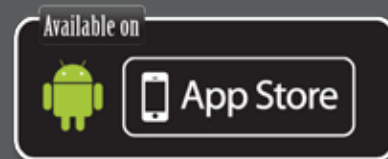


TIRES & AUTOMOTIVE PARTS MAGAZINE

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NISSAN INTRODUCES A CAR THAT PARKS ITSELF

Nissan Leaf NSC-2015 autonomous prototype unveiled



MK RAJKUMAR

Director, Aftersales & Trading, AW Rostamani Automotive.



Zeal ion camera Goggles

Hot Products / Page 68



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The new GL 63 AMG

The perfect blend of Mercedes-AMG power, comfort, style and performance

AUTOMOTIVE / PAGE 30



BMW 1M at Its Best
AUTOMOTIVE / PAGE 18



AWR launches Ceat radial tires in UAE
TIRES / PAGE 50



Ford Showcases Array of Driver Assist Technologies
PARTS / PAGE 63

MINI to launch th world's first Sports Coupé 08

World's biggest Bentley workshop opens in Dubai 12

BRABUS-Mercedes SL Roadster 22

Ford's Mustang to Ride on Goodyear Eagles 44


NITTO TIRE REACHES TWO MILLION FACEBOOK FANS 45

Hankook expand R&D capacities in Europe 46

Saab Automobile Parts AB acquires companies in Europe 62

Bosch Group has received a total of four awards 64

Hot products 68

A portrait of MK Rajkumar, a man with dark hair, a mustache, and glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is seated at a desk with his hands clasped. An Indian flag is visible on the left side of the frame. The background is a blurred office setting.

“ AWR group is in automotive business for over 44 years and represent Nissan, Infiniti, Renault, MG, and ZNA. The main reason for the group's success and progress can be attributed to the group's core values Passion, Integrity, and Commitment. ”



MK RAJKUMAR

Director, Aftersales & Trading, AW Rostamani Automotive.

Could you brief us on the AW Rostamani Group?

AW Rostamani group has been in the automotive business for over 44 years, we currently represent Nissan, Infiniti, Renault, MG, and ZNA. The main reason for the group's success and progress can be attributed to the group's core values Passion, Integrity, and Commitment.

How do you think the UAE Automotive industry will be in 2013?

It's great to see that automotive industry is very buoyant in 2012 and back on track. We expect that the automotive industry in UAE will cross the 2008 vehicle sales volumes and will set a new peak in 2013. This is an indication that the overall economy is also very progressive.

How well is Arabian Automobiles Company (AAC) after sales equipped with technology?

We are living in the technological revolution era. The automobiles of today are very different compared to two decades ago. In general, all the brands are producing very advanced vehicles with a lot of attractive features. In these modern times, the differentiating factor is the aftersales. The companies having strong aftersales will score better with the customers. At AW Rostamani aftersales division, we are fortunate to have very competent team with sound processes supported by modern technology.

“ Customer First principle will always be at the foundation of our strategies in making our Aftersales as one of the industry benchmarks in GCC by 2015. ”

What do you offer to your customers?

Customers are always looking for 'value for money'. The values are cost of ownership, quality job, less inconvenience in terms of vehicle down time, and nice people to deal with. We offer to our customers what we call QTAP – Quality, Time, Attitude, Price.

What is the recipe to satisfy the customers at AAC after sales?

We try to keep it simple., deliver the needs of customers. But we have to be agile to understand the customer's needs, because they are continuously changing. we have assemble a competent team and we keep training them to hone their skills so that quality service can be provided to customers.

We call it Professional & Friendly service at AWR. Cost of ownership is an important deciding factor not only for customer's initial purchase but also for retention. Our "Customer for Life" program offers a host of benefits to our customers. Core components of the Customers for Life programs are: The economical maintenance program where the maintenance prices go down when the vehicle age goes up, peace of mind service contracts, Nissan Road miles loyalty reward program, 24/7 service facility in Ras Al Khor, and above all the Customer First principle.

Can you please briefly explain your Spare Parts network and operations?

Parts is an important business pillar. While it's our endeavor to keep the customers at our own service network, it's also our responsibility to make the parts available across our market for customer convenience. We have a very large Parts distribution centre at Dubai Industrial City and we ensure over 98% parts availability. Our strong parts dealer network is very well spread across Dubai & Northern Emirates. We consider our parts dealers as our business partners. We have formed an alliance called NPDA – Nissan Parts Dealer Alliance to enhance the customer service levels and it is working very well.

What are the key milestones for AAC Aftersales Division?

The best recognition to any organization is the appreciation coming from the customers. We have very meticulous customer satisfaction measurement programs and we are pleased to see that the customer satisfaction levels are increasing year after year. Nissan has instituted distributor operation standards & assessment program and we are pleased to inform that Arabian Automobiles company is recognized as the best distributor in Global Nissan for Aftersales under a program named WAPC – World Aftersales Progress Club and has been retaining the Grand Prize for the five consecutive years since 2007, thanks to the trust our customers have in us.

With growing competition from local workshops, how will you manage competition and retain your customers?

In a way, independent workshops perhaps are needed in the market to help lower the prices for the benefit of customers. However, majority of the local workshops are not competent enough to handle the most modern technologies available in the vehicles of current times. Therefore, we see many customers falling into the trap of cheap prices but regretting later. Our recommendations to customers are 'demand genuine parts and trust the people who know your vehicle the best'.

Where do you see the AAC AS division by 2015?

We want to retain our strengths and build further on that. Customer First principle will always be at the foundation of our strategies in making our Aftersales as one of the industry benchmarks in GCC by 2015.





NEW DESIGN FEATURES REDEFINE THE CLASS-LEADING APPEAL OF THE RANGE ROVER SPORT FOR 2013



For 2013, the Range Rover Sport consolidates its position as the most dynamic and luxurious sports tourer in its class with fresh new colours and a greater choice of interior trim and alloy wheel designs.

"The Range Rover Sport was substantially revised in 2011 with major powertrain enhancements and raised equipment levels to reinforce its outstanding breadth of capability. This year we're going one step further, offering even more choice with some great new colour combinations and detail improvements to redefine the Range Rover Sport's class-leading levels of comfort and customer appeal," says John Edwards, Land Rover Global Brand Director.

To complement the exterior design changes updated at 2012 model year, a striking new five-spoke cast alloy wheel design in Sparkle Silver and five new body colours provide customers with even greater levels of choice when it comes to enhancing the look of their Range Rover Sport: Barolo, Barossa, Causeway, Havana and Mariana are all introduced for 2013. Customers opting for the Supercharged model will discover stunning Red Brembo™ brake callipers fitted as standard with the option of reverting back to black high performance brakes at no additional cost.

The interior specifications offer two new interior trim combinations allowing customers to choose a dark upper cabin environment with lighter coloured seats or the opposite way round. Customers can also opt for a new carbon veneer pack, adding a sharp, contemporary look to the interior.

Introduced at 2012 model year, the Range Rover Sport comes equipped with the highest level of audio equipment. The High-Ice Harmon Kardon system delivers 380W of sound from a total of 11 speakers whilst the premium Harmon Kardon Logic system produces an astonishing 825W from no less than 17 speakers. The 7-inch touchscreen provides customers with the option of Dual View technology, allowing the driver to view the navigational display and the passenger to watch a DVD. Advanced features include a hard disc drive music server and Land Rover's unique "Say What You See" voice recognition system with screen prompts.





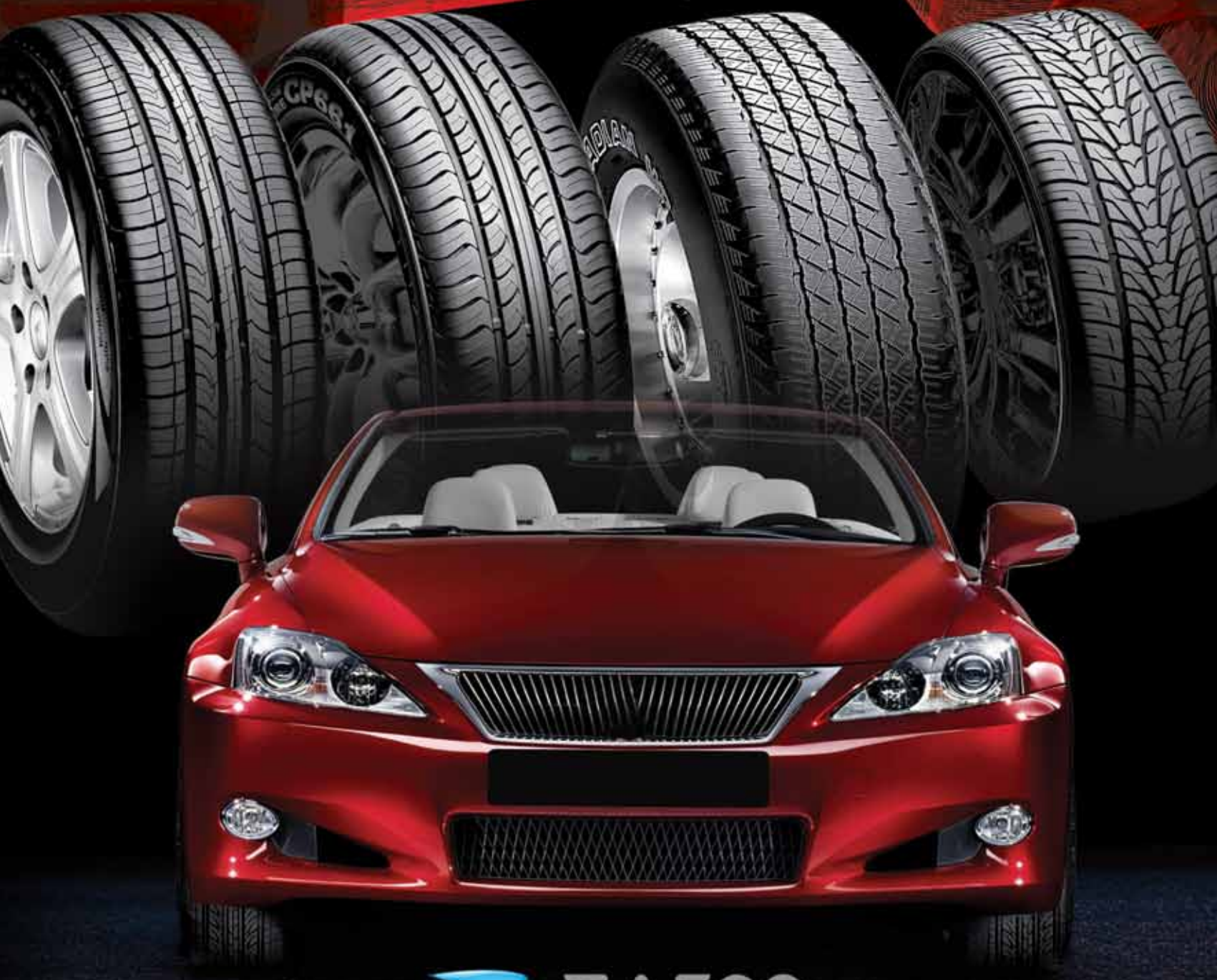
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MINI GEARS UP TO LAUNCH THE WORLD'S FIRST SPORTS ACTIVITY COUPÉ

The MINI Paceman is set to turn heads across the region from the word 'go' as it combines the sportiness of an SUV and the sleek design of a Coupé.

Highly customisable, the MINI Paceman will be available in eight body finishes, two roof colours, and offer six light alloy wheels in four colours. The brand new horizontal taillights will emphasise the MINI Paceman's fresh new look, as elegance and athleticism go hand-in-hand with the elongated doors, sloping roofline and rising shoulders.

The MINI Paceman's high-powered engine will boast lowered sports suspension as standard, which will accentuate the trademark MINI go-kart feeling. All variants, which include the MINI Cooper, Cooper S, Cooper SD and Cooper D, will come with a six-speed manual gearbox, or a six-speed automatic option with an output spread from 112 hp to 184 hp, to ensure that the MINI Paceman gives its passengers the drive of their life.

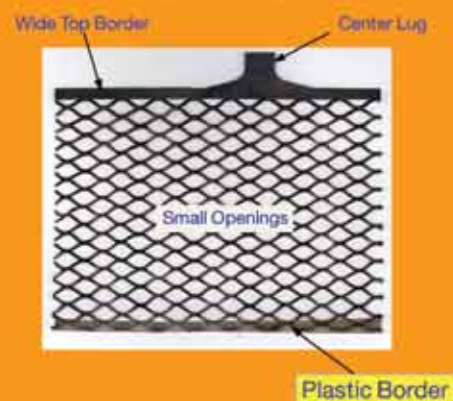




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Limited-edition customer sport racing car to mark the 45th birthday

Exclusive collector's item The new SLS AMG GT3

With the new SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY", Mercedes-AMG is presenting an exclusively appointed special series which is aimed at car collectors with a particular penchant for motor racing. The customer sport racing car is being built by hand in a limited edition of no more than five vehicles in Affalterbach. Record DTM champion and AMG brand ambassador Bernd Schneider is involved hands-on in the production process, installing the AMG 6.3-litre V8 engine in the SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY" together with an AMG engine fitter.

The exclusive collector's item is also a synonym for the successful AMG Customer Sports Programme: With currently 32 victories in the 2012 Motor Sports Season and the winning of three driver and team titles in the FIA GT3 European Championship, the ADAC GT Masters and the FIA GT1 World Championship, the race edition of the gullwing car of Mercedes-AMG is an impressive success story as well.

A number of exterior and interior modifications have been carried out for the special SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY" model. The body of the SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY" gleams auspiciously in the new designo magno graphite matt paint finish, for example. To date, this matt paintwork has been exclusive to the SL 65 AMG "45th ANNIVERSARY", which was unveiled to mark the 45th birthday of Mercedes-AMG at the New York International Auto Show in April 2012. The AMG light-alloy wheels in designo magno graphite complement the body's matt paintwork to perfection.

Another eye-catching feature is the striking "45 Years of Driving Performance" logo framed in silver on the GT3 racing car's gullwing doors. The special edition's logo embodies consummate design right down to the finer points of detail: closer inspection reveals the exposed carbon-fibre structure of the gullwing doors under the matt paintwork. The doors, along with the bonnet, mudguards, boot lid, rear wings, front and rear apron, front splitter and rear diffuser, are produced in the particularly lightweight motorsport material CFRP (CFRP = carbon fibre reinforced plastic).



The interior of the SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY" evokes a functional racing car atmosphere, refined by high-quality, exclusive details: the steel roll-over cage is finished in matt "designo magno graphite" to match the exterior. The racing car's dashboard and centre console sport a matt carbon-fibre finish. Effective contrasts are produced by six-point seat belts and a steering wheel spider in silver.

The collector's item also boasts a seat shell in a high-strength carbon-fibre safety cell on the co-driver's side. A special badge with a "1 of 5" logo on the seats and the centre console alludes to the limited production run for this racing car. The standard appointments for the SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY" are rounded off by a high-quality AMG indoor car cover with "45 Years of Driving Performance" logo.

Bernd Schneider as a VIP engine fitter

In keeping with the exclusive exterior and interior equipment and appointments, the engineering under the bonnet is of a similarly exclusive standard. 48 year-old racing driver Bernd Schneider is assisting the responsible AMG engine fitter in installing the naturally aspirated AMG 6.3-litre V8 engine. The special AMG engine badge bearing the signatures of Bernd Schneider and the responsible engine fitter attest to this high-calibre duo's handiwork. Customers who acquire one of the rare SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY" models also receive an exclusive vehicle certificate signed by Bernd Schneider.

The five-times DTM champion, overall ITC winner from 1995 and FIA GT world champion from 1997 works for Mercedes-AMG as a brand ambassador and an instructor at the AMG Driving Academy.

As an established expert in the field of SLS AMG GT3 customer sport Bernd Schneider has carried out the majority of the test drives for the racing version of the gullwing model. He also participates in selected races as part of the AMG driver support set-up. Bernd Schneider competed for various AMG customer teams in 2012, including the 24-hour Dubai race, at the Nürburgring and in Spa-Francorchamps. In the ninth race of the VLN Endurance Championship Nürburgring, Bernd Schneider took a start position together with Jeroen Bleekemolen (NED) for the AMG Customer Team Black Falcon and won the 4-hour race. After numerous podium positions in the past two years, this was his first victory with the SLS AMG GT3.



Vehicle handover directly at AMG headquarters

Handover of the SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY" takes place directly at Mercedes-AMG in Affalterbach, where customers are also granted exclusive insights into the AMG world and have an opportunity to sample AMG's hallmark excellent service and support quality. An in-depth introduction to operation of the new vehicle and its engineering and technology is provided in the new 360 square-metre handover hall. In the case of this special GT3 racing car, this instruction is provided personally by AMG brand ambassador Bernd Schneider.

The programme also includes a tour of the factory, taking in the AMG Performance Studio, where exclusive series of individual

AMG cars and one-off vehicles are developed and hand-made. This is followed by a visit to the AMG engine "Manufaktur" (hand-finishing section), where Bernd Schneider and the AMG engine fitter assembled this special AMG 6.3-litre V8 engine by hand. On request, the SLS AMG GT3 "45th ANNIVERSARY" customer can enjoy a race track coaching session as part of an initiation event with the vehicle.



