



# AutoKnow



General Motors Vision Statement: GM's vision is to be the world leader in transportation products and related services. We will earn our customers' enthusiasm through continuous improvement driven by the integrity, teamwork and innovation of GM people.

## Update on Work Leaving Grand Rapids

The following is a list of part numbers and common stable part codes that Grand Rapids will be shipping, or has already shipped, over the next few weeks. We will keep you posted as more moves are announced.

<u>GR Press Line</u>	<u>Part Code</u>	<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Part Name</u>	<u>Die Ship Date</u>	<u>Receiving Plant</u>
W	A0037	25921094	Pnl-Outrigger#3 R	1/5/2009	Marion
G	B2761	15263674	Rnf-C/Plr Otr R	1/5/2009	Parma
JJ	B5934	25916015	Rnf-Roof Rail Frt L	1/5/2009	Indy
BB1	B0024	15101591	Rnf-RR Bhp Hge R	1/5/2009	Flint
BB1	A2134-35	10186748	Brc-Bbo Ext R	1/6/2009	Indy
		10186749	Brc-Bbo Ext L		
P1	B2762	15263673	Rnf-C/Plr Otr L	1/6/2009	Parma
Assembly	A8188	25649906	Asm-Hood Opg		
			Asst Rod Brkt	1/6/2009	Indy
Assembly	A2206-7	21992977	Ext-Rkr Fil Inr Frt L	1/6/2009	Parma
		21992976	Ext-Rkr Fil Inr Frt R		
G1	B2763	15806507	Rnf-C/Plr Otr R	1/7/2009	Parma
CO6	A0067-8	15712765	Ext-Rkr Inr Frt L	1/7/2009	Indy
		15712766	Ext Rkr Inr Frt R		
G1	B5703-4	13229441	Pnl-W/H RR L	1/7/2009	Spring Hill
		13229448	Pnl-W/H RR R		
G1	B5703b	B3229441	Coil-RR W/H R/L	1/7/2009	Spring Hill
W	A0077-8	25921098	Pnl-Outrigger #1 #4 #5 L	1/7/2009	Marion
		25921099	Pnl-Outrigger #4 #5 R		
CO5	A0077b	B5921098	Pnl-Outrigger #4 #5 L	1/7/2009	Marion
Assembly	A6361	15255045	Asm-Rkr Inr R	1/8/2009	Parma
P1	B3357	25907238	Pnl-Plenum Frt	1/8/2009	Marion
Shear	B3357b	B5907238	Pnl-Plenum Frt	1/8/2009	Marion
NN2	B3744	25862465	Pnl-Hood Inr	1/8/2009	Flint
W	A8704	15010270	Pnl-F/Pan & Dash R	1/8/2009	Flint
CO5	A8704B	B5010270	Pnl-F/Pan & Dash R	1/8/2009	Flint
JJ1	B3416	25801117	Pnl-Fdr Otr L	1/9/2009	Marion
P1	B2764	15806508	Rnf-C/Plr Otr L	1/9/2009	Parma
G1	B5701	13248841	Rnf-Flr Tun RR	1/9/2009	Spring Hill
Shear	B5701B	B3248841	Pnl-Rnf Flr Pnl Tun RR	1/9/2009	Spring Hill

## Questions Asked at State-of-the-Business Meetings Last Week

### **Q. Why are shock towers being delivered at the north dock every night on third shift?**

- A. The north dock was never designed with the ability to unload full-size semi-trailers and close the door. Last year we investigated if the dock area could be modified, but the cost outweighed the modification. That is why the curtains were hung there. The curtains are to be closed around the dock so that the air is kept within the dock area during cold weather unloading.

Every effort is made to limit the amount of unloading we do on the north dock in cold weather, but sometimes it has to be done. With the lower truck volumes, this trailer will be moved to 10-spot on the south dock to cut down on keeping the doors open on the north dock. Everyone will be reminded to continue to use the curtains to block the cold air drafts from getting into the building.

### **Q. When will TDO be phased out of Grand Rapids?**

- A. The shutdown of the TDO operations will generally follow the TDO workload forecasts for 2009. The first two quarters of next year will be heavily focused on the Delta program in the machines, bench, DVC and checking fixture areas. The second quarter will see the introduction of the Chevy Volt into the pattern shop. As the Volt workload completes by module, that module will cease operations. For example, the Volt workload will be complete in the pattern shop by the end of May 2009, so the pattern shop will cease operations at this time. Each succeeding module will follow the same course based on program timing and business need. Final operations will cease in December 2009 as announced. Other factors, such as overall plant die maker manpower reduction, may influence these plans.

