



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.

Why MCA? What's MCA?

As team members leave the plant, any unused chemicals and other materials must be taken to the Materials Collection Area (MCA) located at Column W-22.

In order to reduce GM's cost of closing the plant, we need to sell or give away as many unused materials as we can. Materials we cannot find a home for will need to be disposed of, which in the case of hazardous wastes is extremely expensive.

So, when you clean out your toolchests and cabinets, please take any unused chemicals and other materials over to the MCA drop-off table at W-22. Please also drop off any scrap metal, rubber, and plastic you may come across to the scrap collection area at V-22. Separate containers will be available for various materials.

Bring only GM materials to the MCA--nothing from home, please. Thanks for your help!

Please don't remove locks from breakers

It's probably that everyone is trying to do the right thing by conserving as much energy as possible, but we're having problems with locks being removed from breakers. This causes a couple of issues:

1. Emergency lighting batteries lose their charge when the breakers are turned off. Consequently, we have to replace the batteries, which is a big cost.
2. There's a safety issue. We have repeatedly replaced a lock off of a breaker that controls the lighting in the stairwell around V43 column in Metal Assembly. The stairwell is used by employees that park in the Clay Avenue parking lot. It obviously becomes a safety concern when the lights are turned off and the employees still need to use that stairwell.

Locks are on breakers for a reason, so please leave them there. If someone thinks that there's a legitimate reason for removing a lock, bring it to your supervisor's attention.

Breaking it Down - Excerpts from Viability Plan presented to U.S. Department of Treasury

GM's restructuring plan is broad based, with total global employment expected to be reduced by more than 47,000 employees over the course of the coming year, 26,000 of which will come from outside the U.S. Regarding the GM's foreign operations, several initiatives are under way, briefly summarized as follows:

Canada—The Canadian market, as well as GM's Canadian operations (GMCL), are highly integrated into GM's overall North American strategy and operations. About 90% of GMCL's production in 2008 was exported outside of Canada, primarily to the U.S. Roughly 88% of GMCL's domestic sales were imports from the GM's U.S. operations. The recent industry volume downturn in North America, combined with a gap in cost competitiveness related to both active employees and retirees (versus U.S. transplants), have accelerated the need to restructure the GM's Canadian operations in order to achieve long-term viability.

Discussions are well advanced with the Canadian federal and Ontario governments to secure long-term financial assistance needed to restructure. Discussion are also underway with the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) to achieve competitive labor costs. On the issue of competitive labor costs, the CAW has committed to achieving an hourly cost structure that is consistent with what is ultimately negotiated with the UAW.

Progress has been made with the Canadian federal and Ontario governments toward an agreement to maintain proportional levels of manufacturing in Canada. Progress has also been made with GMCL receiving long-term financial assistance proportional to the total support

(continued on page 4)

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
O5	A0166B	B5018584	Fil-Bdy Si Otr R	3/2/2009	INDY
O7	A0166	15018584	Fil-Bdy Si Otr R	3/2/2009	INDY
SHEAR	A0166C	M5018584	Fil-Bdy Si Otr R	3/2/2009	INDY
O7	A0182	15959386	Rnf-RR Door Upr	3/2/2009	INDY
O5	A0182B	B5959386	Rnf-RR Door Upr	3/2/2009	INDY
SHEAR	A0182C	M5959386	Rnf-RR Door Upr	3/2/2009	INDY
OO3	B3601	25871812	Pnl-Pubx Si Otr L	3/2/2009	MARION
CTL	B3740B	B5799691	Pnl-Pubx Si Inr L	3/3/2009	FLINT
CTL	B3601B	B5871812	Pnl-Pubx Si Otr L	3/3/2009	MARION
PP3	B3602	15165533	Pnl-Pubx Si Otr R	3/3/2009	MARION
OO3	B3934	25871807	Pnl-Pubx Si Otr L	3/4/2009	MARION
SHEAR	B0419B	B5791628	Pnl-Frt W/H R/L	3/5/2009	MARION
SHEAR	B0419-20	25791628 25791627	Pnl-Frt W/H L Pnl-Frt W/H R	3/5/2009	MARION
CO-02	AS6424B	A6424NBB	Rnf-Outrigger #1 Rail	3/5/2009	MANSFIELD
SHEAR	B3934B	25871807	Pnl-Pubx Si Otr L	3/5/2009	MARION
PP3	B3935	10384456	Pnl-Pubx Si Otr R	3/5/2009	MARION
W	A0133	15962527	Fil-Frt F/Pan L	3/6/2009	MARION
CTL	A0133B	B5962527	Fil-Frt F/Pan L	3/6/2009	MARION

Vehicle Voucher Q&A

These questions and answers related to the 2009 Hourly Special Attrition Program are based on the documents, policies and negotiated agreements under which the benefits are provided. If there is any difference between the plan texts and these answers, the plan texts and negotiated agreements always will govern.

Q. Can two or more vouchers be combined to purchase one vehicle?

A. No.

Q. Can more than one vehicle be purchased using the \$25,000 vehicle voucher?

A. Yes. The \$25,000 can be used on a maximum of 5 vehicles at \$5,000 each. The process to obtain the authorization numbers is detailed below.