WORLD'S BIGGEST BENTLEY WORKSHOP OPENS IN DUBAI



Al Habtoor Motors Prestige Division has opened a specially designed workshop, which holds the title of the world's biggest Bentley workshop, in Dubai Industrial City (DIC).

Al Habtoor Motors, Bentley Motors' long-standing importer for the UAE, has invested AED 300 million in the new 3million sq. ft. site, of which 189,000 sq. ft. is dedicated to the British brand. The state-of-the-art centre is air-conditioned from the moment customers step out of their vehicle and walk into the luxurious reception area.

The reception area is vast and comfortable with televisions, refreshments and Wi-Fi, allowing customers to wait for their vehicle in a relaxing environment. For those wanting to shop, the reception area displays merchandise from the extensive Bentley collection.

Located behind the reception area, the extensive workshop is a world-class facility offering the latest technology, equipment and systems to improve further the efficiency and quality of service, repairs and renovation. A one-stop-shop, the Bentley workshop is able to carry out PDI's, servicing, repairs, body shop repairs, paintwork and restoration. The workshop has 190 vehicle bays and 250 customer and visitor car parking spaces, and will allow technicians to perform maintenance on up to 40 vehicles simultaneously.

The new workshop also has a 12-car showroom area that will allow customers to view the brand's entire model line-up, with more space than the three showrooms in the UAE. This will be complemented by an extensive range of pre-owned vehicles.

For parts availability, customers will not have long to wait as the extensive parts department houses over \$2.4 million of parts stock and has a daily resupply from the Bentley factory in Crewe.


For owners of heritage models, the Bentley workshop has the expertise, capacity and equipment to restore classic models. The body repair, restoration and heritage area of the business is now even better placed to look after customers from all over the UAE. Cherishing cars as enthusiastically as owners themselves, the skilled technicians and craftsmen will deliver the finest results.

Bentley Motors' technical apprentices from around the globe will also be joining the workshop on a regular basis to carry out training at the dedicated training facilities on the site.

Chris Buxton, Bentley Middle East Regional Director, said: "The Middle East is an important region for Bentley Motors and we are set to have our best year in the United Arab Emirates for sales. There is tremendous future growth potential here and the investment in this impressive and unique facility, which makes it the world's biggest Bentley workshop, is testament to the continued high levels of customer service that Al Habtoor Motors Prestige Division and Bentley Motors Middle East strive for."

George Duncan, Director, Al Habtoor Motors Prestige Division, commented: "This is a landmark day for everyone at Al Habtoor Motors Prestige Division and Bentley. The opening of the new workshop underlines our servicing promise to our customers. We aim to ensure that every one of our customers has full satisfaction in our delivery of service. The training facility will also assist technical apprentices from around the globe, as Dubai is a convenient hub to travel to rather than sending staff all the way to Crewe in the UK for training."

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PORSCHE GT3 CUP CHALLENGE MIDDLE EAST SPEEDS TOWARDS EXCITING FOURTH SEASON

The fourth season of the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Middle East, the leading one-make championship series involving some of the region's most promising drivers, has been announced with a sensational line-up of race weekends to thrill drivers and motorsport enthusiasts across the Middle East.

Loved by drivers and fans alike having produced a number of local heroes and stunning driver performances over three previous seasons, the fourth edition of the championship is posed to be even bigger and better with 12 rounds, across six action-packed race weekends during a race season between November 2012 and March 2013.

Once again the series will return to the regions world-class circuits, letting home grown driving talent race the outstanding Porsche GT3 Cup car in front of local fans, with race locations confirmed in Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and United Emirates.

An expanded schedule, more teams and a news series of public events are set to create the most exciting season in the champion's history with details to be revealed during the build-up to the eagerly anticipated opening race weekend at the Bahrain International Circuit on 16 and 17 November.

Speaking on the launch of the fourth season, George Wills, Managing Director of Porsche Middle East & Africa FZE said:

"In three years the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Middle East has come of age and is already firmly recognised as one of the region's most exciting and professional motorsports series. Combining one of the world's best sports cars and quality race tracks with hugely talented local drivers guarantees another incredible season filled with intense sporting drama.



"Porsche stands for pure motor sports so the GT3 Cup series lies at the heart of the organization. Racing is our passion and has been for over 60 years and our experience on the track is now leaving a lasting legacy across the Middle East and inspiring a new generation of drivers and fans into motorsport. We are proud of what has been achieved by the championship so far but this season is posed to be the best yet."

The one-make series will feature Porsche GT3 Cup Cars, provided exclusively to all participants with each car technically identical. As a result the GT3 Cup Challenge brings out the best in all drivers placing an emphasis on driver skill with all cars equally well prepared so no driver has an advantage.

For the fourth consecutive season Lechner Racing, led by the hugely experienced Walter Lechner, will manage the series and will be responsible for all co-ordination and logistical support to ensure another smooth and successful season.

Speaking ahead of the forthcoming season, Walter Lechner, Manager of the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Middle East, stated:

"The Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Middle East has become popular due to both the excitement it creates with real racing and real rivalries on the track as well as the highly professional standards set in the running of the series. Interest continues to grow and opportunities for new entrants do exist. This season we have everything in place from the best drivers, vehicles, teams and circuits to reach new heights. Everyone involved is looking forward to another great season ahead and building upon what has been achieved so far."

"The championship goes beyond giving aspiring local drivers the chance to fulfil their dreams and realise potential. It is a breeding ground for a new generation of drivers, providing talented and ambitious drivers like Abdulaziz Turki AlFaisal and Karim Al-Azhari with an opportunity to showcase their skills and gain valuable experience as they take their careers onto the world stage."

The continued popularity of the series and the racing challenge for drivers has been highlighted with the confirmation of a number of leading drivers to the starting line-up including Saudi Arabia's Prince Abdulaziz Al Faisal, who will looking to defend his title and secure and unprecedented third championship crown.

Having confirmed his entry, defending champion Abdulaziz Turki AlFaisal said:

"Last season was incredible but I race to win and I will be aiming to capture my third title. I continue to learn, work hard and push myself to improve so I'm already looking forward to the season ahead. Every year the standards improve and the challenge gets greater. I expect this season to be the closest and hardest fought but that's exactly why I'm returning to defend my title."

Last season's champion will face stiff competition from, UAE's Karim Al Azhari Faisal Binladen, Clemens Schmid and Fawaz Algosai. The details of the full list of drivers and teams entered in the fourth edition of championship will be revealing by organisers in coming weeks.



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800 **AWR** 297

A sports car in SUV clothing Cayenne Turbo S with 550 hp

The new Cayenne Turbo S assumes top position in the Porsche SUV model range with its engine power of 550 hp. With its complex active chassis, the top athlete in SUV clothing surpasses the driving performance of many sports cars. All of the basic Cayenne properties such as versatile offroad capabilities, high ride comfort and superior towing power have been preserved without exception. Its NEDC fuel consumption of 11.5 litres per 100 km is the same as that of the Cayenne Turbo, which makes it more fuel-efficient in relation to its engine power. The new Turbo S model has an extra 50 hp of power compared to the Cayenne Turbo, as well as a torque boosted from 700 Nm to 750 Newton metres, and it converts them into faster acceleration and a higher top speed. The sprint from zero to 100 km/h takes just 4.5 seconds (-0.2 seconds), and the SUV accelerates to a top speed of 283 km/h (+ 5 km/h).

The Cayenne Turbo S was systematically configured for maximum dynamic performance. Therefore, it incorporates all relevant control systems as standard equipment. From the Cayenne Turbo it takes the combination of an air suspension and active PASM damping control. Then there is Porsche Dynamic Chassis Control (PDCC), which reduces the roll angle in curves to practically zero, improving agility and comfort equally. Porsche Torque Vectoring Plus (PTV Plus), which is also standard, operates with torque vectoring at the rear wheels together with an electronically controlled rear differential lock, which improves traction and therefore offers more agility in every driving situation. The new Cayenne Turbo S is also equipped with the Sport Chrono package as standard.

The exterior and add-on equipment of the Cayenne Turbo S live up to the high standards of a top model. Numerous exterior features such as the air inlet screens, headlight housings and mirror parts are painted in high-gloss black. The standard 21-inch 911 Turbo II wheels with coloured Porsche badges were exclusively designed for the Cayenne Turbo S; their inside surfaces are painted in high-gloss black.

Porsche designers created bi-colour leather packages in new colours and colour patterns specifically for the new Cayenne Turbo S. These interior features – highly anticipated and requested by customers especially in the Middle East – are now available in black/carrera red or black/luxor beige colour combinations. The bi-colour leather packages that are reserved for the new top model were extended by adding decorative seams in the contrasting colours carrera red and luxor beige. The Carbon interior package complements the leather features and highlights the sophistication of vehicle and materials.

The new Cayenne Turbo S is available for order as of today with first deliveries starting in January 2013. In the GCC region, the Cayenne Turbo S has a basic retail price of 172,072 USD.





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BMW 1M AT ITS BEST

It is almost reprehensible to put the BMW 1M with its 340 series hp, although the muscle-bound dimensions of the body fit perfectly into the prey scheme. The civil version of this coupe, the available from 2004 onwards BMW 1 Series E87, exists already since 2011 as F20 in second generation. If now the "doped" 1 Series also falls into the hands of a tuner, in this case BEST Cars and Bikes in the lower Rhine region Viersen, there is sometimes a risk, that the power shoots through the roof.

A KW coil over in Variant 3 in combination with an exhaust system made by Bastuck – from cat it's certainly made of stainless steel! – do unconditionally everything to improve dynamics and performance once again. The guys around Stephan WITT from BEST Cars & Bikes did not want to miss the chance to upgrade the definitely not underpowered engine using a professional software optimization to a performance enhancement of 425 hp.

But what use have so many and almost permanently retrievable powers, if the crucial link between the car and the street, namely the wheel and tire combination, can bring this power only insufficiently to the street? BEST Cars and Bikes has taken a golden handle for this BMW 1M in the seemingly inexhaustible trick-bag of the in Bad Segeberg situated firm SCHMIDT Revolution and mounted three-piece rims of the FS-Line with matt black coated stainless steel outer rims. The dimensions are 9Jx20H2 in combination with 245/30R20 tires on the front axle and 11Jx20H2 and 305/25R20 at the rear axle. If one did not know better, one might think these wheels were made exclusively for the 1M! In this case it should be mentioned, that the skeleton design of the FS line rim promotes itself with a weight reduction of about 2 kilograms per wheel!

Anyone, who feels magically attracted now and thinks that he has to climb in the blue bolide and to whizz off, is in excellent company.



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BATMAN COMIC BOOKS INSPIRE TRICKED OUT KIA OPTIMA MAKING WORLD DEBUT IN NEW YORK'S TIME WARNER CENTER THIS WEEK

Kia Motors America (KMA) has teamed up with DC Entertainment and RIDES magazine to create a brooding, Batman-inspired Optima that goes on display this week at the Time Warner Center and signals the beginning of a 10-month partnership based on the iconic characters that make up the Justice League. Influenced by the artistry of comic book icon, Jim Lee, the Kia super hero vehicles will become a force for good in the world by raising awareness of DC Entertainment's "We Can Be Heroes" giving campaign, a relief effort to fight hunger in the Horn of Africa (www.WeCanBeHeroes.org). Fitting for the caped crusader's dark and mysterious personality, Kia's range-topping Optima SX Limited wraps cutting-edge technology and premium amenities in a sleek, aggressive design customized with several unique Batman elements.

"Batman is one of the most popular Super Heroes of all-time, and showcasing in a fun and creative way Kia's top-of-the-line Optima SX Limited as a Batman-themed custom ride underscores this car's potent combination of premium features and turbocharged performance," said Michael Sprague, executive vice president, marketing and communications, KMA. "The Optima is our best-selling vehicle and has played a significant role in Kia becoming one of the fastest-growing automotive brands in the U.S. over the last five years¹, and it is the perfect platform to introduce our partnership with DC Entertainment and the Justice League to benefit the 'We Can Be Heroes' campaign."

Working together, Kia, DC Entertainment and RIDES magazine designed and built the Batman-themed Optima, transforming the exterior with a matte- and piano-black paint scheme, a dramatically lowered coilover suspension and muscular ground effects kit, huge Ksport performance brakes for extreme stopping power, custom-designed 20-inch black wheels and a performance exhaust system. Other exterior modifications include a custom front grille shaped like a batwing that took over 40 hours to create, yellow LED lighting accents throughout the vehicle and the iconic bat signal etched into the HID headlights.

Moving beneath the cape, the Optima's seating surfaces are costumed in custom black leather and suede with bold yellow accent stitching. Gotham City's streets are full of villains and the Batman-themed Optima is ready for action at a moment's notice with a Bat suit and cowl mounted in the trunk and utility throwing stars installed in the center console.

As Kia's sales have grown, so has the company's role as a responsible corporate citizen, and the Batman-themed Optima furthers those efforts with two video screens in the front-seat headrests that will raise awareness about the worst hunger crisis in 60 years by featuring a custom "We Can Be Heroes" video that demonstrates how one small act can make anyone a hero.



FROM CONCEPT TO REALITY... TO VIRTUAL REALITY

They said it was impossible. They said it would never happen. Today's the day that the Juke-R doubters are silenced, as the production version #001 emerges from the pit garage - in both real and virtual worlds.

The first super-exclusive Juke-R road car has been built and tested, while the thrilling Nissan has been digitally recreated and made accessible to millions. Alongside the stunning new Juke NISMO, the Juke-R is set to star in the new Gameloft Asphalt 7: Heat mobile racing game.

Gameloft, a leading global publisher of digital and social games, has partnered with Nissan to give fans the chance to drive the hottest members of the Juke family on iOS and Android, smartphones and tablets. From Paris to Rio, Asphalt 7: Heat allows drivers to compete in ruthless races while enjoying single or multiplayer mode.

Juke NISMO

Featuring the same performance DNA that runs through Nissan's competition cars, the Juke NISMO will introduce the Nissan Motorsport name to the European range early in 2013. Powered by a 200PS version of Nissan's advanced DIG-T petrol engine, the accessible performance model offers enhanced thrills without compromising efficiency.

Dynamic improvements and a superbly equipped NISMO trimmed cabin mean that the Juke NISMO will offer added excitement to the driver, whether driving virtually or in reality.

Juke-R

The Juke-R story began when it was revealed for the first time as a one-off concept in January 2012 in Dubai. The wild child of the Nissan range soon became an automotive legend in its own right, even though it was never intended for either physical or virtual production.

With the modified underpinnings of a GT-R under a muscular, re-sculpted Juke bodyshell, the R was like nothing else. A YouTube sensation, the Juke-R's fan base grew exponentially - more than 5,000,000 views of Juke-R videos have been recorded to date.

And so the story of the production version began. Darren Cox, Brand Director Nissan in Europe, explains: "People loved the Juke-R in Dubai - we were receiving offers for the original concept on the street! We couldn't disappoint such dedicated fans, so with three genuine offers on the table we made the commitment to build a limited run of Juke-Rs."

esign and technical innovations

Development work then started to transform a one-off concept into a model which could be produced and sold. Built by leading motorsports outfit RML with advice from Nissan Technical Centre Europe (NTC-E), the Juke-R uses the Nissan GT-R supercar's drivetrain and suspension along with an FIA specification roll-cage.

Thanks to the expertise of Nissan Technical Centre Europe (NTC-E), the production version is even more powerful than the concept, providing 545bhp from its advanced twin-turbocharged 3.8-litre engine. Thrilling performance is guaranteed, with 0-100kph estimated to take only 3.0 seconds and maximum speed tipped to be 275kph.

In addition to these technical enhancements, Juke-R #001 also has a new look thanks to input from the experts at Nissan Design Europe in London, UK.

NDE's Digital Team Manager Darryl Scriven explains: "The Juke-R's bumpers and side sills were redesigned, which is normally a very long process using full size models in clay. However, we managed to condense the development time using full size viewing on our new 3D ready projector and power wall, maintaining a fully digital process while providing a true supercar quality finish to Juke-R."

Design refinements include more definition for the front bumper and new carbon trim on the front and rear cooling vents and the rear aero diffuser, displaying the Juke-R's pure performance DNA.

Drive Juke-R and Juke NISMO

Juke-R number #001 is now on its way to the first customer with production of #002 well underway. The exact price will depend on the precise specification requested by each buyer, but Juke-R starts from 500,000Euro.

While only a handful of drivers will ever get behind the wheel of the ultra-exclusive flagship Juke, the spirit of driving excitement is far more accessible through the Juke NISMO, which goes on sale across Europe in early 2013 offering enhanced dynamics, performance and design.





BRABUS REFINES THE NEW MERCEDES SL ROADSTER

Exclusive refinement for a unique automobile: now also customizes the sixth generation of the Mercedes SL. The measures include a striking BRABUS designer outfit, thrilling alloy wheels up to 20 inches in diameter, even more agile handling as a result of professional suspension tuning, a power increase to 520 hp (512 bhp) / 382 kW for a top speed of up to 300 km/h (186 mph) for the 500 SL, and interior options custom-tailored to the owner's personal style.

Sporty-elegant body styling components, tuned in the wind tunnel for maximum aerodynamic efficiency, are the BRABUS designers' specialty. With or without AMG Sport package: Custom-tailored front fasciae, add-on components for the side sills and rear fasciae were developed for both body styles of the SL. There is also a BRABUS rear spoiler and side air vents for the front fenders. For a perfect fit all components are manufactured in OEM quality from high-grade PUR plastics.