### **Q. How many people will be on temporary layoff the first two weeks of 2009?**

- A. About 450 the week of January 5 and roughly 400 the week of January 12.

### **Q. Since volumes are low, can we allow more than the 10% limit to take vacation time for the remainder of the year?**

- A. Vacation approval above 10% will be a topic of conversation in light of available backfills and manufacturing requirements.

### **Q. What is the communication plan for laid-off employees?**

- A. Communications will be provided through the UAW Local 730 website: <http://www.uawlocal730.com/>. See page 4 of this *AutoKnow* for more information.

### **Q. Will there be Paragraph 96 moves for the work moved to Flint the week of the plant closing announcement?**

- A. Paragraph (96) is administered by the National Parties. To date no decision has been reached on any Grand Rapids Paragraph (96) requests.

### **Q. Are 170 hours required to be worked in a year to qualify for credited service?**

- A. According to the UAW Benefits Agreement, an employee must work 170 hours in a calendar year to qualify for credited service. Please see your union benefits representative for specific information.

### **Q. If you get laid off next year, do you still get SUB?**

- A. Under the current Agreement, SUB benefits would be payable if you otherwise qualify. Please see your union benefits representative for specific information.

### **Q. What's the difference between being a "closing" vs. "idle" plant?**

- A. As announced in October, Grand Rapids Stamping will have a cessation of operations and therefore is not considered closed or idled. There are no contractual distinctions between closed or idled plants.

### **Q. Will the NEPC provide Grand Rapids with the Area Hire / Extended Area Hire applicants?**

- A. The NEPC database changes daily based upon employment request to transfer. Therefore, the NEPC does not provide applicant lists.

### **Q. Lights are left on in the north end of the plant on third shift.**

- A. Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We will forward this feedback to our second-shift shutdown crew to ensure we get all lights turned out. Also, in the future, if anyone notices lights left on it is OK for anyone to turn them off.

### **Q. What's the number of days of inventory on dealer lots?**

- A. GM inventories dropped compared with a year ago. In November, only about 862,000 vehicles were in stock, down about 130,000 vehicles (or about 13%) compared with last year. There were about 379,000 cars and 483,000 trucks (including crossovers) in inventory at the end of November.

### **Q. Do employees have to fill out any paperwork in order to receive "short work week" for the week of December 22, 2008?**

- A. No. This is an automatic process.

*(more questions on page 3)*

# Beyond Grand Rapids

## Deadline for Submitting Leveling Cards

For this week only, leveling cards will be accepted only up until 7:30 a.m. Thursday, December 18. Management will publish the January 5 manpower sheet on Tuesday, December 16.

## Gone but Not Forgotten

The following is a list of salaried employees who left the Grand Rapids Metal Plant in November or December, either through retirement or the MSP (Mutual Separation Program). We'd like to thank all of them for their years of dedicated service.

**Keith Ambrose, Jim Asposito, Tina Audia, Jim Baer, Chuck Brunell, Larry Butler, Jimmy Carter, Roger Chalk, Mike Clough, Terry Deal, Marv DeVries, Roy Diaz, Mike Fitzsimmons, Dave Foster, Mike Hammond, Harvey Hamilton, Laura Hilaski, Julia Hoskin, Mark Isenhoff, Geneva Jackson, Winnie Jones, Dave Jonker, Becky Kelly, Dave Kinsey, Mike Klein, Ron Knoper, Rick Koning, Randy Kuiper, Chet Lahr, Tony LoPresto, Dave Maleski, Jim McDonald, Dan McLaren, Dale McRae, Larry Melville, Dan Metcalf, Max Miller, Scot Nemecek, Doug Nyenhuis, Ted Ojczenasz, Bob Pawloski, Al Philipps, Pat Reed, J.R. Reyna, Mark Ruhland, Kerri Thelen, J.D. Thomas, Ron Tucker, Steve VanAndel, Fred Vandine, Pam VanVliet, Lynn Wassenaar, Melissa Weining, Charlie West, Cal Whitley, Dave Winter, Richard Wood**



## Personnel Announcement

From left: **Jim Heist**, first-shift press superintendent, is appointed interim Engineering Manager replacing **Steve Andreen**, who has been assigned to the Pontiac Assembly Plant, effective January 1, 2009. **Steve Rosendall**, second-shift press superintendent will be transferring to first shift replacing Jim Heist. **Dennis Gay**, third-shift press planner, will transfer to second shift and function as Steve Rosendall's replacement. Please provide your support to Jim, Steve, Steve, and Dennis as they assume their new responsibilities.

