

Beyond Grand Rapids

Be a GM advocate

A new internal website has been set up with material for employees to use to become GM advocates.

It gives examples of how to get your family and friends to contact their legislators. It also gives employees lots of information on a variety of GM subjects to better enable them to become educated advocates in sharing the GM story and ideas to help them become product ambassadors.

The site has video, presentations, and a one-page fact sheet that includes "Telling the GM Story" on one side and "Promoting our Products" on the other side.

It also includes a "Submit Your Idea" link where employees can share their great ideas with the rest of us.

You can get to the site from Socrates at work or from mySocrates at home.

Go to http://communicator.gm.com/comm/global/features/2008/speakout/en_US/

Volt: the next phase

GM Vice Chairman of Global Product Development Bob Lutz has a new post on the FastLane blog regarding the ongoing development of the Chevy Volt extended range electric vehicle (E-REV). Please go to <http://fastlane.gmblogs.com/>

Eight GM models named top safety picks

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety has named its Top Safety Pick Award winners for 2009 and eight GM models are on the list, led by the entire Saab 9-3 family. The Saab 4-door Sport Sedan, 5-door SportCombi and 2-door convertible were joined by GM's crossovers, the Buick Enclave, GMC Acadia, Saturn Outlook and Chevrolet Traverse, along with the Cadillac CTS on the prestigious list.

Domestic brands score highest in consumer ratings

According to Biz360, a media and market solutions provider, consumers are expressing more positive comments toward American brands than for Japanese automakers.

Basically, the company gathered roughly 300,000 online opinions about midsize cars from Ford, Chevrolet, Honda and Toyota. The data was pulled from such sites such as Auto Mall USA, Edmunds.com, IntelliChoice.com and Yahoo Autos from Oct. 31, 2007 through Nov. 1, 2008. The company discovered that Ford and Chevrolet are ahead of their Japanese counterparts when it comes to consumer perception.

"They indicate that certain American cars brands are considered superior to equivalent Japanese brands by consumers when they discuss the key attributes of performance, comfort and exterior styling," Biz360 Senior Director Stephen Foster said. More specifically, officials noted that Chevrolet (63.25), along with Ford (62.11), scored higher than Honda (58.45) and Toyota (60.02) on Biz360's "Net Advocacy" rating.

Get the full report here: <http://communicator.gm.com/newswire/uploads/intlnews/DomesticsScore.doc>

Nissan pulls out of Detroit and Chicago

Nissan has dropped out of next year's Detroit and Chicago auto shows, citing depressed economic conditions. The decision makes Nissan the biggest automaker to skip out on Detroit's North American International Auto Show in January and Chicago in February. In addition to Nissan and its Infiniti brand, Mitsubishi, Suzuki, Land Rover, Rolls-Royce and Ferrari have withdrawn from the January venue.

Source: Automotive News, 11-24-08

Toyota Europe fears profit streak will end

Toyota will lose money in Europe for the first time since its 2001-2002 fiscal year, unless unit sales rise sharply in early 2009.

Source: Associated Press, 11-24-08



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.

GR Press Line	Part Code	Part Number	Part Name	Die Ship Date	Receiving Plant
MM-0	A0169	15888313	PNL-Front Door Step left	11/25/08	Mansfield
MM-0	A0044	15888310	PNL-Front Pan Ext RR left	11/26/08	Mansfield
	A0045	15888311	PNL-Front Pan Ext RR right	11/26/08	Mansfield
MM-0	B3009	15869978	RNF-RR F/pan right	12/02/08	Mansfield
MM-0	A6531	25920290	PNL-RKR inner RR left	12/02/08	Mansfield
	A6532	25920291	PNL-RKR inner RR right	12/02/08	Mansfield
MM-0	B3187	20788675	Bar-F/end Tie Bar upper	12/02/08	Mansfield
	B3188	25799810	Supt-F/end Tie Bar upper	12/02/08	Mansfield
MM-0	B3818	20816109	RNF-H/PLR left	12/16/08	Mansfield
	B3819	20816110	RNF-H/PLR right	12/17/08	Mansfield
OO-3	B3740	25799691	PNL-Pubx Si inner left	11/25/08	Pontiac
	B3741	25799692	PNL-Pubx Si inner right	11/24/08	Pontiac
P-1	B3828	25949780	PNL-BBP inner left	11/24/08	Lansing Regional
	B3829	25949779	PNL-BBP inner right	11/24/08	Lansing Regional

Personnel Moves

Torie Carlson, HR administrator, is transferring to the General Motors Timekeeping Center in Flint, Michigan, effective January 1, 2009. Also, **Clint Evans**, lead safety supervisor, is transferring to the Fairfax Assembly Plant in Kansas City, Kansas, effective January 1, 2009. Please take a moment to congratulate Torie and Clint on their new assignments.