Just as important for a custom look are the OEM-quality BRABUS Monoblock wheels, which can be mounted on the new roadster in four different designs and with diameters of 18, 19 and 20 inches. The largest combination to fit the R 231 model series SL features BRABUS Monoblock F, Q or R wheels in size 9Jx20 in front with size 255/30 ZR 20 tires and size 9.5Jx20 wheels with 295/25 ZR 20 tires on the rear axle. BRABUS recommends high-performance tires from Continental, Pirelli and YOKOHAMA.

To be able to further improve upon the already high level of driving dynamics of the new Mercedes roadster BRABUS has developed custom-tailored suspension components in collaboration with technology partner BILSTEIN. BRABUS sport springs are available for the SL 350 with conventional steel suspension. For all SL models with active ABC suspension the BRABUS suspension engineers have developed an electronic module that lowers the ride height by about 25 millimeters.

This makes the SL 500 the perfect beneficiary of even more power. The BRABUS B50 - 520 PowerXtra CGI power kit wrestles an additional 85 horsepower from the 4.7-liter eight-cylinder Biturbo engine. BRABUS recommends using fully synthetic high-performance motor oil from MOTUL.

The BRABUS PowerExtra module with plug-and-play design is integrated into the engine electronics to generate more power as a result of special mapping for injection and ignition as well as of moderately increased boost pressure. But that's just one part of the equation. The conversion also includes an auxiliary water-to-air intercooler powered by an auxiliary electric pump. The drop in charge air temperature benefits not only power yield but also engine life even under extreme operating conditions such as in the desert, for example.

After the conversion the engine puts 520 hp (512 bhp) / 382 kW instead of the standard 435 hp (429 bhp) / 320 kW on tap, accompanied by a peak torque of 820 Nm (604 lb-ft). Consequently the two-seater accelerates to 100 km/h in just 4.4 seconds. The BRABUS Vmax unit, another component of the engine tuning, allows limiting the top speed electronically to 250, 275 or 300 km/h (155, 172, 186 mph).



A BRABUS stainless-steel sport exhaust system with four chrome-plated tailpipes is indispensable for an SL with BRABUS high-performance engine. It is also perfect for all roadster owners longing for a sportier exhaust note and a more striking rear appearance of their two-seater. BRABUS will offer a version with butterfly valve for the SL 500 shortly. It will allow choosing between a soft and a thrillingly sporty exhaust note via a button on the steering wheel.

The BRABUS limited-slip differential with a locking rate of 40 percent can improve handling even further.

The two-seated cockpit can receive even more individual character and luxury attributes at BRABUS. The product lineup ranges from scuff plates with backlit BRABUS logo and a speedometer with 320-km/h or 360-km/h dial (200 mph or 225 mph) to carbon-fiber or fine wood trim sets in any imaginable color and with a variety of surface finishes.

The company upholstery shop creates exquisite BRABUS interiors from especially soft yet durable BRABUS Mastik leather and Alcantara.





Park your car in the shade to reduce energy consumption, it also reduces fuel from being evaporated.-

Rocket Ship Superalloy Technology Aids Ford Fusion 2.0-Liter Turbo Durability

ECOBOOST TURBO IS BUILT TO LAST WITH SPACE SHUTTLE SUPERALLOY

Ford and BorgWarner™ engineers selected a material originally used for the high-pressure turbo pumps in the Space Shuttle main engines to ensure the turbine wheel in the 2.0-liter EcoBoost® engine meets exacting durability requirements.



Space Shuttle main engines

The nickel-cobalt-tungsten superalloy (MAR M246) used in the turbocharger of the 2.0-liter Fusion enables it to withstand the stresses of a lifetime of the most spirited driving.



	2.0-liter EcoBoost	Space Shuttle Main Engines
Maximum rpm:	190,000 rpm	28,120 rpm (high-pressure turbo pump)
Maximum thrust:	237 horsepower (255 for Focus ST)	418,000 pounds (about 19.5 million horsepower)
Fuel consumption:	23, 33 mpg ¹	350 gallons/second (about 0.0139 mpg at 17,500 mph)
Maximum boost pressure:	14.7 psi	4,400 psi (high-pressure oxidizer turbo pump)
Maximum running time per tank:	467 minutes ²	8.5 minutes
Maximum speed:	135 mph	17,500 mph



Maximum temperature:

EcoBoost	Shuttle engines
1,050° Celsius	3,315° Celsius



Time to orbit Earth:

EcoBoost ³	Shuttle engines ⁴
355.7 hours	About 90 minutes



Enthusiasts will say the all-new Ford Fusion equipped with the 2.0-liter EcoBoost® turbo engine is a rocket ship. Fusion engineers will tell you parts of its engine depend on technology from one.

To prolong turbo life and combat thermal fatigue, powertrain engineers for the new Ford Fusion, in conjunction with a team at supplier BorgWarner, went to the upper limits of commercially available turbo materials when deciding on the turbine wheel for the turbocharger fitted to 2.0-liter EcoBoost variants.

The same material has been tried and tested in outer space, as a version of it was used on the Space Shuttle main engine's high-pressure fuel turbo pump and the blades of its high-pressure oxidizer turbo pump.

The upper temperature limit for the turbine wheel used on the 2.0-liter EcoBoost engine in Edge and Explorer is 970 degrees Celsius (1,778 degrees Fahrenheit). But in the sporty 2.0-liter EcoBoost for Fusion and Focus ST, the addition of tungsten and cobalt gives the alloy an upper temperature limit of 1,050 degrees Celsius (1,922 degrees Fahrenheit).

The benefit of using such high-temperature alloy is that Fusion 2.0-liter drivers can enjoy enthusiastic and spirited driving for the life of the car without degrading turbo reliability or its mechanical integrity.

Fusion owners can highlight the fact that the BorgWarner K03 turbocharger features both water and oil cooling; when the engine is running, it is primarily oil-cooled, but after the engine is turned off, the water cooling system creates a thermal water siphon to help draw heat away from the turbocharger.

As a bonus, they might explain their Fusion 2.0-liter turbo's performance is further strengthened by an integrated exhaust manifold design that combines the cylinder head and exhaust manifold into one casting; this allows the creation of smaller internal passageways (reduced plenum volumes) that direct more exhaust gas energy into the turbo more quickly than a separate head and manifold assembly.

The Fusion turbo, they also can claim, is designed to run safely at speeds up to 190,000 rpm, and is the same turbo used in the new, high-performance Ford Focus ST.

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Ford Motor Company Reveals Winners of 2012 Conservation and Environmental Grants

Ford Middle East announced the nine recipients of the 2012 Ford Motor Company Conservation and Environmental Grants receiving a total of US\$100,000, including the first-ever winner from Iraq.

Dubai-based Rima Jabado, is the sole winner for the UAE, and she receives USD8,000 for her initiative called the Gulf Elasmobranch Project, a comprehensive assessment of sharks in the UAE and the Arabian Gulf. The project investigates the shark fishery and status of shark population in the area through the collection of fishery-dependent data at landing sites and fishery independent data through a mark-recapture study. With this project, a definitive shark species list will be developed as well as establish a baseline of shark population providing ample information for government organisations to identify priority areas for shark conservation. The Arabian Gulf has little information on shark and is known internationally as an area with dearth in scientific data on the said species.

The latest edition of the Ford Grants marks the inclusion of Iraq in the programme's coverage for the first time with one project from Sulaymaniah winning a grant. All of the projects awarded this year showed diverse methods in promoting environmental awareness and conservation across a broad spectrum of communities in the region. From waste segregation for recycling, training the teachers from rural areas to be the example and messengers for the environment, identifying key biodiversity to creation of mobile apps, the projects are one in calling for more cooperation from the public and governments.

Larry Prein, Ford Middle East's managing director, said: "We congratulate the many who embraced protecting the environment and intensified their efforts to invite more public to participate. We received promising environmental projects and laud the aggressive and urgent ways developed to conserve natural resources. Ford Motor Company can only hope to continuously support these projects that make a difference to each and every community."

"Now entering our 13th year, we also acknowledge the support of the panel of jurors as well as UNESCO-Doha for their continued support of our programme," Prein added.

Dr. Benno Boer, UNESCO's Ecological Sciences Advisor in the Arab Region, said: "Rio + 20 made it clear: we need more participation from all of us when we talk about sustainable environmental development, and that needs to include Governments, NGOs, the private sector and the public. With this initiative we most certainly make a significant contribution to this. There were so many worthwhile projects throughout the participating countries and we are happy to know that more and more individuals and organisations have taken it upon themselves to take care of the environment.

Boer added: "We also commend Ford Motor Company and the hard-working staff of the Conservation & Environmental Grants, for consistently offering support to the projects by providing necessary logistics and funds. Moreover, we are very thankful to the gender-balanced jury, which consists of more experienced as well as younger members, for their generosity, time, enthusiasm and professionalism, when selecting the best practices and most worthwhile projects. UNESCO supports these projects, and we hope for even more scope and close association to UNESCO's flagship conservation system, the Global Network of Biosphere Reserves, in the years to come."

Dr. Thabit Zahran Al Abdessalaam, Ford Grants juror for the UAE and Senior Advisor for Terrestrial and Marine Biodiversity at the Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi said: "It is always good to know that we have many groups and individuals committed to the cause of the environment. We congratulate everyone who submitted their applications for undertaking a worthy cause."

This year's winners include the creation of a mobile app where guidelines and tips for energy-saving can be downloaded, initiatives that engage local communities to become educators of natural conservation, plantation of oak saplings by schoolchildren, as well as identifying and preserving the key biodiversity areas of Iraq.

The Conservation & Environmental Grants is part of Ford Motor Company's efforts to support grass-roots level initiatives that protect and preserve the environment and natural resources in the GCC and Levant countries, and has awarded a total of US\$1.3 million to more than 150 projects since its inception in 2000.

The GCC and Levant Chapter of the Ford Grants has seen support from various governmental and non-governmental environmental authorities including the World Wide Fund for Nature, the Emirates Wildlife Society, the Arab Forum for Environment & Development (AFED) and UNESCO Doha.

This year's winners have been chosen by an independent panel of jurors consisting of academics, as well as experts from environmental agencies. The panel of judges, which has been carefully selected in association with UNESCO Doha, based on geographical coverage, age and gender equality, looks for initiatives that demonstrate a well-defined sense of purpose, a commitment to maximizing available resources, and a reputation for meeting objectives and delivering planned programmes and services.

Each year, the Ford Grants make available a total of US\$100,000 to individuals, community and non-profit groups that have projects currently running in the areas of preservation of the natural environment, environmental education and conservation engineering. The programme is open to applicants from Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq.

DRIVE WITH THE DOUBLE WORLD CHAMPION

INFINITI FX VETTEL EDITION UNLOCKS MORE EXCLUSIVITY



Infiniti, the luxury automotive manufacturer from Japan, has announced the world's most exclusive crossover, the Infiniti FX Vettel Edition, will offer a select few the opportunity to be driven by the man who gave it its name. Formula One Double World champion and Infiniti brand ambassador, Sebastian Vettel, will give customers and potential buyers of the car, he personally helped to develop, a once-in-a-lifetime ride of their lives in the build up to the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

"The Infiniti FX Vettel Edition is already a unique product which is unlikely ever to be seen again – a production car available to buy which has been designed in partnership with a reigning Formula One World Champion," said Juergen Schmitz, General Manager, Infiniti in the Middle East. "With just 50 units coming to the Middle East and today's announcement we've demonstrated the exclusive opportunity that ownership of the Infiniti FX Vettel Edition offers. We will continue to seek ways to unlock benefits from our Formula One activity for our customers but this truly is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to be driven by a double world champion." The unique event will take place at the Al Forsan sporting complex in Abu Dhabi. Participants will meet with the Formula One superstar, receive personalised Formula One memorabilia and then experience the talent it takes to become a world champion by taking a passenger ride with Sebastian Vettel as he completes 'hot laps'. The day ends with a guided tour of the Red Bull Racing pit garage.

The experience is anticipated to add further competition to be one of the few Middle Eastern owners of the FX Vettel Edition. Featuring a 420bhp V8-engine, dry carbon-fibre aerodynamic package, unique 21" BBS alloy wheels and a bespoke interior to Vettel's own specifications.

Lowest Roadworthy Car Races into the New Guinness World Records 2013 Book



Introducing "Mirai", featured in the new Guinness World Records 2013 book for being the Lowest Roadworthy Car. "Mirai", which means 'future' in Japanese, measures 17.79 in (45.2 cm) from the ground to highest part of the car. It was created by students and teachers of The Automobile Engineering Course at Okayama Sanyo High School in Asakuchi, Japan.

The record-breaking vehicle took over a year to create. Several months were spent planning and designing, with the production taking a further 6 months. Twelve students, aged 15 to 18, and nine teachers were involved. Harada Kazunari, Principal at Okayama Sanyo High School, said: "It can be frightening to drive MIRAI on a big street, especially when the speed goes over 40km/h because the road is very close to the driver's eye point. Also, you can feel afraid that you will be run over by other cars. So, we make it a rule, when we drive MIRAI on a busy street, to place a leading car to the front of MIRAI, and a guarding car in the rear."

The world renowned and celebrated annual, Guinness World Records 2013, contains the most comprehensive collection of superlatives from around the globe and beyond. To create this year's book, the Guinness World Records team traveled to the far corners of the Earth searching for the tallest, smallest, fastest, heaviest and more, packing in more 4,000 new records. A "must-have" for both knowledge-seekers and aspiring record-breakers of all ages, Guinness World Records 2013 is out now.

Want to driveanXF?

Jaguar MENAP Launches First Dedicated Twitter Campaign for Regional Fans



Luxury automotive manufacturer Jaguar has launched its first regional Twitter campaign this week challenging fans to compete for the chance to drive a Jaguar XF. The campaign, entitled #driveanXF will reward those with the most interesting and creative tweets with the chance to have the luxury sports saloon for 48 hours.

In a regional first for the brand, Jaguar launched the #driveanXF campaign as a fun and innovative way to generate buzz around the Jaguar XF, whilst engaging and rewarding its loyal Twitter followers in the region.

A saloon with the soul of a sports car, the XF has won over 100 international awards since launch for its dynamic abilities and dramatic looks, and continues to be Jaguar's best-selling model worldwide. The XF has also generated a loyal and enthusiastic fan base in the MENAP region, attracting those who appreciate the elegant, dynamic driving experience and contemporary luxury the car offers.

Jaguar Land Rover MENAP Managing Director Robin Colgan said, "We are constantly looking at new and innovative ways to engage with our customers and fans across the region. With the popularity of our award winning XF at an all-time high, what better way to do that than to give loyal fans the chance to experience this fantastic vehicle. I'm looking forward to seeing some of the creative tweets our regional fans come up with."

The campaign is open to residents in KSA, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the UAE who hold a valid driver's license. To enter, fans simply say why they want to #driveanXF, with the most creative and innovative Tweets chosen by Jaguar to win 48 hours with the XF. The best experiences will be captured and shared on the Jaguar Twitter channel as well as the brand's official blog, YouTube, Facebook and Flickr channels.





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The new GL 63 AMG

The perfect blend of Mercedes-AMG power, comfort, style and performance



A new heavy-weight champion of the road was crowned in August when the GL 63 AMG made its world premiere in Moscow. Emerging from the Mercedes-Benz Affalterbach performance division as the globe's most powerful SUV, the GL 63 AMG blasts from 0 to 100 km/h in just 4.9 seconds, hitting a top speed of 250 km/h (electronically limited). And in true Mercedes-AMG fashion, world leading performance is realised whilst combining compelling technologies with pure ride comfort, and striking, unmistakable design with an extensive range of standard equipment.

Floating like a supersonic butterfly and stinging like a sledgehammer, the heavy hitter's effortless superiority comes courtesy of the AMG 5.5-litre V8 biturbo engine, harnessing the power of 557 stampeding stallions with a maximum torque of 760 Nm. The AMG RIDE CONTROL sports suspension with ACTIVE CURVE SYSTEM roll stabilisation provides high-level driving dynamics and comfort synonymous with the three pointed star. "With the new GL 63 AMG, our all-wheel drive lineup is now complete. In addition to the ML 63 AMG all-rounder and the recently unveiled, iconic G 63 AMG and G 65 AMG models, the GL 63 AMG places particular emphasis on dynamism and style. Combining the first-rate comfort of the S-Class with the performance of an AMG sports saloon, the GL 63 AMG is unique in its segment," says Frank Bernthaler, Director, Sales and Marketing, Mercedes-Benz Cars, Middle East & Levant.

For AMG, the Mercedes-Benz performance brand, the Middle East market is very important. With its growth potential, it is a major element in the ambitious future strategy entitled "AMG Performance 50", leading up to the 50th anniversary of Mercedes-AMG GmbH.

Frank Bernthaler, said: "2012 is the year of the AMG and SUV for us. With the launch of the new ML 63 AMG, G 63 AMG, and upcoming GL 63 AMG, we are having a fantastic year to date. July sales for AMG rose 178% over the same month last year, with five times more people buying the newly launched 0-100km/h in 4.7sec ML 63 AMG. The relentless success of the G 55 AMG, G 63 AMG and G 65 AMG grew sales 65% month on month. When it arrives next year, the GL 63 AMG will become the powerhouse of our Mercedes-AMG SUV stable."