Process for Obtaining an Authorization Number using \$25,000 Vehicle Voucher

1. Access GM Family First (www.gmfamilyfirst.com)
2. Sign into GM Family First with your user number and password. If you have not yet established a user number and password, you must do so before proceeding.
3. Click on “\$25,000 Vehicle Voucher Program” on the left navigation panel on the home page.
4. You will be asked to provide the following:
 - Purchaser’s date of birth
 - Purchaser’s zip code
 - Purchaser’s relationship – For a purchaser other than a family member listed in the drop-down box, use “Prospect.”
5. You will need to “Accept the Terms and Conditions.” This is required and will have a link to the Terms and Conditions of the \$25,000 Vehicle Voucher Program that clearly detail the tax implications.
6. Provide the following information:
 - Authorization amount – A drop-down box will have \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000, \$20,000 and \$25,000 as options. The options will change as you use all or part of the voucher amount.
 - Purchaser’s first name
 - Purchaser’s last name
 - Purchaser’s address
 - Purchaser’s city
 - Purchaser’s state

Depending upon the amount of the vehicle voucher, you can request up to five authorizations under the \$25,000 Vehicle Voucher Program. Any combination of \$5,000 increments that do not exceed \$25,000 will be accepted.

Transitional Self–Help Center Upcoming Events

1. Resume Writing and Interview Skills Workshop

Where: Conference Room 2/2A

When: Weekly classes available starting this week

Who: All employees (both salary and hourly) are eligible. Class size is limited to 20 people per session. Please stop by the Transitional Center to sign up or call the Information line (1-866-634-7432) to secure a seat.

Note: Call 1-866-634-7432 for future dates and times, or visit the Transitional Center for more information.

2. Worker Orientation Meeting for all employees who are on layoff status by March 2, 2009

Where: The Local 730 Union Hall at 3852 Buchanan Ave.

When: Wednesday, March 4, 2009. Three sessions available: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. Each session lasts two hours.

Note: If you were on layoff before February 16, please attend the session time assigned in the letter you will receive in the mail. If you are laid off, you cannot afford to miss this meeting! Please attend if possible.

Who: All employees who are on layoff status by or before March 2, 2009, are eligible (light refreshments will be served).

What: Speakers from the following:

- Michigan Works
- Mainstay Financial Management
- Michigan Unemployment Office
- Friend of the Court
- UAW Legal Services
- other guest speakers

Note: There will be future Worker Orientation Meetings scheduled for all hourly and salaried employees who are still working (that is, not on layoff status). Please stop by the Transitional Center or watch the *AutoKnow* for more information.

Beyond Grand Rapids

Viability Plan

(continued from page 1)

provided to GM by the U.S. government. GMCL is continuing to talk with both its unions and the Canadian government to finalize agreements on both funding support and competitive labor costs in March 2009.

Answer Me Now

Here are three recent questions and answers posted in GM's "Answer Me Now," found on Socrates.

Q. What is the funded status of the salaried retirement program?

A. As of the December 31, 2008, preliminary valuation (subject to final valuation), the salaried retirement program was 95% funded, representing a \$1.7 billion deficit.

Q. How are the GM U.S. pension plans protected, and is the protection different for retirees versus current employees?

A. The U.S. pension plans are Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) benefit plans. As such, vested pension benefits cannot be taken away or reduced by GM. Pension benefits under the plan are insured by the Pension Benefits Guarantee Corporation (PBGC), up to a certain amount.

Q. Under what circumstances can the Pension Benefits Guarantee Corporation (PBGC) take over a corporate pension plan?

A. Based on comments from the Pension Benefits Guarantee Corporation's (PBGC) web site (www.pbgc.gov), "The Pension Benefits Guarantee Corporation (PBGC) takes responsibility for paying benefits to current and future retirees when a pension plan runs out of money, when a company liquidates and has an underfunded plan, when the Pension Benefits Guarantee Corporation (PBGC) must end a plan to protect participants and the insurance fund, or when a sponsoring company demonstrates it cannot continue funding a pension plan and stay in business."

Saab Files for Reorganization

As a result of GM's strategic review of the global Saab business the Saab board announced last week that it has filed for reorganization under a self-managed Swedish court process to create a fully independent business entity that would be sustainable and suitable for investment.

Chevy Among Internet-Friendly Brands

Chevrolet was rated one of the top ten most internet friendly brands according to a recent survey.

The study, which looked at what brands and manufacturers are most responsive to online car shoppers, had this to say about Chevy: "The biggest news in this study was Chevrolet's leap to No. 2 from its 2007 ranking of 15th. Chevrolet dealers delivered major improvements across the board in response rate and response quality. Not only did Chevy dealerships respond quickly, they were also thorough in answering the shoppers' questions, explaining the value of doing business at their dealership, and offering good reasons to buy a new Chevrolet."

Saturn and Hummer also made the top-ten list.

High Performance Vehicle Operations Put on Hold

Because of a refined focus of work on core products, operations at GM High Performance Vehicle Operations have been put on hold indefinitely. Successful vehicles produced in the past by High Performance Vehicle Operations include the Chevrolet SS Cobalt and HHR, and the Cadillac CTS V, which will continue to be produced through their normal life cycle.

Vehicles including the Pontiac GXP models, Chevrolet Corvette Z06 and ZR1, and the soon-to-be-released Chevrolet Camaro SS, which are produced outside of GMHPVO, are not affected and will continue to be available through their product life cycle.

Toyota Offers Job Buyouts, Ends Bonuses

Toyota is offering widespread job buyouts to its U.S. workers for the first time and cutting the workweek at some of its American plants by 10% to contend with falling sales. The Japanese company also said it is eliminating bonuses for approximately 3,000 executives and salaried employees and cutting executive pay. In addition, the world's biggest car maker said there will be no wage increases for the foreseeable future and spring bonuses paid to hourly workers will be reduced and later eliminated.

Toyota has been hit hard in the downturn, forecasting its first annual loss in 59 years. Last week, the company posted a net loss of \$1.83 billion for its fiscal third quarter ended Dec. 31, compared with a \$4.99 billion profit a year earlier.

Sources: *Wall Street Journal* (2/13/09) and *Detroit Free Press* (2/12/09).