. Through introducing a Tablet device under the Xperia series, Sony allows consumers to seamlessly enjoy the immediate convenience of an Xperia smartphone and immersive entertainment of an Xperia Tablet.

The splash-proof aluminium casing of the Xperia Tablet S is designed for real-life use around the home and outdoors, doing away with the worry of casual water spillages. Running a speedy NVIDIA® Tegra® 3 quad-core processor and Android 4.0.3 operating system, the device comes with the power needed to enjoy the latest media, apps and games.

The Xperia Tablet S incorporates several of Sony's signal processing technologies such as ClearAudio+ mode, which delivers distinctive audio quality that is a trademark of the brand. With one simple operation, users can experience sound with ultimate clarity across a wide spectrum of tones from deep lows to crisp highs. Owners can let the Xperia Tablet command their entire entertainment set-up from the comfort of a favourite couch. The infra-red universal remote control is enhanced with a new Macro function that stores a time-saving sequence of commands for instant recall. The Xperia Tablet S can be programmed to switch on the TV, cable box and home entertainment system, select inputs, adjust volume and more. Commands are executed at a single touch, and up to six macros can be named and stored.

Samsung Vacuum Tube Soundbar

The HW-750 is designed to bring some warmth into your audio setup. Soundbars are traditionally thought of an option that's only to be turned to when a traditional 5.1 or 7.1 setup won't work for your space, but companies have been doing what they can to improve them and make them more attractive to potential customers. The latest bar from Samsung tries something completely new.

The new HW-750 is also known as the Vacuum Tube Soundbar, and for obvious reasons. It's the first soundbar around to pack a tube amplifier to give you the kind of warmth you'd expect. That's not all it's got though – it packs a gyroscopic sensor that allows it to detect height, rotation and slope to automatically correct for positioning and optimize sound quality.





VEZDA AST KR26

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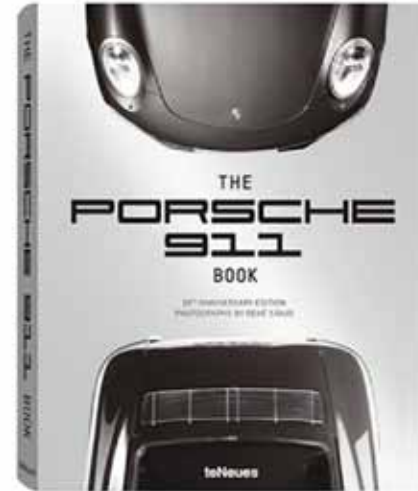
HOTPRODUCTS

Alfred Dunhill Turbo Lighters



The distinctive dunhill turbo lighter based on the original unique one handed design in a flameless jet. Sometimes called "windproof", the burner-jet is a fast way to light your flame from the rugged outdoors to the haute-cuisine dinner.

The polished attributes and teak wood inlay give this lighter an elegant and classic appeal. The polished AD logo has been placed in the centre of the wood inlay, making a real feature of the name and a distinguished presentation.



Porsche 911 book

Born in the Bohemian town of Maffersdorf on September 3, 1875, Ferdinand Porsche displayed unparalleled automotive engineering genius from his earliest years. Following stellar work at Austro-Daimler, as well as with his own engineering firm, he formed his own automobile company after World War II, developing a line of sports cars which culminated in the fabled 911, the ultimate expression of Porsche's original vision for the perfect sports car.

The Complete Book of Porsche 911 provides a model-by-model overview for each year of the 911's production, from the original 901 prototype to the current models. In addition to production cars, the book includes all of the factory's racing, prototype, and special-production cars illustrated with both current and archival photography. This book is the ultimate single-volume resource for the 911 aficionado.

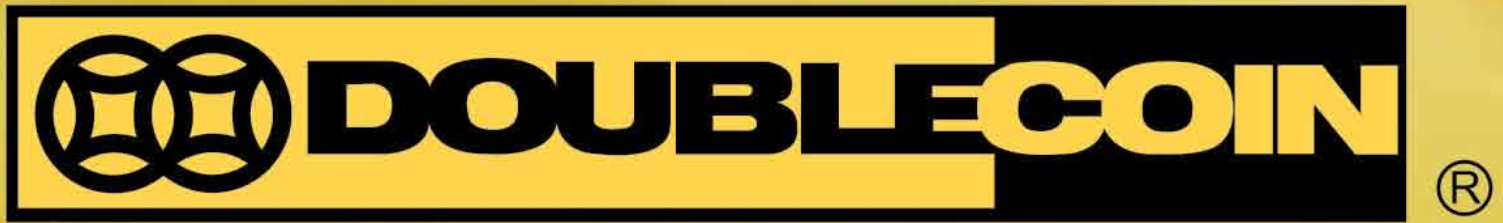


Lenovo ThinkPad Helix

ThinkPad Helix first functions as a high performance Ultrabook. For added mobility, the 11.6-inch tablet can separate from its base to become the thinnest full-function Intel® 3rd generation Core™ tablet with vPro. Adding to its mobility, the tablet weighs 835 grams, also making it the lightest in its class¹. Unlike other convertibles, the innovative "rip and flip" screen lets users flip the tablet 180° and snap it back into the base – this mode, called Stand mode, transforms Helix into a mini-movie theatre or business presentation central. From here, users can also fold the screen down to use it as a tablet while keeping the base connected for added ports and connectivity.

Besides its game-changing design, the ThinkPad Helix comes with exceptional performance and productivity features that set the bar for this type of device. A top-class Ultrabook™ the ThinkPad Helix runs up to 10 hours for a full day of work and play. Navigation and interaction are easy with the precision on-board pen, full-size keyboard and new five button clickpad that boasts 20 percent more surface area than traditional ThinkPad clickpads. As the brightest screen in the ThinkPad brand portfolio, Helix's 11.6-inch high definition 1080p IPS display maximizes clear, crisp and vibrant visuals in nearly any environment.

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