The new GL 63 AMG: Luxury and refinement, striking design, maximum safety and dynamism

The perfect base for characteristic AMG performance and a superior driving experience comes in the form of the AMG 5.5-litre V8 biturbo engine. A look at the technical data provides some powerful arguments. Peak output of 557 hp and maximum torque of 760 Nm results in first-class performance while NEDC fuel consumption comes in at 12.3 litres per 100 kilometres.

The AMG M 157 eight-cylinder engine features an innovative, high-tech power package including spray-guided direct petrol injection, piezo injectors, biturbo charging, air/water intercooling, all-aluminium crankcase, a four-valve-per-cylinder design with variable camshaft adjustment, plus alternator management and the ECO start/stop system.

Power is transmitted to all four permanently driven wheels by the AMG SPEEDSHIFT PLUS 7G-TRONIC. Featuring three modes and an automatic double-declutching function for downshifting, this seven-speed automatic transmission offers a fascinatingly broad scope of variability. In "Controlled Efficiency" (C) mode the ECO start/stop function is active, shutting down the eight-cylinder engine as soon as the vehicle comes to a standstill. "C" also stands for a gentle accelerator and transmission characteristic with early gear changes; start-up generally takes place in second gear here.

In the Sport (S) and Manual (M) driving programmes the ECO start/stop function is inactive and the engine-transmission combination displays far greater agility with more spontaneous responses. A brief and exactly defined retardation of ignition and injection during upshifting at full load additionally provides for shorter shift times and an acoustic experience.

Enhanced driving dynamics

Mercedes-AMG deploys a specially designed transfer case for the 4MATIC permanent all-wheel drive, which distributes the drive power to the front and rear axle at a ratio of 40:60 in the interests of dynamic handling. As if that were not enough, the AMG RIDE CONTROL sports suspension with AIRMATIC package – consisting of air suspension, special damper struts, automatic level control and Adaptive Damping System (ADS) – is combined with the ACTIVE CURVE SYSTEM for active roll stabilisation. This system, which comes as standard and is specific to AMG, employs active anti-roll bars on the front and rear axles to reduce the body's roll angle during cornering. Apart from enhanced agility and driving pleasure, the ACTIVE CURVE SYSTEM has the additional effect of increasing handling stability and therefore safety, particularly at higher speeds.

Roll stabilisation, damping and suspension adapt automatically to the prevailing driving situation, offering both optimum ride comfort and maximum stability. The GL 63 AMG driver is able to choose at the push of a button between the three suspension modes "Comfort", "Sport" and "Sport plus". The fully load-bearing air suspension system is speed-sensitive, lowering the body at higher speeds in order to minimise drag while increasing driving stability.

The AMG-specific elastokinematics at the front axle and the more robustly designed rear axle stabiliser bar are responsible for improved steering precision. The enhanced drive train delivers the best possible power transmission and hallmark Mercedes reliability. The 4ETS electronic traction control system which features as standard provides for optimised grip when friction coefficients vary. AMG speed-sensitive sports steering, AMG high-performance braking system

Electromechanical AMG speed-sensitive sports steering features variable power assistance which responds in accordance with the chosen suspension mode. It also helps to save fuel, as the steering assist function only requires energy when the driver actually moves the steering wheel. The AMG high-performance braking system provides for the shortest possible braking distances and high fade resistance with ventilated and perforated brake discs all-round in size 390 x 36 millimetres (front) and 345 x 26 millimetres (rear).

Performance-oriented design with masculine features

Striking, masculine, unmistakable: these attributes describe the design of the GL 63 AMG. Mercedes-AMG has enhanced the main stylistic features of the new GL – powerful dynamism and sporty elegance – using specific elements that emphasise the top V8 model's exceptional performance. The typically upright GL radiator grille with its central Mercedes star is adorned with high-gloss slats painted in black. AMG styling elements include the front apron with its large openings that ensure an effective air flow for the cooling modules. The bottom air intake takes the form of a typical AMG stylised "A" with a gap under the fine black fin through which air can flow optimally to the cooling modules – the perfect blend of design and high-tech. The trim insert in matt silver chrome installed under it creates a sense of width and coordinates optimally with the borders of the LED daytime running lamps in the side air openings.

The AMG front apron elegantly merges into the exclusive wheel-arch flaring. In order to accommodate the large 53.3 cm (21-inch) AMG light-alloy wheels with the wide-base 295 tyres, the flaring widens the vehicle by 22 millimetres on each side. From the side, observers will notice the V8 BITURBO logos on the wings and illuminated running boards with an aluminium finish. The rear wheel-arch flaring blends into the AMG rear apron which is again adorned with a striking trim insert in matt silver chrome and the suggestion of black air openings. Creating both a visual and acoustic highlight are the two chrome-plated, exposed twin tailpipes of the AMG sports exhaust system.

Exclusivity and dynamism dominate in the interior

Great attention to detail, excellent ergonomics and a generous amount of space available – exclusivity and dynamism also dominate in the interior of the GL 63 AMG. All seven seats in the high-performance SUV are covered in high-quality leather, as is the centre armrest. Electrically adjustable AMG sports seats feature double topstitching in a contrasting colour and AMG badges on the front seat backrests and outer rear seat backrests. The dashboard, armrests and door panelling come in ARTICO man-made leather with double topstitching. As part of the optional designo Exclusive package, these components can be covered in high-quality designo leather.

The AMG Performance 4-spoke steering wheel with perforated leather in the grip area, flattened bottom section on the steering wheel rim and aluminium shift paddles ensures optimal vehicle control. Four round instruments on the AMG instrument cluster provide the driver with information. The central colour TFT monitor incorporates the AMG welcome logo and AMG main menu.

The Middle East market launch of the new Mercedes-Benz GL 63 AMG is scheduled for Q1 2013.





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Rohlwing Named "Best Speaker of the Conference" at Intelligent Tire Technology Event in Germany

The Tire Industry Association (TIA) announced that Senior Vice President of Training Kevin Rohlwing was named "Best Speaker of the Conference" at the recently held Intelligent Tire Technology (ITT) Conference in Darmstadt, Germany on September 24-26, 2012. ITT Conference chairperson Dr. Klaudia Malowitz notified Rohlwing of the award the following week.

Held every year in Europe, the 8th annual ITT Conference featured a series of seminars on different topics related to technology the tire industry, including tire pressure monitoring systems (TPMS). Attendees range from European original equipment vehicle and tire companies to other overseas manufacturers and suppliers. Rohlwing's presentation focused on the last decade of TPMS in the automotive aftermarket in the US and also outlined future issues related to this technology. As the European Union (EU) starts phasing in TPMS over the next few years, the goal was to help attendees learn from the history of the technology in North America.

"It was an honor to be invited, but winning best speaker is even more rewarding because the attendees vote on the award. Given the amount of valuable information I learned from the other speakers, it's humbling to think my presentation was voted as the best," said Rohlwing. "It was a history of TPMS implementation in the US from the regulatory, original equipment, aftermarket and consumer perspectives. Every country in the EU is about to go through tremendous change in the automotive aftermarket, so I just did my best to help them prepare."

"We are very proud of Kevin and fortunate to have him on staff leading TIA's training efforts. His knowledge and experience have been incredibly valuable to our members and the industry in North America," said Larry Brandt, TIA President. "We anticipate the need for tire technician training in the EU to increase with the introduction of TPMS, so the ITT Conference and this award are a good start towards exploring how TIA's award-winning educational programs can be expanded outside of our traditional markets."

Ford's Most Powerful Mustang to Ride on Goodyear Eagles

Ford Motor Company made a long list of improvements to its newest rendition of the iconic Shelby GT500 – including an updated powertrain, brakes, gearing and suspension. But at least one thing hasn't changed; it still rolls on Goodyear Eagle F1 SuperCar G:2 tires.

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company has announced that its ultra-high performance tire was once again selected by Ford for the newest Shelby GT500.

According to Ford, the 2013 Shelby GT500 features the most powerful production V8 in the world – a 5.8-liter supercharged aluminum-block engine capable of producing 662 horsepower, 631 lb.-ft of torque and a top speed of more than 200 mph.

"With every Eagle high performance tire, Goodyear strives to stretch the boundaries of performance and innovation," said Garth Ely, Goodyear's director of brand marketing. "So it's a great feeling of validation when an expert like Ford chooses to equip its flagship high-performance model with Goodyear Eagles."

The Eagle F1 SuperCar G:2 builds upon Goodyear's continuously strong Eagle ultra-high performance platform. An asymmetric, directional tread design with massive tread blocks on the outboard shoulder help enhance dry cornering grip, while sweeping Aquachannel grooves on the inboard side of the tread help enhance wet cornering grip.

An innovative multi-radius mold shape offers precise handling and smooth, even wear. Even the appearance of the tire is important; a serrated band sidewall styling and distinctive lettering add to the overall ultra-performance look.

The race-inspired tire, tested on some of the most renowned road courses in North America, will appear on the 2013 Shelby GT 500 in sizes P265/40ZR19 (front) and P285/35ZR20 (rear).



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Bridgestone Displays Concept Tire of 100% Sustainable Materials at the 2012 Paris Motor Show

Bridgestone Corporation announced that the exhibition of a concept tire of "100% sustainable materials*1" at the 2012 Paris Motor Show,*2. The tire on exhibit represents an example of Bridgestone's use of advanced materials technologies to achieve the commitment of using "100% sustainable materials" in its tire manufacturing for 2050 and beyond.

The development of the concept tire is the result of collaborative efforts with a number of resources, including academia. In order to achieve the level of "100% sustainable materials", Bridgestone is diversifying the regions where it produces natural rubber and also expanding the range of reinforced plant fibers it uses. Additionally, fossil resource based components such as synthetic rubber, carbon black and rubber compounding agents in the tire were synthesized from biomass.



Bridgestone concept tire of "100% sustainable materials"

As a next step in the process, the Bridgestone Group will establish a framework of research and development and initiate the necessary core technologies to begin mass production. Further, Bridgestone is targeting the year 2020 for commercial sales of certain sustainable materials used in the manufacturing process.

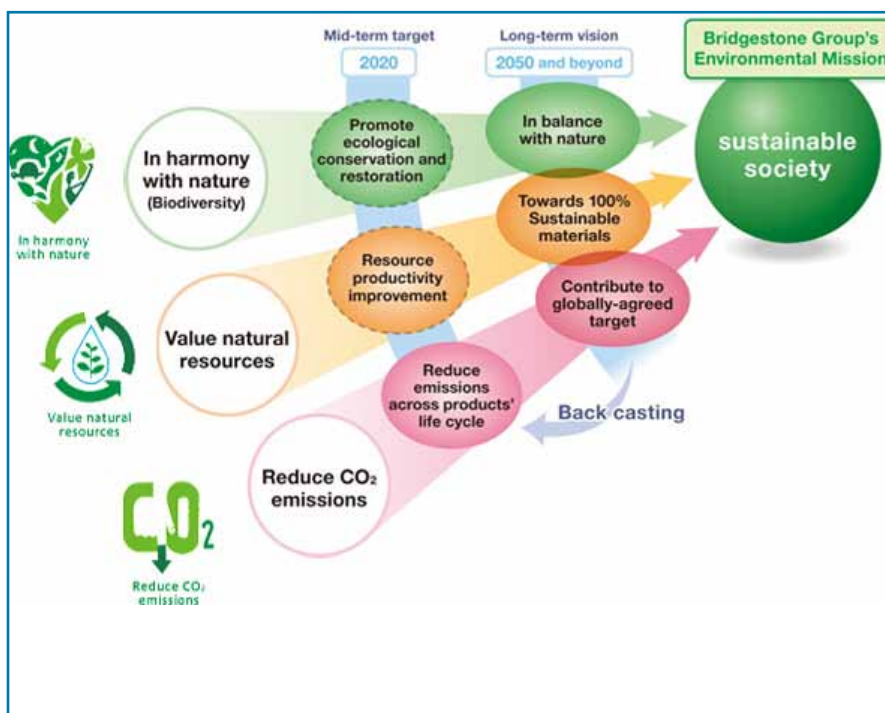
The transportation sector (automobiles, tires, etc.) has a significant impact on the environment, particularly in terms of resource consumption and CO₂ emissions. As the world's largest tire and rubber manufacturer, the Bridgestone Group is working to contribute to the realization of a sustainable society while providing a constant and reliable supply of advanced and high-quality products to meet the needs of our customers around the world.

To fulfill its mission, the Global Bridgestone Group has established long-term environmental vision (see 1 as below). The Group has established the usage of "100% sustainable materials" as an initiative to make full use of its technological and product development capabilities. Accomplishing this will require progress specifically in the areas of expanding or diversifying renewable resources. With respect to this progress, the Bridgestone Group previously announced a number of initiatives.*3 By implementing plans to achieve the use of "100% sustainable materials", the Bridgestone Group will be able to offer its customers high quality products on a perpetual basis since the products will be sustainable from a business and environmental standpoint.

Details are as follows.

1. Long-term Environmental Vision and Use of "100% Sustainable Materials"

Development of a concept tire of "100% sustainable materials" is an example of Bridgestone's use of advanced materials technologies to achieve the commitment of using "100% sustainable materials" in its tire manufacturing for 2050 and beyond, and is a critical initiative in contributing to the realization of a sustainable society.



2. Main Materials in the Concept Tire of "100% Sustainable Materials"

Today	Sustainable Materials		
Natural Rubber from Para Rubber Tree	Expand the range of renewable resources	Conventional Natural Rubber + Guayule	 Guayule grown in arid regions will diversify the source of natural rubber.
Rayon (Reinforcing Fiber)		Rayon + New Cellulosic Fiber	 General grade pulp can produce the new fibers, resulting in more suppliability.
Synthetic Rubber from Petroleum	Replace fossil resources with renewable materials	Synthetic Rubber from Biomass	 Butadiene from bioethanol
Rubber Materials from Petroleum		Rubber Materials from Biomass	 Curing agent and anti-aging chemical from biomass
Filler from Petroleum and Coal		Filler from Biomass	 Reinforcing carbon black from vegetable fats and oils

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NEW YORK CITY SEES MORE STARS AS MICHELIN RELEASES ITS FAMED GUIDE TO THE CITY'S BEST RESTAURANTS

New York City's culinary scene shines bright with a record number of coveted Michelin stars and nearly 900 restaurants recognized for excellence and quality

In the latest edition of the highly anticipated MICHELIN Guide New York City 2013, a record 66 restaurants have been awarded Michelin stars.

All seven restaurants who achieved Michelin's three star distinction in 2012 maintained top honors. Three Michelin stars is considered the utmost international recognition in the culinary world. One restaurant joined the ranks of the two-starred establishments, atera in Tribeca, for a total of seven in this category. Fifty-two restaurants earned one Michelin star, including nine newcomers.

Inclusion in the MICHELIN Guide is an acknowledgment of culinary excellence and quality. In fact, 896 restaurants across the five boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx and Staten Island were included in the selection this year, compared to 805 in 2012. Among them, MICHELIN Guide inspectors included 61 different cuisines, a testament to the culinary diversity found in New York City.

The release of the MICHELIN Guide New York City 2013 comes one week after Michelin announced the 126 restaurants who earned the distinction of Bib Gourmand. These restaurants offer two courses plus a glass of wine or dessert for \$40 or less (excluding tax and gratuity) and are known as the Michelin inspector's favorites for good value.

In the U.S., New York is one of three cities where Michelin publishes an annual guide. The seventh edition of the MICHELIN Guide San Francisco Bay Area & Wine Country 2013 was introduced October 24, and the MICHELIN Guide Chicago 2013 will be announced on November 13.

The eighth edition of the MICHELIN Guide New York City 2013 went on sale Wednesday, October 3, at \$18.99.

Michelin has done as much to enhance mobility as any company in the world. The company patented the pneumatic, or air-filled, tire in the late 1800s. This was

a milestone moment in mobility, permitting automobile owners to travel at great length in a single journey. Then, in an effort to prompt travelers to enjoy their newfound mobility, the company created guides and detailed maps to steer travelers on their way. The most famous publication that developed from this is the internationally recognized MICHELIN Guide.

Thanks to the rigorous MICHELIN Guide selection process that is applied independently and consistently around 23 countries, the MICHELIN Guide has become an international benchmark in fine dining. The selections of all restaurants in the guide are made by Michelin's famously anonymous inspectors who dine across New York City regularly. These local inspectors are trained to scrupulously apply the same time-tested methods used by Michelin inspectors for many decades throughout the world. This ensures a uniform, international standard of excellence. As a further guarantee of complete objectivity, Michelin inspectors pay all their bills in full.



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Fontijne Grotnes expands with acquisition of Ghyselink NV



In July 2012 Fontijne Grotnes has taken over the Belgian company Ghyselink NV. The Belgian company from Zedelgem has more than 55 years of experience in the development and manufacturing of automatic tire and wheel assembly lines. The activities will continue under the new name Fontijne Ghyselink BV. This new company combines the forces of two technology leaders and will serve the automotive world in an advanced way.

The Belgian company focused mainly on the Western European market, in which they established an excellent reputation in the past few decades. The current customer base includes automotive manufacturers, like Volkswagen, Renault and Peugeot, tire and wheel manufacturers like Pirelli, Michelin and Continental and service centers (tire fitting stations).

Ghyselink NV will be incorporated as a separate product market combination (PMC) "Tire and Wheel Assembly Lines" and will operate under the name Fontijne Ghyselink BV. The acquisition means a important expansion of the existing product portfolio of Fontijne Grotnes.