## Escalators Operation Schedule Changing

As we continue to look for ways to conserve cash in these challenging economic times, the operation of our escalators has been reviewed. The annual cost for electricity alone is about \$54,000 to operate our escalators. Minor repairs and preventative maintenance is an additional \$69,000, and major repairs average \$120,000 annually. The total annual cost is \$243,000.

The majority of our people use the escalators during the hour before the start of each shift, and up to one-half hour after the end of each shift. Based on this usage, the hours of escalator operation will be adjusted to reduce our overall cost and meet the needs of the majority of our people.

From now through Friday, December 19, 2008, the 36th Street and Clay Avenue "up" escalators will run continuously. The "down" escalators will run during the following times: 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and 10:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Starting Monday, January 5, 2009, the 36th Street and Clay Avenue "up and down" escalators will run from 6:00 to 7:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and 10:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Center complex escalators will run continuously at this time.

Based upon these changes, we will reduce our overall escalator cost by over 50%.

## More State-of-the-Business Questions

### Q. Self-help locations—establish a schedule.

A. The Transitional Self-help Center will be located on the first floor in what was formerly the Distance Learning room. Hours of operation will be set and communicated in January.

### Q. What's the status of the jobs bank or layoffs?

A. As a general response, under the current Agreement, layoff is appropriate for volume-related reductions and jobs banks for non-volume-related reductions?

### Q. Will WFG included in Paragraph 96 moves?

A. Paragraph 96 requests are made by classification, which includes WFG employees, based on the allocated headcount of the work transferred.

### Q. Can the classifications "die maker" and "WEMR" be changed so people can transfer to plants that don't have those classifications?

A. Paragraph 96 is administered by the national parties. Specific classifications at both sending and receiving plants are a topic of discussion during Paragraph 96 talks.

## Staying Connected During Layoffs

**W**hile these are difficult times, we are committed to keeping you as informed about our business as possible. Here are some websites you can go to while on layoff to keep abreast of the latest and greatest GM information.

To view GM websites from home, you will need to log into **mySocrates**. If you have never done that before, go to [www.gm.com](http://www.gm.com), click on "Corporate Information," then click on "Employees and Retirees." Then click on "Employee Intranet." You will be asked to log in. If you've never used the site, you will have to create a username and password.

Once into mySocrates, click on "**Answer Me Now**" (AMN) to find the latest answers to employee questions. Or click on "**Now is the time to Speak Out**" to see examples of how you can share GM's message and products with friends, family and your legislators. In AMN you will find a link that will connect you to **GM Facts and Fiction site**, which is also available to the public - [www.gmfactsandfiction.com](http://www.gmfactsandfiction.com).

Another good website is **GM Fastlane Blogs** - <http://fastlane.gmblogs.com/>. This site is accessible to the outside world and will keep you abreast of current events and what the outside world is saying about our business.

Don't forget <https://www.gmfamilyfirst.com/ip-gmemployee> to find out what the current deals and incentives are to help sell our vehicles. You also need to set up login ID and password to use this site.

If you are a member of Facebook, you can also stay up-to-date on the bridge loans through this Cause page that has more than 14,000 members: <http://tinyurl.com/5b3md9>

### For Grand Rapids Metal Plant Employees

Employees laid off from the Grand Rapids Metal Plant can also access the UAW Local 730 site at <http://www.uawlocal730.com/>. This site will keep you informed of Grand Rapids-specific information while you are on layoff.

### Holiday Shutdown Energy Conservation Reminder

We all know that personal appliances are not allowed on the shop floor and there surely aren't any hiding in cabinets out there. But, just in case . . . Please empty and unplug:



coffee pots



mini-fridges



microwaves and other personal appliances

### Energy Conservation

#### A Little Effort Goes a Long Way

Did you know . . .

- The 2008 U.S. Thanksgiving shutdown resulted in a 25% reduction versus 2007 for an additional savings of \$213,000, or a total savings of \$791,000.
- A 25% improvement for the December 2008 holiday will result in an additional savings of \$900,000, or a total savings of \$4,585,000.

#### Cold and Flu Season

It's cold and flu season, so take care of yourself. If you're feeling sick, please follow medical advice so you don't spread sickness to your coworkers.

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