GMS and the 7 Forms of Waste

N	C	O	R	A	E	C	R	I	G	G	A	N	N
O	O	Q	U	A	L	I	T	Y	N	D	O	O	T
I	V	I	E	Y	W	A	I	T	I	N	G	N	C
T	Y	O	T	W	V	O	I	I	S	E	E	E	S
A	T	I	L	C	O	G	E	R	S	M	Z	S	C
Z	T	Y	O	V	U	O	P	M	E	O	T	E	S
I	O	C	R	U	T	D	E	V	C	T	S	V	U
D	O	W	A	O	L	C	O	N	O	I	A	A	O
R	U	M	N	O	T	R	P	R	R	O	N	M	U
A	E	I	R	O	P	N	L	N	P	N	T	E	N
D	A	T	O	M	U	R	E	S	I	R	E	O	I
N	N	C	I	N	V	O	L	V	E	M	E	N	T
A	O	G	V	I	T	I	R	L	N	O	N	V	N
T	T	Y	D	P	T	L	I	O	O	I	R	G	O
S	T	I	G	N	O	I	T	C	E	R	R	O	C

People	Involvement	Continuous
Motion	Material	Correction
Processing	Overproduction	Improvement
Quality	Standardization	Inventory
Waiting		

Around Grand Rapids

Your EAP Rep is Here to Help

Your UAW-GM EAP representative, **Angie VanArnam**, is available to all employees and their families to help resolve personal problems. Please contact her at 246-3151, or stop by her office from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays or 10:00 p.m. to midnight Tuesdays.



Angie VanArnam

Check Processing During Christmas Break

All checks for the week ending December 21 will be mailed on Monday, December 22, from the Flint processing center. In addition, all checks for the week ending December 28 will be mailed on Monday, December 29, from the Flint processing center. **No checks will be mailed to the plant.** This is the same process as last year and means that whether or not you're working during the holiday break, you will receive your check in the mail. Also, we **will not** be able to hold any checks in Payroll to be picked up since all checks will be mailed to the address of record from the Flint processing center.

This process ensures that all employees receive their checks in a timely manner by eliminating having the checks mailed to the plant, which delays mailing by two days. All employees should make sure that their correct address appears on their current paycheck. If your address is incorrect, you must change it in Personnel.

UAW-GM QN Suggestion Corner

	11/17/08-11/26/08	YTD
*Awards Paid:	17	1,109
\$ Paid Out:	\$ 29,251.05	\$ 344,566.25
Savings to GM:	\$160,555.36	\$1,955,852.60
*Tangible and intangible awards		

Suggestion Program Continues

Please note that the UAW-GM Suggestion Program will continue at the Grand Rapids Metal Plant (and awards will continue to be paid) for as long as the plant remains open.



Holiday Health

Robyn would like to invite you to kick off the holiday season with the LifeSteps Holiday Health Table! Stop by and learn some health tips to get you through the holidays.

- When: December 8 and 9
- Where: outside the cafeteria
- Times: 11:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. (on the 8th)
6:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (on the 9th).

If you have any questions, please contact Robyn at (517) 410-6607.



Safety Corner

Know Safety, No Accidents

	2007	Through 12/01/08
First-aid Injuries	454	286
Recordable Injuries	65	46
Lost Work Days	6	3
Near Misses Reported	232	361

Don't Walk and Talk

Walking and talking takes your attention away from plant hazards. If you are distracted, you might not notice hazards in time to react safely. Please ensure that while you are in the plant you are not talking on your radio or cell phone while walking. Lead by example! Safety is for EVERYONE!