"With the acquisition we optimize our product portfolio," says the three-member board of Fontijne Grotnes. The acquisition provides a positive outlook for Fontijne Ghyselink BV: "Fontijne Grotnes has a good market position, skilled and enthusiastic staff, a worldwide agency network and offers Global Services. With the new management Fontijne Ghyselink BV will create new opportunities and reinforce the market position".

The sales and production activities of Fontijne Ghyselink BV will be coordinated from the new office in Oostende, Belgium and from its headquarters in Vlaardingen, The Netherlands. The former staff of Ghyselink NV is adopted in the new company. The management of Fontijne Ghyselink BV will be formed by the present management of Fontijne Grotnes.

Bridgestone Unveils 100% Sustainable Tire Concept and New Fuel Efficient - AA -rated Tire, Ecopia E



Bridgestone exhibits innovative concept tire at the 2012 Paris Motor Show to highlight their ongoing commitment to sustainability

Paris Motor Show – Bridgestone will exhibit a concept tire of "100% sustainable materials" at the 2012 Paris Motor Show as part of a new initiative to encourage sustainability.

Bridgestone Corporation, the world's largest tire manufacturer, is diversifying the regions where it produces natural rubber and also expanding the range of reinforced plant fibers it uses. Additionally, fossil resource based components such as synthetic rubber, carbon black and rubber compounding agents in the tire were synthesized from biomass.

As a next step in the process for productivity improvement, Bridgestone will initiate the technologies to begin mass production of these sustainable, quality tires. Their target – that sustainable material tires should be commercially available from 2050.

In addition, Bridgestone Europe have also announced it will introduce an "AA"-rated tire on 1st October 2012, the Ecopia EP001S – the industry's first tire to be awarded two A grades in both fuel efficiency and wet grip in the new EU tire labelling system, both in Japan and Europe.

The new EU tire labelling initiative – to be launched November 1st this year - aims to allow drivers to make more informed decisions when purchasing tires based on fuel efficiency and reduce emissions across the products lifetime cycle.

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GEMBALLA and Vredestein join forces to create the ultimate winter tire package

Some automotive legends are familiar to enthusiasts all over the world: The cars created by GEMBALLA fall into this category. Made in Leonberg, Germany, GEMBALLA cars have fascinated car lovers with their unique design and advanced technology for more than 30 years. To allow people to enjoy these cars throughout the year, a partnership has been formed with winter tire specialist Vredestein. The result is the ultimate winter tyre package.

The distinctive GEMBALLA style is visually tailored to each model, and technical modifications are made to match. "To fully understand our unique cars requires more than just seeing them – you also have to feel how they drive," says Andreas Schwarz, CEO of GEMBALLA. "Our motto is 'no compromise', and that applies equally to aesthetics and technical solutions."

GEMBALLA cars have always been among the fastest of their kind. Engine and exhaust upgrades are designed to maximise the inherent potential and performance of the base engines. 'Aspire to reach the peak but don't go over the top' is the GEMBALLA approach, with an emphasis on long-term reliability.

To ensure that GEMBALLA customers can enjoy their cars throughout the year, a solution needed to be found regarding winter tires. A partnership was formed with specialist Vredestein and the ultimate winter tire package was created. A tire that can perform as a winter tire on snow and ice, handles well on dry roads and is able to cope with speeds of up to 300 km/h. In short, the Wintrac Nextreme SUV.

GEMBALLA AERO 1, 2 and TORNADO

After extensive testing by Andreas Schwarz himself, the Vredestein Wintrac Nextreme SUV was approved on GEMBALLA's most powerful SUVs: The AERO 1, 2 and TORNADO. The AERO 1 and 2 are based on the Porsche Cayenne 958 and, like all GEMBALLA aerodynamic components, are made of light and strong carbon fibre. They fit onto the original mounting points of the donor car. The extra lightweight GEMBALLA GT Forged wheels build on the company's light construction philosophy.

The GEMBALLA TORNADO transforms its base car the Porsche Cayenne 958, with its impressive 721 hp and extensive upgrades to the braking system, engine and interior, into a truly incredible car. Combined with Vredestein Wintrac Nextreme SUV tires, it can now be driven safely even in winter conditions.

Wintrac Nextreme SUV

The Wintrac Nextreme SUV has a flowing, fan-shaped tread reminiscent of the Vredestein Ultrac Sessanta, the summer tire designed by Giugiaro that helped place Vredestein firmly on the map as a designer tire brand. The Wintrac Nextreme SUV is the first complete tire with tread and sidewall integrated within a single design. The smooth and undulating style of the tread is in stark contrast to the sipes and blocks, which provide grip and exude sturdiness and strength, seamlessly flowing into the sidewall design. Regardless of how aesthetically pleasing the tire is, however, its essence as a safety product has been entirely preserved.

Sophisticated Sipe Design

The Nextreme tread is equipped with a Sophisticated Sipe Design (SSD), which translates into a highly intelligent composition – 0.6 mm sipes in a wide central area are placed at right angles to the direction of travel. This provides more traction in the main contact surface on snowy roads, allowing improved steering precision. The sipes on the inner and outer shoulder are 0.5 mm thick, positioned diagonally, and have a

zigzag shape. This is especially beneficial on bends due to the greater block rigidity. The zigzag shape of the sipes also features in the lateral grooves to ensure a safe performance on slippery surfaces. The ends of the sipes are shallower, increasing the stability of the shoulder blocks without influencing performance in winter.

Tire construction

The Wintrac Nextreme SUV has a very even surface pressure distribution on roads, which is essential to its performance. The ideal combination of tyre construction and contours gives a contact footprint that combats aquaplaning and promotes an even wear pattern. The intelligent footprint and extra robust belt also ensure exceptional handling and steering precision. The excellent performance at high speeds can be attributed to the two-layer spiral wound nylon overhead.

Size range

The Wintrac Nextreme SUV is available in the following sizes:

275/40 R 20 106 Y XL
295/40 R 20 110 Y XL
295/35 R 21 107 Y XL
295/30 R 22 103 Y XL

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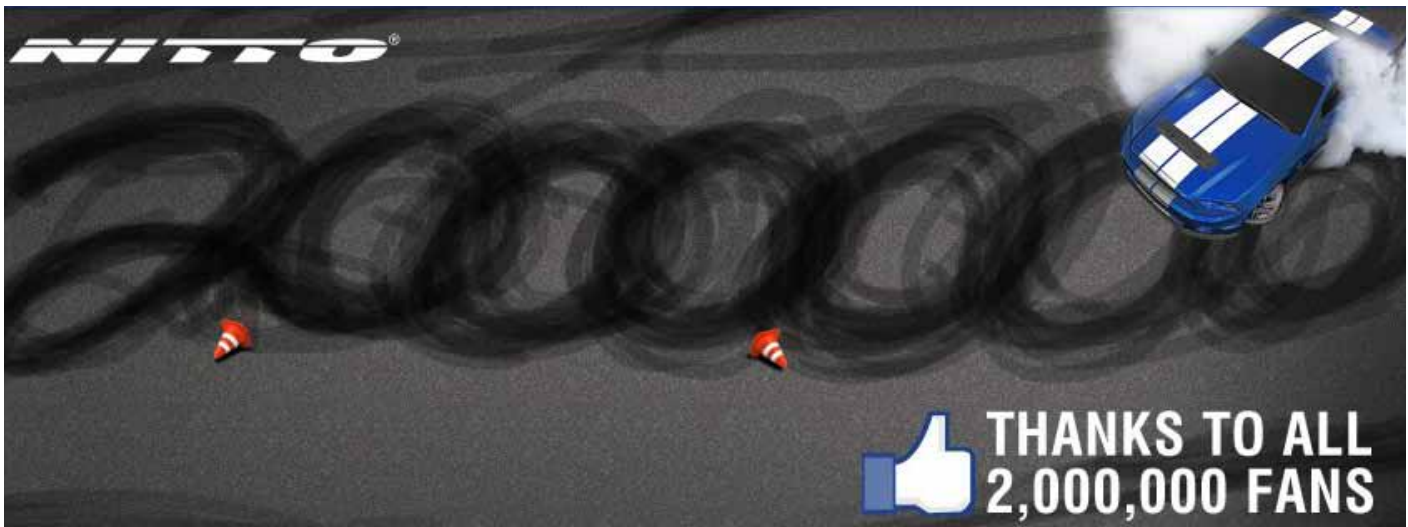


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NITTO TIRE REACHES TWO MILLION FACEBOOK FANS

Nitto Tire, a leading producer of high performance tires, announced a huge social media milestone: the company reached two million fans on its Facebook page, continuing its reign as a leading social media presence in the automotive and tire industries. The achievement immediately follows Nitto securing five 2012 Impact Awards, claiming the most nods for digital marketing, more than any other organization in the entire program.

"We are thrilled to reach this social media milestone and prove our leadership in the digital and content marketing space," said Tomo Mizutani, president of Nitto Tire U.S.A. Inc. "We are so thankful for our loyal fans and are constantly striving to improve our products and celebrate our customers to show our appreciation."

Nitto more than doubled its Facebook fan base in less than a year, having garnered its first million fans in December 2011. In terms of Facebook fans, Nitto not only surpasses other tire companies, but also supersedes car companies such as Ford, Toyota and Nissan and behind the likes of Honda and Mercedes Benz. The unparalleled achievement confirms Nitto's tremendous popularity among enthusiasts, as well as the company's commitment to utilizing Facebook as a fan engagement tool.

Nitto continues to engage with fans through the use of compelling vehicle photography, videos and unique promotions that stay true to the company's enthusiast roots. As a "thank you" to its 2 million fans, Nitto today unveils a celebratory video that highlights some of the most exciting and engaging topics discussed on its fan page. Nitto also debuts a new Facebook fan appreciation contest. This November, Nitto will fly one lucky fan to Los Angeles for a once-in-a-lifetime drifting lesson with professional Formula Drift driver, Matt Powers, and electronic dance DJ and producer, Steve Aoki. The winner will be announced at this year's SEMA show, the largest automotive tradeshow in the country.

DOUBLE COIN TO DEBUT THREE NEW PRODUCTS AT THE 2012 SEMA SHOW

Double Coin Tires and China Manufacturers Alliance, LLC (CMA), a leading tire manufacturer and marketer will announce the unveiling of three new products at this year's Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) Show in Las Vegas, Nevada.

In addition to the introduction of these new products, CMA will display one of the company's giant off-the-road mining tires, the Double Coin REM-11 40.00R57 E4. The 40.00R57 stands almost 12 feet tall and is the latest addition to the Double Coin giant radial off-the-road series that includes other 57", 51", and 49" rim diameter mining tires. "As a global tire manufacturer and on our 15 year anniversary of exhibiting at one of the industry's biggest trade shows, we're proudly showcasing select products and unveiling our new generation of tires," said Aaron C. Murphy, Vice President of CMA. "It's been a positive year for us, and we are continuing to expand our offerings to meet growing and changing market requirements."

Announcing exclusively at SEMA, CMA will introduce three new truck tires for the North American market. All three tires will be on display at SEMA in Booth #40177 located in the Global Tire Expo section.

HANKOOK EXPAND R&D CAPACITIES IN EUROPE



Premium tyre manufacturer Hankook continues to expand its research and development efforts in Europe. The company's German-based Europe Technical Centre (ETC) officially inaugurated its new facilities in Hannover last month. Hankook's European R&D centre focuses on the development of bespoke tyre 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 will further strengthen the company's footprint in the European tire market.

Founded in 1997, the Hankook ETC has seen steady growth in the past fifteen years, expanding manpower and development capacities from an original staff of five to currently 45 engineers and tyre specialists. "The new location and additional capacities of our Europe Technical Centre are in line with the continuous growth Hankook sees in Europe," explains Stefan Fischer, Head of ETC at Hankook Tire. "The steadily increasing numbers of development projects for the European original equipment and replacement market ask for a corresponding expansion of development capacities. The decision for our new facilities in Hannover is a decisive step in our long-term expansion strategy as the grounds in Hannover have been tailored to the needs of our R&D specialists and offer additional office capacities of up to 70 percent. This of course offers new possibilities and clearly signals a long-term investment."



Did you know? Overheating tires could lead to drastic reduction in their lifespan. The major causes for heat build up may result from speeding, sudden braking, high loads and aggressive driving.

In case of long distance driving, it is recommended to take a rest once every 2 hours for about 15 mins. to cool off your tires.

And always remember to drive safe!

The focal point of Hankook's Hannover-based Europe Technical Centre is the development of original equipment tires for passenger cars, SUVs and Light Trucks. Premium quality is the basis for successful OE partnerships. The increasing number of OE supplies to leading European car manufacturers such as Audi, BMW, Ford and VW provide evidence of the growing recognition Hankook enjoys among car manufacturers across Europe and worldwide. In keeping with the company's core principle to provide drivers with technological excellence and premium quality in tires, Hankook continually invests in research and development to provide their customers with the very latest Hankook tire technologies in terms of safety, driving characteristics, comfort and environmental friendliness.

In keeping with this philosophy the new facilities in Hannover set new standards of their own with regard to environmental friendliness and energy balance: A photovoltaic system installed on the building's roof allows for CO₂-neutral operations.

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Mr. Sami Nader, GM AWRT and Mr. Sandeep Gulati VP Exports of CEAT along with the tire sales team of AWRT who successfully carried out 9 months testing of CEAT Radial Tires in UAE. Thereafter 12.00R24 was officially unveiled for sale in the United Arab Emirates.

AWRT OFFICIALLY LAUNCHES CEAT RADIAL TIRES IN UAE



Mr. Michel Ayat, CEO, AWRT

AW Rostamani Trading Co. LLC officially launched CEAT Radial Tires in UAE, in association with CEAT Limited, on 15th October 2012, where 250 preferred customers and dealers attended the launch.

Strength is one of the most important attributes of CEAT products. CEAT commitment to quality ensures that customers have a safe ride, always. All CEAT Tires undergo thorough quality control testing at state-of-the-art production plants, before being shipped to different countries. CEAT produces more than 6 million tires every year. CEAT takes special measures to insure to deploy best processes and practices.

The newly launched tire was the CEAT 12.00 R 24 PRO S10 20PR TT, which is a 20 PR tire, designed for all axels of trucks & trailers. Its authentic construction and robust tread design ensure optimal ON and OFF road driving performance. Deep transversal grooves provide reliable grip and lateral stability in severe driving conditions.

Also the CEAT 315/80 R22.5 18PR PRO S10, was launched, which is an 18 PR tire designed for all axels of trucks & trailers. This tire has been tested in extreme operating conditions and the results were incredible.



Mr. MK Rajkumar Director AWRT

Maxxis International to set up Asia TBR Education Centre in Penang

Taiwan's Cheng Shin Rubber Ind. Co., Ltd., MAXXIS International (MAXXIS) has announced that it will work with Kian Hon Tires Sdn. Bhd. (Kian Hon) to establish the MAXXIS Asia Education Centre for truck and bus radial tires (TBR) in Penang, Malaysia.

MAXXIS, a company with an annual turnover of USD 4.3 billion, and Kian Hon, a reputable local partner with more than 30 years' experience in the tyre industry, plan to offer leading-edge training programmes at the new centre.

Kian Hon was selected for this new venture because of its remarkable performance and aggressive expansion plans for its retreading plant. Housed at Kian Hon's new building in Nibong Tebal, the MAXXIS Asia TBR Education Centre will feature state-of-the-art infrastructure and first-class equipment.

The centre will help MAXXIS' Asian members upgrade their TBR professional knowledge through regular interactive training and information on the industry's best practices. The programmes will be conducted by specialists, engineers and trained speakers.

Kian Hon will also take this opportunity to expand its Green Earth Mission, which involves streamlining its retreading operations and improving its facilities, thus providing a total business solution to its clients.

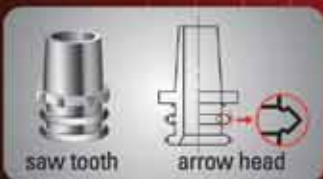
With the full support and involvement of MAXXIS, Kian Hon will construct a tread rubber production line and will expand its retreading plant in Penang, Malaysia, increasing the plant's production to 120,000 retreaded tires annually at full capacity. Retreading plants in Indonesia and the Philippines will be set up by local MAXXIS partners with the assistance of Kian Hon by 2013. The MAXXIS family and Kian Hon believe in the importance of optimising the use of raw materials, and in providing sustainable and cost-saving solutions for fleet users. This collaborative effort will constitute a total investment of USD 20 million.

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KUMHO REVERSE BELT TECHNOLOGY FOR DOWN UNDER



Kumho has launched a new tire which has been designed and engineered specifically for Australian roads and conditions with Holden selecting the new KH17 as original equipment on its popular Cruze, manufactured in Adelaide.

Kumho has re-engineered the Solus KH17 design to achieve better handling and wear on Australian roads, using 'reverse belt' technology

According to Kumho Tires Australia, managing director, Mr Ki Young Kim, the reverse belt Solus KH17 was developed specifically with the Australian market in mind.

"The majority of our tire range has been designed with a global outlook where most cars drive on the right hand side of the road," said Mr Kim.

"We set out with the reverse belt Solus KH17 to create a tires that handles and rides better given the difference in road crown and the way a car tracks in our unique conditions down under, where driving on the left hand side of the road presents unique challenges," he said.

"There are factors which can cause a car to pull to one side and by adopting different manufacturing techniques, Kumho has been able to lessen the effects of vehicle pull caused by tires on our roads."

"Kumho is a significant player in Australia and tailoring tires specifically for local conditions is confirmation of our commitment to this important market," he added.

The success of the Solus KH17 lies in the internal construction of the tire and the layering of the belts. By reversing the direction of the grain of the belt, the tire's key performance characteristics including its 'conicity' and 'PRAT' can be changed to compensate for the direction of camber on Australian roads.

PRAT, or Plysteer Residual Aligning Torque is the relationship between the lateral force of the tire and the self-aligning moment of the tire while conicity is the difference in lateral forces of clockwise and counter clockwise rotations.

A range of different factors can cause a car to deviate off course, however most of these are to do with the mechanics of the car or external factors, such as wind or the crown of the road, but PRAT and Conicity are parameters caused by tires.

Factors such as tire profile, groove design, tread pattern and internal belts all contribute to PRAT.

"By changing the internal construction, Kumho has made the Solus KH17 an even better choice for Australian consumers," added Mr Kim.

"We are proud to be OE fitment on one of Australia's most popular cars as a result of the developments we have made for the Australian market and being selected as original equipment is confirmation that Kumho is now a trusted and accepted brand down under," he said.

New Infinity Logo, Same Infinity Values



Following several years of exceptional momentum, Infinity Tires is now well established within the European tire market.

The Infinity brand is already synonymous with outstanding value, technical innovation and world-class branding support. The next step to strengthen Infinity's identity is to unveil the engine behind the brand – the Al Dobowi Group. That is the essence of Infinity's latest marketing development, which now displays the tag line: 'Infinity. Powered by Al Dobowi'.

Al Dobowi is Infinity's parent company which, having been founded twenty six years ago in Dubai to serve the growing tire and automotive needs of the Middle East, is now a multinational operation with branches worldwide. Today, the Al Dobowi Group is a leading global player in the tire sector, offering its clients unique solutions and dedicated to the highest level of customer satisfaction in every aspect. The Group's automotive product range not only includes 'cradle to grave' tire solutions but also now encompasses batteries, lubricants and technical rubber products.

The Al Dobowi name translates from Arabic to English as 'the man from Dubai', and refers directly to its founder and Chairman Mr. Surender Kandhari, who created the company in 1976 after relocating to the United Arab Emirates from his native India to realise a vision of an international tire and automotive business dedicated to service excellence.

The reasoning behind the change, as Mr. Nigel Hampson, Head of Business Development for Infinity Tyres, explained, is to "increase the recognition of our parent company, Al Dobowi, and the values the company embodies as a long-term, reliable and 100% customer-focussed organisation. The Infinity brand delivers more than simply a great product at a competitive price and so emphasising the link to Al Dobowi's constant focus on service and customer satisfaction is designed to strengthen the Infinity brand strength even further!"

YOKOHAMA's Nursing-Care Product Receives Good Design Award for 2012



The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd., announced that its air-cell cushion for wheelchairs, the "Medi-Air Sky," have received the Good Design Award 2012 in Japan.

Over seven consecutive years starting in 2006, YOKOHAMA has received Good Design Awards for nine of its tire, golf and nursing-care products, and also for its "BluEarth concept," an engineering philosophy for Environmental, Human and Socially Friendly tires.

The "Medi-Air Sky" is an air-cell cushion for wheelchairs with easy air adjustment, assuring safety, comfort and confidence. A built-in sensor detects that the cushion is almost completely compressed and the user is alerted to inflate the air manually. In addition, air cells are controlled in two groups, right and left, along with larger cells positioned at the edges to ensure a stable sitting position. This facilitates individual adjustment for maximum stability. The result is comfortable sitting in a stable position. Improvements to the already established advantages of using air cells include enhanced body stability, precise adjustment of amount of air by a manual pump, and alerts to prevent bottoming out, and all have been highly evaluated. Medi-Air Sky is currently sold in the Japanese market only.

YOKOHAMA has received Good Design Awards in multiple areas. Recognized tires are the eco "DNA series," which received the first ecology design award in the tire industry, in 2002; the "ADVAN dB" premium comfort tire, in 2009; the "BluEarth AE-01" standard fuel-efficient tire, in 2010; and the "ZEN 903ZW" studless tire for trucks and buses, in 2011. In addition to tire products, the "BluEarth concept" and the company's tire pressure monitoring system, golf products (set of clubs, balls and bag) and the nursing-care product the "Medi-Air," an air-cell cushion for wheelchairs with an automatic pressure-relief function, were previously given awards.

Sponsored by the Japan Institute of Design Promotion, the Good Design Award is a comprehensive program of evaluating and advocating design. Many overseas as well as domestic companies and organizations now participate in the program. The award-winning products are entitled to use the "G Mark" as a symbol of excellent design.

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EVENT	DATE	INFORMATION	LOCATION
Essen Motor Show	01-09 Dec 2012	This is one huge platform for nearly all categories related to the automobile industry and the allied sectors to bring out the newest and the most innovative range of products and services before the commercial buyers...	Essen, Germany
Transmission Expo	04-05 Dec 2012	This is a perfect amalgamation of tradeshow and conference where attendees will get ample opportunity as well as advice on various articles and products like chemicals, MagnetAssemblies, Variable Reluctance Resolvers, Encoders, gear tooth forming, grinding etc...	Berlin, Germany
Otomotiv	06-09 Dec 2012	OTOMOTIV is the 18th edition of this famous trade fair series that will take place at CNR Expo Center. The event will act as the perfect showcase of the automobile industry for all the major players and decision makers...	Istanbul, Turkey
Africa International Engineering & Technology Fair	06-07 Dec 2012	The Expo aims to display to Kenya and the other African countries the major accomplishments and strengths Indian and other Asian companies have achieved in the fields of engineering, technology, manufacturing and services...	Nairobi, Kenya
Model Tampa Bay International Auto Show	01-03 Dec 2012	Tampa Bay International Auto Show a mega show of automobile first time of its own in USA. Model Tampa Bay International Auto Show 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	Tampa, United States Of America
Motor Show-Bologna	01-03 Dec 2012	Motor Show-Bologna occupies the pride of place as the sole automobile sector trade shows in Italy. The show enjoys a high degree of popularity among visiting participants, with millions thronging to the show at its previous editions...	Bologna, Italy

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EVENT	DATE	INFORMATION	LOCATION
Cycle World International Motorcycle Show-Long Beach	07-09 Dec 2012	This show will showcasing manufacturers of Motorcycles, scooters, light motorcycles, mopeds, motors-assisted bicycles, special motorcycle fittings and structures, motorcycles with sidecars, clothing, Tyre, helmets and many more...	Long Beach, United States Of America
Automechanika Shanghai	11-14 Dec 2012	Automechanika Shanghai is the largest automobile show where the interior items and automotive parts are designed and put in together by the renowned engineers of the leading companies. In 2011, the show has served a mixture of more than 61178 local and foreign traders coming from 131 countries and they were welcomed by over 3619 exhibitors from 36 various countries of the world...	Shanghai, China
Motor Show Oman	11-14 Dec 2012	Motor Show-Oman is the flagship event for the Oman motor industry. The show offers a line-up of all new, re-designed or upgraded production models and concept cars from around the world. Profile for exhibit include Luxury Cars, Passenger Cars, Specialist Vehicles, Motorcycles, Scooters and Mopeds, and off-road vehicles .etc..	Venray, The Netherlands
Auto & Truck Expo	13-16 Dec 2012	Automobile: Auto & Truck Expo is going to be the perfect testimony to the growing needs automobile industry as this platform will exhibit most advance products and services which will boost the automobile and other correlated sectors...	Bogra, Bangladesh
India Auto Fair Gurgaon	14-16 Dec 2012	India Auto Fair Gurgaon will take place in Gurgaon, India for a period of three days. This trade show is vital and proves to be beneficial for the vehicle manufacturing companies. By attending this expo they will get a scope to adopt the modern techniques which helps them to expand their business and to promote their company to a higher level...	Gurgaon, India



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AROUND IT GOES 110 YEARS OF THE SPEEDOMETER

Be it by land, water or air, when people travel, they also want to know how fast they are going. To do so in a car, the driver simply looks at the speedometer. It is considered to have been born in 1902, because October 7 of that year was when engineer Otto Schulze registered the eddy-current speedometer at the Imperial Patent Office in Berlin. The ground-breaking invention at the time quickly spread through the global automotive industry. Today, as was the case then, speedometers in the actual sense of the term are rev counters, which show the number of revolutions of the wheel or the gear shaft as a distance per unit of time. "Nowadays, at a time when we travel at 100 km/h or faster on a daily basis, the idea behind the speedometer is even more relevant than when it was first invented, when most motorized vehicles had a top speed of just 30 km/h. The speedometer is necessary, because although humans with their vestibular system can perceive positive or negative acceleration, they are not so perceptive at constant speeds," explains Eelco Spoelder, head of the Instrumentation & Driver HMI business unit at Continental. "Anyone who, after driving on the highway for a while, has turned off into a 30 km/h zone and noticed how difficult it is to gauge the speed properly will be familiar with this," Spoelder adds. People rely on aids to give them reliable information about speed. Rev counters or fuel-level displays, acoustic or optical parking assist, blind spot assist and radar systems help whenever the driver needs precise information, but can only make a rough estimate themselves.

From eddy currents and stepper motors: That is how the needle moves

From the first eddy-current speedometers to the instruments of today, technology has made great progress. "The most noteworthy is the development from the mechanical-electromagnetic function principle to mechatronic or purely electronic systems,"

describes Spoelder. In Otto Schulze's eddy-current speedometer, a flexible shaft transmits the number of revolutions of the wheel or gear shaft to the speedometer and sets a magnet in rotation there. This rotation generates eddy currents in a metal disk, which is located over the magnet and is penetrated by its magnetic field. The reaction between the magnetic field and the eddy currents creates a torque which moves the disk in one direction. In order for the instrument's indicator to show the correct speed value, a calibrated spring holds the disk against the torque of the magnetic field. Today, however, rev counters and speedometers are based on electronics, from the sensors to the indicators. "In most vehicles, the driving force behind the speedometer and rev counter needle is a stepper motor," says Spoelder. The stepper motor moves the speedometer needle by a minimal angle (step) or by a multiple thereof. The smaller the step length, the more precise the movement of the speedometer needle. Microcontrollers convert the signals from the speed sensor on the wheel into the necessary steps of the stepper motor.

Round instruments and variable monitors: Ergonomics determines development

The type of indication does not differ much from the first speedometers 110 years ago, in terms of the main aspects. Even though the first fully digital LCD display appeared in 1986 in the Volkswagen Golf II GTI, drivers in the cockpits of most cars still look at a needle that moves on a round scale and indicates the speed or number of revs. "The fact that speedometers and rev counters are usually round is largely for ergonomic reasons. Round instruments can be read intuitively. The driver doesn't need to concentrate much, can focus their attention on the road and still obtains the most important information," says Spoelder. That is why instruments such as the speedometer, the



rev counter, the tank display and the most important warning lights are all kept together within the driver's direct field of vision (of around 30 degrees), usually in an instrument panel behind the steering wheel. The instrument panel is supported by a head-up display, which shows driving-relevant information in the driver's direct field of vision, as if floating above the hood. Displays such as the radio, internal temperature or navigation, which are not of primary relevance to the task of driving, are ultimately part of the infotainment area and are available to the driver in the center console display. However, there is a trend towards more infotainment in the automotive industry, which is calling for new strategies. "A strict separation between driving-relevant information in the instrument panel and infotainment in the center console is almost no longer possible today, when in addition to radio, navigation and cell phones we also have the Internet coming into the car," says Spoelder. The more infotainment available to the driver in the center console, the greater the risk of visual distraction. To prevent this, Continental is investing in a concept that displays the most important information in the instrument panel, according to the situation, and thereby supports the driver. This is made possible by ever better display technologies and graphics processors. Mid-range and luxury vehicles in particular, often have instrument panels designed for further information with a mixture of analog instruments such as the

speedometer and rev counter, and screens. Special graphics processors today allow full-color animated graphics to be displayed in the instrument panel. With today's graphics processors, even fluid and delay-free animations already succeed in fulfilling the special requirements in the vehicle. As such, full-color displays can even perform the tasks of traditional analog instruments. The entire instrument panel then consists of a single screen with a diagonal measurement of up to 31 centimeters (12.3 inches). "With a freely programmable instrument panel, the display possibilities are virtually endless, like on a computer screen or television. An idea from ergonomics plays a fundamental role in this: The larger the freely definable area of the display, the better we can show content according to the situation," explains Eelco Spoelder. For example, the driver can determine whether assistance systems, such as a Top View 360-degree view, go to the center of the display, if for example they make a greater contribution to driving safety than speedometers or rev counters in the given driving situation. "The variability of future displays will allow ever more complex content to be easily and comprehensively displayed in the vehicle of the future," says Spoelder.



New Tamper-Evident Sleeves Prevent Refrigerant Cross-Contamination in Automotive A/C Systems



Tracer Products has introduced the Tracerline® TP-30 Tamper-Evident Sleeves, specially designed to prevent refrigerant cross-contamination in automotive A/C systems and recovery equipment.

Using the sleeves is a win/win situation for both the vehicle owner and the service technician. For the owner, the sleeves ensure that the A/C system hasn't been contaminated with a foreign refrigerant, which can affect system performance and longevity. For the technician, the sleeves protect his reputation, while guarding against unqualified repairs and costly comebacks.

Tamper-evident sleeves are easy to install. Simply slip one sleeve onto each service port, then heat shrink the sleeves with a hot air gun. The sleeves are now sealed tightly against the service ports. To complete the installation, just apply the label provided and record the unique serial number found on the sleeve.

The tamper-evident sleeves come in a convenient storage bag complete with 10 sleeves with serial numbers, matching labels and heat-activated tape.

NISSAN INTRODUCES A CAR THAT PARKS ITSELF

Nissan Leaf NSC-2015 autonomous prototype unveiled



Japan's largest showcase of electronics and information technology, CEATEC, kicked off with three carmakers displaying products in which mobility, electronics and IT intersect.

This is Nissan's sixth year at CEATEC, where market-ready technologies and those capturing a glimpse of the distant future converge.

Last year Mitsubishi joined; this year it's Toyota with a new concept called "Smart INSECT", a single-seater, mini EV that uses motion detectors to recognize a driver's behavior.

"The increased presence of automakers at CEATEC not only underscores the importance of information technology and electronics for autos, but also greater potential for collaboration between the auto industry and the electronics industry."

With 70% of electric vehicles comprised of electronic parts, one might consider cars the biggest of consumer electronics.

Said Nissan COO Toshiyuki Shiga, "The distance between appliance companies and electricity management and the automotive industry is closing more and more."



Nissan proves that, powering its lights and stage with LEAF batteries. That technology debuted last year in Nissan's LEAF-to-Home exhibit, after 3/11 underscored the need for alternate power sources for the community.

Nissan is looking to solve other problems, including traffic congestion and accidents.

The NSC-2015 is focused on time management and security, said Toru Futami, Expert Leader for Nissan's IT & ITS Development department.

"With 90% of accidents caused by human error, we aimed to make a machine that could reduce error to as close to zero as possible and prevent an accident before it happens. Another objective was to

reduce time-loss, such as that spent on looking for parking. That can be about 10 minutes lost door-to-door, when all you need to do is get to the entrance," said Futami.

To save you time, the NSC-2015 parks itself and returns to pick you up. A smartphone connected to the Automated Valet Parking technology allows a driver to maintain full control, remotely.

And a new feature to catch any unsuspecting thief by surprise, an all-around view camera can react to suspicious behavior and alert the driver. The driver can then opt to set off an alarm.

As its name suggests, the NSC-2015 will be fully viable by 2015. By then, who knows, the car might even be able to make an arrest.

TMC Develops Independent Home-living-assistance Robot Prototype



Aiming to improve quality of life, TMC has developed the HSR prototype in cooperation with the Japan Service Dog Association to identify the needs and desires of individuals with limited limb mobility, and developed functions focused around picking up dropped objects, retrieving items, and communicating with family members and caregivers. In 2011, TMC conducted in-home trials using the robot with individuals with limb disabilities in cooperation with the Foundation for Yokohama Rehabilitation Service and incorporated user feedback into development.

Additionally, in response to the aging of Japan's population, TMC will collaborate with research organizations such as universities as well as persons involved in nursing and healthcare to research and develop new functions for the HSR-such as remote monitoring and assistance-with the aim of practical application in the field of care for the elderly.

TMC plans to display the HSR prototype at the "Forefront of the Development of Home Care and Rehabilitation Equipment" special event at the 39th International Home Care and Rehabilitation Exhibition 2012, which will be held at the Tokyo International Exhibition Center in Koto Ward, Tokyo, from September 26 through 28.

Main Specifications of the Human Support Robot (HSR) Prototype

Body diameter 370 mm

Body height 830 mm - 1,330 mm (500 mm extension range)

Weight 32 kg, Arm length 775 mm

Shoulder height 506 mm - 1,006 mm (500 mm extension range)

Objects that can be held 1.2 kg or less, 130 mm wide or less Maximum speed 3 km/h

Mobility performance Level difference: 9 mm; gradient: 5°

Toyota Motor Corporation (TMC) has developed a human support robot (HSR) prototype to assist independent home living for persons with limited arm or leg mobility. The prototype is an addition to the Toyota Partner Robot series that TMC is developing to assist people in their everyday activities.

The HSR-operable by voice command or by tablet PC-has a highly maneuverable, compact, and lightweight cylindrical body with a folding arm that enables it to pick up objects off the floor, suction up thin objects, retrieve objects from high locations, open curtains, and perform other household tasks. Furthermore, the moving parts of the body and arm do not generate large amounts of force, thus ensuring user safety and peace of mind.



PPG ANNOUNCES ANNUAL AUTOMOTIVE COLOR POPULARITY, TREND DATA

PPG Industries the world's leading manufacturer of transportation coatings, released its annual automotive color popularity and trend data. While white retained the leading spot as the most popular car color based on 2012 automotive build data, PPG forecasts that the overall use of color is on the rise.

According to PPG's annual survey of global color popularity, white ranked first (22 percent) and silver was second (20 percent), followed by black (19 percent), gray (12 percent), red (9 percent), natural (8 percent), blue (7 percent), green (2 percent) and other colors (1 percent).

"Color is one of the first characteristics noticed in product design, and it is increasingly being used in everyday items, from cell phones to large appliances, based largely on automotive trends," said Jane E. Harrington, PPG manager, color styling, automotive OEM (original equipment manufacturer) coatings. "The palette being developed for the automotive segment continues to be influenced by culture, nature, fashion, interior design, color popularity and new pigment technology."

During this year's annual Automotive Color Trend Show held at PPG's offices here in late September, the coatings company presented its ideas for future vehicle colors to leading global automobile manufacturers. Titled "Perspective," the 2012 show presents PPG's unique viewpoint and angle on color direction, using insight from all the company's businesses that color items such as laptop computers, homes, buildings, airplanes, ships and heavy equipment.

"PPG's internal network of more than 20 color experts and six color styling laboratories around the world keep our company in the vanguard with color trends," Harrington said. "This global perspective on multiple end-use markets gives PPG unique color expertise that is unmatched in the industry. No coatings company colors more types of surfaces than PPG."

PPG presented 64 new exterior shades to automotive designers for consideration in designs of the 2015-2016 model years. These included colors such as: Al Fresco, a silver metallic with fresh green tint; Victoria Grey, a classic grey with an iridescent highlight of gold metal; Opulence, a refined red pearl with intense jewel tone; Glacier, an icy graphite grey with a slight violet blue tone; Sunshine, a bright high-sparkle intense yellow; and Elixir, a metallic mixture of silver and magenta.

"Our consumer research has clearly shown that color is critically important to car buyers," Harrington said.

A 2011 survey of automotive consumers by PPG revealed that:

77 percent of respondents said exterior color was a factor in their automotive purchase decision.

Owners of large luxury cars, sporty cars and large premium SUVs place the most value on getting the color of their choice.

45 percent of respondents said they would prefer a wider range of color choices.

In addition to color trend forecasting, PPG continues to develop paint technologies that offer automotive design options for enhancing appearance and helping automobile manufacturers differentiate their brands, according to Harrington. "For example, metallic flake effects have become increasingly popular. A classic color such as blue can be updated with a high-sparkle glass flake or a fine bright aluminum to create more of a liquid or silk appearance," she said.

Regional details regarding PPG's 2012 automotive color popularity data:

In North America, white ranks first (21 percent), followed by black (19 percent), silver and gray (16 percent each), red (10 percent), blue (8 percent), natural (7 percent) and green (3 percent).

In Europe, white is also most popular (23 percent), followed by black (21 percent), gray (17 percent), silver (13 percent), blue, natural and red (7 percent each), other colors (3 percent) and green (2 percent).

In the Asia Pacific region, silver and white tied for most popular (23 percent each), followed by black (19 percent), natural (10 percent), red (9 percent), gray (8 percent), blue (7 percent) and green (1 percent).

Brake Pads an Important Safety Factor Ignored by UAE Motorists



Dubai's roads users are continuing ignore the importance of regularly maintained brake pads, at the risk of their safety and the safety of other road users.

Part of a necessary maintenance schedule, brake pads are crucial in the stopping a car and as brakes are applied repeatedly over thousands of kilometres, brake pads wear down over time and use.

"People tend to wait until they have noisy brakes before getting their brake replaced, or even looked at. Brake pads usually come with a part that is a wear indicator that aids car owners to know when they need to change their pads. Waiting for too long will not only mean damage to the brake rotor, but also potentially cause accidents. A severely worn brake pad reduces a vehicle's ability to stop and can increase stopping distance significantly," said Asad Badami, managing director of A-MAP, the region's leading distributor of aftermarket automotive spare parts, batteries, tires and lubricants.

According to experts, there are some further tell-tale signs that brakes require attention, to include:

- Veering to the left or right after applying the brakes
- Increased stopping distance
- Burning smell after braking hard
- Having to apply the brake pedal much harder in order to stop the vehicle

"There are extreme cases where brakes can fail altogether if not properly maintained, which is a disaster on the UAE's high-speed roads. It is recommended that drivers have their brake pads checked on a quarterly basis to avoid this worst case scenario," added Badami.

A-MAP is the sole distributor of Asimco in the region, a high quality brand of brake pads manufactured in China.

App barks when users try to text behind the wheel



The RodeDog app detects when motorists are attempting to drive and text at the same time, alerting friends and family members who can discourage them from the practice.

Japanese developers have already harnessed the power of smartphones to alert drivers of potential crashes with the Safety Sight app, and now a new offering is also doing its bit for car safety. The RodeDog app detects when motorists are attempting to drive and text at the same time, alerting friends and family members who can discourage them from the practice.

The app works by tracking the GPS of the user to detect whether they are behind the wheel. Each user can add friends and family with the app to their 'pack', creating a network of acquaintances who will be notified if that user attempts to drive and use their phone at the same time. If they do, those in the pack can then send alerts to the driver – in the form of audible dog barks – to remind them that they should be concentrating on the road. The barking noises continue until the app detects that the phone has been put down. The team behind the idea, led by 11-year-old Victoria Walker and designer David Grau, came up with the concept as part of the AT&T Mobile App Hackathon for the company's It Can Wait campaign. Taking first prize at the event, RodeDog now has USD 20,000 behind it to bring it to market.

FORD RESEARCHING INTELLIGENT SYSTEM TO HELP DRIVERS MANAGE STRESSFUL SITUATIONS ON THE ROAD

With today's ever-increasing concern about driver distraction, engineers in the Ford Research and Innovation labs are developing ways to help the driver stay focused in busy situations by intelligently managing incoming communications.

"Ford has been a leader in delivering solutions for in-car communications and simplifying the user interface, and now we're researching ways to use the car's own intelligence to further help drivers," says Jeff Greenberg, senior technical leader of Ford Research and Innovation. "Vehicle control inputs, sensors, road conditions and biometric information such as a driver's pulse and breathing can all be used to create a driver workload estimation that can then help manage certain functions in demanding situations."

Data from the sensing systems of driver-assist technologies can be used to determine the amount of external demand and workload upon a driver at any given time including traffic and road conditions. In addition, Ford continues its health and wellness research with the development of a biometric seat, seat belt and steering wheel that can monitor the condition of the driver to help add an even more specific estimate of the driver's state of being.

The driver workload estimator is an algorithm using real-time data from existing sensors such as radar and cameras combined with input from the driver's use of the throttle, brakes and steering wheel. The result is an intelligent system enabling management of in-vehicle communications based on the assessed workload of the driving situation.

For example, the side-looking radar sensors used for the Blind Spot Information System (BLIS®) and the forward-looking camera for the Lane-Keeping System are on watch even when there is no active warning provided to the driver. These signals could indicate there is a significant amount of traffic in the lane that you are merging into while entering a highway.

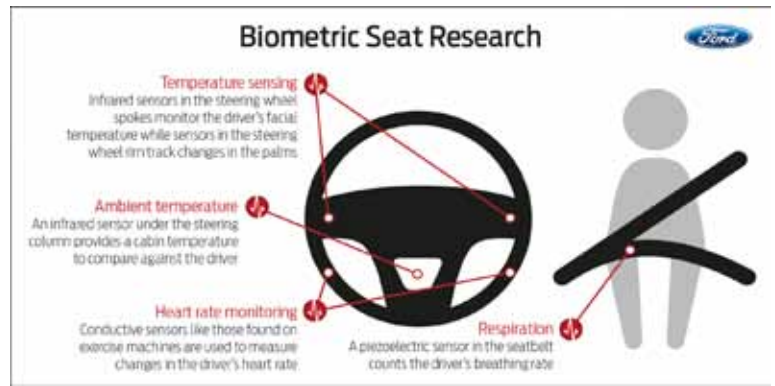
Combine that knowledge with the fact that the driver has increased throttle pedal pressure to speed up, and the workload estimate could be high enough to determine it isn't a very good time for an incoming phone call to ring inside the cabin.

The car could intelligently apply the "Do Not Disturb" feature that is already available as part of MyFord® Touch, helping the driver stay focused on the road during the high-demand situation.

Monitoring driver biometrics

"In addition to using existing vehicle data to estimate demand on the driver, we're researching ways to get an even better understanding of the stress level of the driver," says Gary Strumolo, manager of vehicle design and infotronics, Ford Research and Innovation. "Biometric or health information of the driver can help us better tailor the experience when behind the wheel."

Turning new biometric sensors toward the driver will help to create a more complete picture of the driver workload. The research team has built a biometric seating buck to test a number of different sensors and gather data on how drivers respond to a variety of inputs for a driver behavior model.

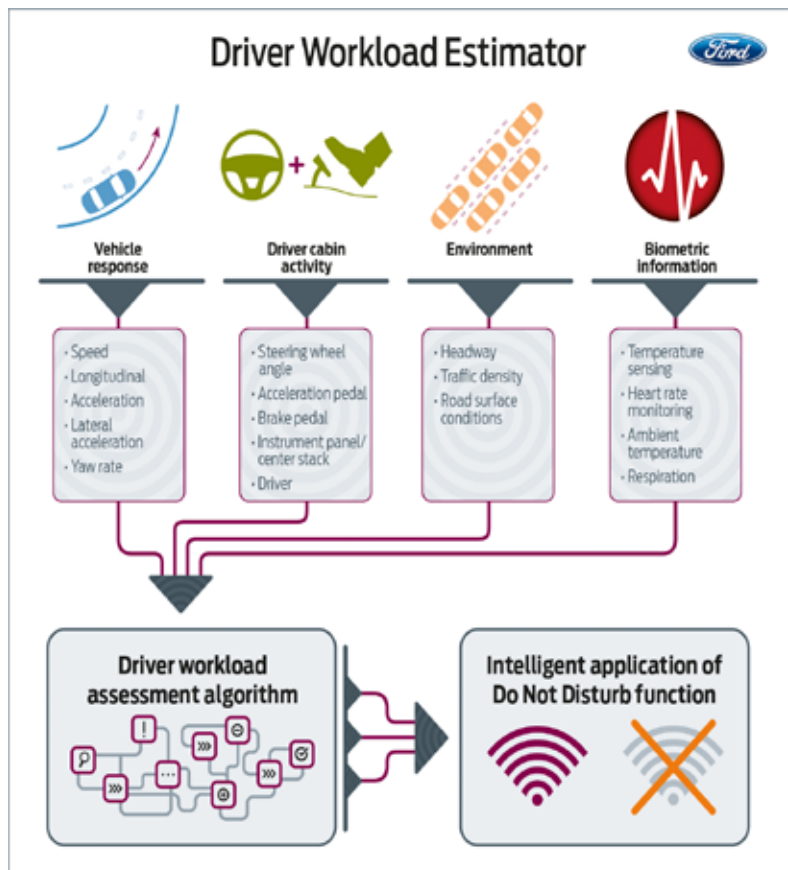


The experimental system adds several sensors to the steering wheel rim and spokes to get more detailed driver information. Anyone who has used modern exercise equipment like treadmills and stair climbers will be familiar with the metal pads on the rim that can be used to measure the driver's heart rate.

Infrared sensors on the steering wheel monitor the palms of a driver's hands as well as his or her face looking for changes in temperature. A downward-looking infrared sensor under the steering column measures the cabin temperature to provide a baseline for comparing changes in the driver's temperature. The final sensor is embedded in the seat belt to assess the driver's breathing rate.

With a more complete picture of the driver's health and wellness blended with knowledge of what is happening outside the vehicle, the car will have the intelligence to dynamically adjust the alerts provided to the driver and filter interruptions. With the driver occupied in heavy traffic, the vehicle control system could increase the warning times for forward collision alerts and automatically filter out phone calls and messages, allowing the driver more time to respond. On the other hand, an alert driver on an open highway could receive incoming calls.

"While these features are still in research, they show significant opportunity for us to leverage data already being captured by the vehicle and apply an intelligent decision-making system to simplify the driving experience," adds Strumolo.



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Virtually constant light output even at high application temperatures



The Oslon Black Flat is the new LED from Osram Opto Semiconductors for automotive frontlighting systems. Equipped with state-of-the-art chip and packaging technology and a ceramic converter, this new LED product from the famous Oslon Black series is a high-performance light source for automotive applications. It offers high light output even at high currents, uniform distribution of light, thermal stability and particularly good contrast for seeing and being seen. Oslon Black Flat had its premier as a prototype at ISAL 2011 and is available now.

Light sources for frontlighting have to be multitasking. Not only do they have to illuminate the road ahead reliably in rain and fog and at night, they have to perform various functions as low beam, cornering lights and fog lights for example. At the same time, they have to withstand high temperatures in the headlights. For these reasons more and more automobile manufacturers are opting for flexible, efficient and powerful LED technology. Oslon Black Flat is the latest addition by Osram Opto Semiconductors to its Oslon Black series and has been designed to meet all these requirements.

High luminous flux even at high temperatures

The new LED contains a UX:3 chip that delivers high light output even at high currents. With a power draw of 2.3 W and an operating current of 700 mA, the Oslon Black Flat achieves a typical luminous flux of 200 lm (at 25°C). If operated at 1.2 A it can achieve up to 270 lumen – despite an application temperature of 100°C in the chip.

Thermal management is much simpler with this new LED. This is thanks to the greater thermal stability of the luminous flux even under “hot” application conditions and also to a new temperature-optimized packaging process. This has meant that the typical thermal resistance has been reduced to 4 K/W. The thermal coefficient of expansion of the black QFN package (Quad Flat No Leads) of the Oslon Black Flat LED is matched to the coefficient of expansion of the metal core board. All these properties make the Oslon Black Flat particularly stable and extremely durable (more than 100,000 hours at 700 mA and a chip temperature of 60°C).

High quality of light for better visibility

The Oslon Black Flat was developed in Regensburg and has been designed to function without a lens, its light can therefore be injected very close to light guides or lenses. Its luminance, in other words what the human eye perceives as the brightness of a particular surface, is 2 to

5 times higher than comparable LEDs in its class at 70 -100 Mcd/m² (million candelas per square meter). “This is particularly important in automotive frontlighting solutions based on projection systems”, said Peter Knittl, Director Automotive LED at Osram Opto Semiconductors. “The greater the luminance of the LED, the smaller the external lens and the smaller the space needed. Headlights can therefore be made much more compact, giving designers much more freedom.”

Encapsulation of the chips directly in the package produces a defined light/dark boundary in the light pattern and, in conjunction with advanced package technology and the ceramic converter, a uniform distribution of light and particularly good contrast ratio on the road.

The benefits of Oslon Black Flat, above all its low thermal resistance and impressive performance under extreme conditions, have really struck a chord in the industry. Before the end of 2012 we will be seeing automobiles and motorcycles on the roads in which these small black LEDs will be performing the most important frontlighting functions”, added Peter Knittl.

SAAB AUTOMOBILE PARTS AB ACQUIRES COMPANIES IN EUROPE

Saab Automobile Parts AB acquired its former subsidiaries in Spain and Italy from the Saab Automobile AB bankruptcy estate. Following the acquisitions, the companies in Spain and Italy will act as wholly owned subsidiaries of Saab Automobile Parts AB and all current personnel in the companies will continue their employment.

“The acquisition is a natural step to secure our presence in classic Saab markets such as Spain and Italy. There is a large Saab fleet in these countries, and with this acquisition we secure our representation here to provide parts, service programs and technical support for Saab owners in the region. We see great opportunities to further develop the business and strengthen the companies for the future”, says Lennart Stahl, CEO of Saab Automobile Parts AB.

The acquisitions in Spain and Italy are additional steps in Saab Automobile Parts efforts to provide Saab owners worldwide with spare parts and other aftersales services. Earlier this year, Saab Automobile Parts AB formed subsidiaries in the UK and in North America and established a new sales and marketing office in Trollhättan.

“We work with sales and distribution of spare parts in more than 60 markets, and it is an ongoing process to review and develop our business opportunities. It is quite possible that we may further expand our business internationally through additional establishments”, says Lennart Stahl.

Gargash Motors has welcomed news of the acquisition of Saab Automobile AB's subsidiaries in Spain and Italy by Saab Automobile Parts AB.

“For Saab customers in the UAE, this move is a reaffirmation of Saab's commitment to the brand and to the continued availability of spare parts. Saab owners can enjoy their cars for years to come knowing that if something goes wrong, we will be able to repair the fault using original parts.” said Mr. Tony Bache, General Manager, Gargash Motors.

Saab Automobile Parts AB has been responsible for Saab Automobile spare handling since the 1960s. It markets, sells and distributes Saab Original Parts in more than 60 countries worldwide. As Saab's Authorized Service Partners and Repairers, Gargash Motors has been receiving an uninterrupted supply of spare parts and technical support from Saab Automobile Parts AB.

Ford Showcases Array of Driver Assist Technologies at GITEX

Previews Research Initiatives Addressing Driver Stress and Fatigue



Participating in GITEX Technology Week as the official automotive partner for the fifth straight year, Ford Middle East is showcasing a host of its latest Driver Assist Technologies, and giving exclusive glimpses of intelligent, next generation innovations being researched by Ford Labs as part of the company's commitment to aiding drivers through technology. Additionally, show visitors can experience the brand new, tech-laden 2013 Taurus and the super performance Taurus SHO – dubbed as Ford's smartest sedans.

"GITEX is such a great opportunity for visitors to see the exciting and innovative technology inside Ford vehicles, and this year they're able to use the most stimulating and spectacular ways to find out more about how Ford is going further to revolutionise the driving experience, both on the stand and at our expanded outdoor test drive arena," said Paul Anderson, Ford Middle East's Marketing director.

One of the men behind many of the current and developing Driver Assist Technologies – especially those with a safety aspect – is also attending GITEX having made his way from Detroit for the show to provide unique insights into Ford's dedication to developing driver aids and safety technologies. Dr. Saeed Barbat, Ford Motor Company's Executive Technical Leader for Safety, Research and Advanced Engineering, is a key figure in the research and development of many of the technologies found in Ford's vehicles today, having been with Ford for 20 years.

Dr. Barbat has worked tirelessly in pursuit of developing technologies which have become intrinsic to Ford's vehicle safety features, and is the holder of 13 issued and 12 filed U.S. patents. He has also received numerous industry awards recognising his efforts and achievements.

His area of focus during GITEX is introducing the unique Biometric Seat that Ford's research team is using to test a number of different sensors and gather data on how drivers respond to a variety of inputs for a driver behavior model.

The experimental system consists of early stage development technology as part of Ford's ongoing research into driver wellness and stress levels, and monitors driver wellbeing by monitoring temperature levels, heart rate, respiration and other key indicators of stress which could hamper a driver's ability to control their vehicle.

"Ford has been a leader in delivering solutions for in-car communications and simplifying the user interface, and now we're researching ways

to use the car's own intelligence to further help drivers," said Barbat. "Vehicle control inputs, sensors, road conditions and biometric information such as a driver's pulse and breathing can all be used to create a driver workload estimation that can then help manage certain functions in demanding situations.

"In addition to using existing vehicle data to estimate demand on the driver, we're researching ways to get an even better understanding of the stress level of the driver," he explained. "Biometric or health information of the driver can help us better tailor the experience when behind the wheel."

In addition to Dr. Barbat's insights, visitors to the Ford stand at GITEX are being met by a host of interactive ways to get to know Ford's latest Driver Assist Technologies, including spectacular and involving augmented reality and 3D visuals by Ogle, where visitors can use their smart phones to find out more about the workings of technologies such as Active Park Assist, Blind Spot Information System (BLIS®) and Adaptive Cruise Control.

Hands-on Technology

Ford Middle East is this year enabling people to get more hands-on than ever in order to explore the vehicles and their technology. For GITEX, Ford is a launch partner of Ogle, who is introducing its augmented reality experience at the show. Visitors to the Ford stand can use this technology on their iOS or Android-equipped smartphones by downloading the app then using it at various points around the stand and the outdoor plaza to access exclusive video content about Ford technologies and the model line-up at the show, all through their phone screen.

Visitors to the plaza area will also be able to test drive the new 2013 Taurus, as well as the Edge, Explorer and Focus, getting a real feel for the latest Ford innovations available on these models. The arena gives an experience of features including Active Park Assist, BLIS® with Cross Traffic Alert, as well as SYNC® with MyFord Touch®, and there will be more points to use the Ogle augmented reality app to discover information about these cars.

Anderson added: "Being able to experience these technologies in such a hands-on way is simply the best way for customers to really understand how these features and innovations can enhance the driving experience and even help reduce stress and fatigue at the end of the day.

"This has been key to why we've embraced GITEX for five years – it's a great way for customers to really understand how Ford Motor Company sees technology as being integral to the future of motoring, how it is anticipating, innovating and offering compelling solutions, going further so our customers can," he concluded.



"Our associates perform outstanding work daily. As such, we're very proud to have received this recognition, which above all belongs to our associates in Bamberg and Bari," said Bernd Bohr, chairman of the Bosch Automotive Group, after the ceremony.

Bamberg plant: high degree of associate commitment

In addition to the top prize for exemplary management practices, the Bosch Bamberg location also impressed the judges with its performance in the categories "leading with vision, inspiration, and integrity" as well as "succeeding through people." The judges particularly admired the associates' active commitment to achieving corporate goals. "The executive management of the Bosch plant in Bamberg act as role models. They lead by example, and through the many approaches they use to involve their associates in the deployment of their strategy," said Marc Amblard, the chief executive officer of EFQM, at the presentation of the award.

The Bamberg plant managers accepted the award on behalf of the plant's associates. "We owe our outstanding performance to the commitment of our associates. They are ultimately responsible for Bosch's lasting success," said Franz Hauber, the technical plant manager. 7,300 associates currently work at the Bamberg location, which produces components for customers in the automotive industry. Bamberg is also the lead plant for 20 additional Bosch locations in eleven countries.

Bari plant: impressive performance in quality, delivery, and cost

The Bosch plant in Bari, Italy, was honored with a prize for the best performance in "managing by processes." The plant implements a process management framework aligned with its strategy, according to the EFQM, and its approach shows remarkable results in terms of quality, delivery, and cost. Bosch has been present in Italy since 1904, and mainly manufactures diesel injection pumps for vehicles at Bari, its largest plant in the country.

Bosch: a frequent winner of EFQM awards and prizes
The international supplier of technology and services has been a role model for the EFQM members for many years. In 2003 and 2008, for example, the plant in Bursa, Turkey, was named overall winner.

30,000 organizations use the EFQM model

The EFQM has created a universally applicable model which allows both an organization's management practices and the sustainability of their implementation to be evaluated. The model was developed in 1998 with the aim of increasing the competitiveness of European businesses. It is now used by more than 30,000 organizations. An international panel of judges evaluates the participating organizations, which are to be found practically throughout Europe, and rates them according to nine criteria. In addition to reviewing the comprehensive applications submitted by the organizations, assessors spend a week at each site in order to evaluate the breadth and depth of their adherence to the EFQM excellence model.

2012 EFQM Excellence Award in Brussels

Bosch receives four awards for integrated management

Bamberg location named this year's overall winner

The Bosch Group has received a total of four awards at the 2012 EFQM Excellence Award ceremony in Brussels. The winner of the Excellence Award and thus the overall winner of the competition is the Bosch plant in Bamberg, Germany. The annual awards conferred by the EFQM (European Foundation for Quality Management) are considered Europe's most prestigious for business excellence. An overall winner is only crowned when an organization demonstrates outstanding performance in all the categories of the EFQM excellence model. The winners of the individual prizes demonstrate exemplary behavior on such criteria as "adding value for customers," "nurturing innovation and creativity," and "taking responsibility for a sustainable future."

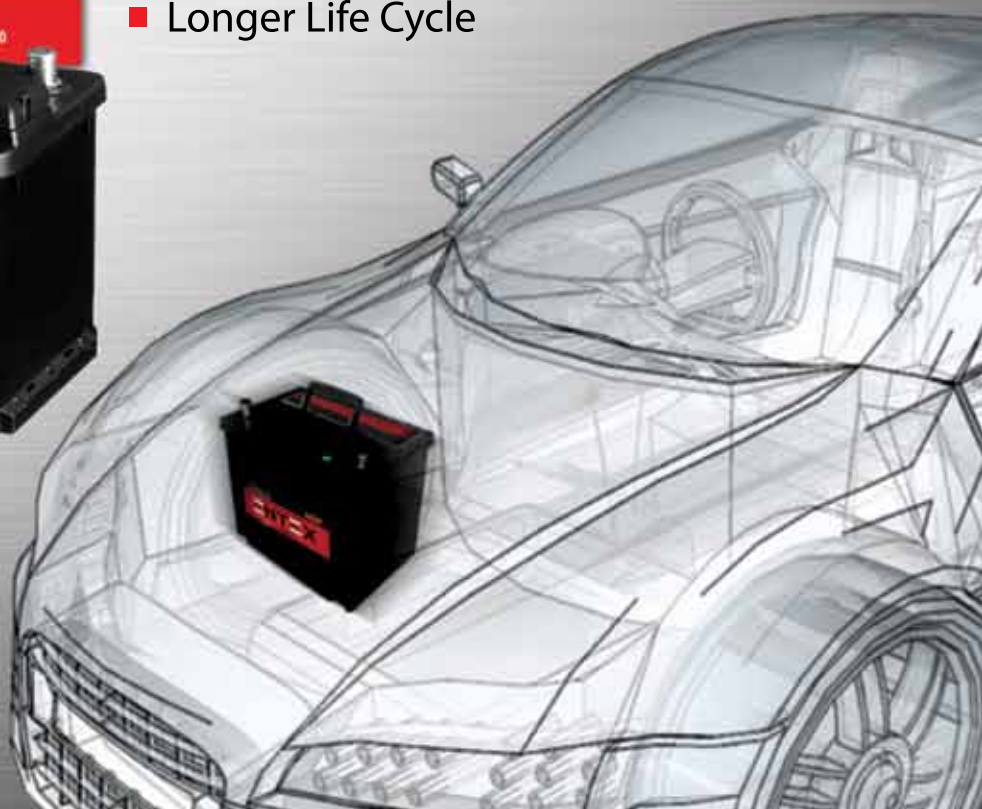


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2013 SRX Delivers Home Theatre-like Tech

CUE's extension to the rear seat enables Blu-Ray DVD, dual-play capability



The refreshed 2013 Cadillac SRX will offer an entertainment package featuring a Blu-Ray DVD player that extends Cadillac's signature CUE system for connectivity to the rear seats along with a redesigned kid-tested gaming-style remote control that allows each of the 8" flip-up rear screens to play unique media.

With CUE, users can pair of up to 10 Bluetooth-enabled devices at once, including mobile phones, SD cards, USBs, and MP3 players. For the first time, rear-seat passengers can connect to and manage their own music players and playlists. A special connector cable sold separately allows watching movies stored in media players.

The addition of Blu-Ray allows families the same video quality on the road as they're accustomed to at home. Front-seat passengers will be able to watch videos via the 8" touchscreen CUE display on the center-stack while the vehicle is in park. With audio playing throughout the vehicle's speakers, the SRX becomes a home-theatre on wheels.

A dual-play capability feature allows one user to play a video game on one monitor while another user watches a movie or listens to the radio on the other.

"Having multiple media connectivity options really gives owners flexibility with entertainment, especially families," said Charlene Goike, rear seat entertainment lead engineer. "One can easily pop in their camera's SD cards on the way home from their kid's sports games to let the young ones instantly relive the action."

The rear-seat entertainment package also gets an all-new cordless remote control, designed for familiarity and ease of use. Shaped like a video game remote control, it mimics the layout of buttons to help young users access their favorite media more easily. A quick-reference sheet will also be provided so users know what each button on the remote will do.

"We actually invited a group of kids to test and interact with the new rear-seat entertainment features," said Shannon Chiarcos, human factors engineer responsible for gathering consumer feedback on entertainment options in the vehicle. "The data we collected allowed us to go back and make several adjustments to the system, including simplifying the remote control so that kids could use it without the help of an adult."

The SRX gets a pair of updated wireless headphones designed to fit more comfortably than previous versions as well as the ability to toggle between what is being played on either back-seat monitor. Users can also adjust volume directly on the headphones themselves.

The rear-seat entertainment package will be available as an option on Luxury (with navigation,) Performance and Premium SRX trim models and will retail for \$1,595.

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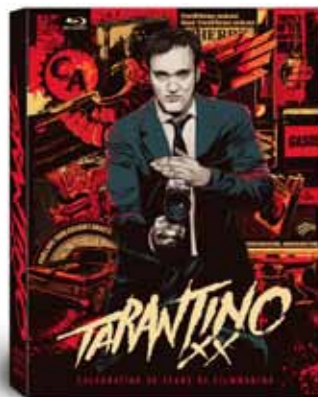
Clinique's Skin Supplies for Men Dark Spot Corrector

Days without sunscreen, little nicks and cuts, a blemish or ingrown hair that leaves a mark, the passing of time — little by little discolorations appear and skin never forgets. Now there is a way to help clean the slate with the NEW Clinique Skin Supplies for Men Dark Spot Corrector.

Created specifically for men, this serum adapts the innovative technology found in the award-winning Even Better Clinical to include ingredients that help calm and strengthen skin that has been irritated by shaving. When used twice a day over an 8-week period, 84% of men saw a visible reduction in dark spots and 89% of men experienced a more even skin tone.



Clinique Skin Supplies for Men Dark Spot Corrector has been shown to significantly reduce the occurrence of ingrown hairs as well as help visibly treat discoloration that happens because of inflammatory reactions that cause the melanocytes to go into overproduction. Post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation can show up in the form of blemish marks, dark spots from shaving irritation and ingrown hairs.

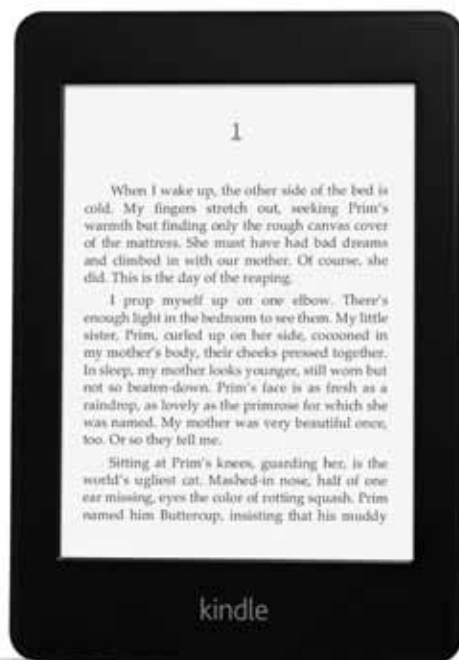


The Tarantino XX

The Tarantino XX: 8-Film Collection is a 10-disc Blu-ray box set being released by Lionsgate and Miramax that will feature 8 movies chosen by director Quentin Tarantino to best show off his first 20 years of filmmaking. Everything from *Reservoir Dogs* to the most recent film *Inglourious Basterds* will be featured, plus five hours of new never-before-seen special features on the two extra discs. The Tarantino XX: 8-Film Collection will be available in stores on November 20, 2012 but is now available to pre-order on Amazon.

Kindle Paperwhite

Unlike a backlit tablet display, Kindle Paperwhite guides light towards the surface of the e-ink display from above so that the light never shines directly towards your eyes, allowing you to read comfortably without eye strain. The built-in light illuminates the screen more evenly than a book light or lighted cover. Paperwhite guides light towards the display from above instead of projecting it out at your eyes like back-lit displays, thereby reducing screen fatigue. You can adjust your screen's brightness to create a perfect reading experience in all lighting conditions, from bright sunlight to bedtime reading. A single charge lasts up to eight weeks, based on a half hour of reading per day with wireless off and the light setting at 10. Our breakthrough power management technology allows you to leave the light on at all times for the best possible contrast without sacrificing battery life.





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HOTPRODUCTS

Tumi Tegra-Lite Collection

Recently launched for the Spring 2012 season, the Tumi Tegra-Lite™ collection has set a new standard in the travel industry with the use of Milliken & Company's Tegris® material. First launched in graphite, Tumi will introduce Tegra-Lite in a limited edition white color. The cases will be offered in the international carry-on and medium sizes.

Tegra-Lite combines an industrial aesthetic with a design that is 65% lighter than fiberglass composites and up to 15 times the impact resistance of typical thermoplastic composites, far exceeding other comparable hard sided cases on the market today.



Zeal ion camera Goggles

Taking contemporary gadgetry a step further, Zeal Optics introduced the iON HD Camera Goggles. These high-tech goggles feature a built in camera, which captures 1080p & 720p HD quality video and shoots 8 megapixel HD photos. It is easily controlled even with gloves on by buttons on the side of the frame. An in-goggle viewfinder and glove ready controls on the side of the frame simplify the filming experience, where its rechargeable lithium-ion battery provides three-hours of run time depending on usage. With the new device, users can easily replay footage, set up sequence or timelapse shots, and easily download and integrate with all social media outlets like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram for sharing memories.

It also automatically adjusts for light levels, has infinity focus and an in-goggle viewfinder.



Impossible Instant Lab

Forget AirPrint — if you're looking for a way to get your photos out of your iPhone and onto some paper, the Impossible Instant Lab can get the job done. Just hook the printer up to your iPhone and select an image. The device will expose the image using light from the display. When you're ready to print, close the exposure and hit a button and your photo will appear on Polaroid-style film. It's really that simple.

Even better, the collapsible design makes it portable, and it has a built-in battery that can handle processing 150 pics all on one charge. The printer is compatible with film for Polaroid 600 and SX 70 cameras, as well as the iPhone 4/4S and iPhone 5. Prices vary from \$149 for the Basic Silver Edition to \$2,000 for the Gold Edition, which includes personal engraving and 10 film packs.



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