

Beyond Grand Rapids

Volt Battery Packs Will Be Manufactured by GM in U.S.

The Chevrolet Volt, an extended-range electric vehicle that delivers up to 40 miles of gasoline- and emissions-free electric driving, will use battery packs manufactured in the United States by GM, Chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner announced at the North American International Auto Show earlier this week.

GM will establish the first lithium-ion battery pack manufacturing facility operated by a major automaker in the U.S. to produce the Volt's battery pack system. It consists of lithium-ion cells that are grouped into modules, along with other key battery components.

The plant will be located in Michigan, subject to negotiations with state and local government authorities. Facility preparation will begin in early 2009, with production tooling to be installed mid-year and output starting in 2010.

HUMMER H3T Named Pickup Truck of the Year

The 2009 HUMMER H3T has been named "Pickup Truck of the Year" by Four Wheeler magazine. The in-depth competition has been held annually since 1989, and this year marks HUMMER's first-ever win.

The 2009 competitors' list included four new four-wheel-drive pickup trucks: The H3T, the Dodge Ram, the Ford F-150, and the Suzuki Equator. To qualify, each vehicle had to be entirely new, or sport substantial mechanical revisions from a previous model year, in addition to using a two-speed transfer case.



2009 Hummer H3T

Motor Trend gives 2009 Chevrolet Avalanche 4 out of 5 stars

Motor Trend cited improved highway mileage and reduced engine noise as being among the factors for its four-star rating of the 2009 Chevrolet Avalanche. The publication also noted that the Avalanche has added a "host of technological improvements to its already versatile package."

2009 Saturn VUE 2-mode hybrid a "bright spot" for GM

AutoWeek described the 2009 Saturn VUE 2-Mode Hybrid "a bright spot" in General Motors' future. Due to go on sale by March, it will be the world's most fuel-efficient V6 sport-utility. "If its claim of a 50 percent fuel-economy gain over a nonhybrid V6 Vue holds true, the 2-Mode Vue will post a figure of nearly 30 mpg combined," AutoWeek reports.

GM V-6 makes best engine list

The GM 3.6L DOHC V-6 engine has been named one of the winners in the Ward's 10 Best Engines list. That engine is used in the Motor Trend Car of the Year Cadillac CTS and Wards says the 3.6L V-6 is "flexible enough to proliferate through the auto maker's CUVs [and] the advanced V-6 makes a hardy 304 hp on regular gasoline."

You can read the full story as reported by AutoBlog.com at http://communicator.gm.com/newswire/uploads/intlnews/AB_10Best.doc

GM Achieves Record in Asia Pacific

General Motors set a new company record for vehicle sales in Asia Pacific in 2008. GM sales in the region rose 2.7% from the previous year to 1,475,093 units. A further 766,400 vehicles and 599,080 complete knockdown (CKD) vehicle sets were exported from the region to other parts of the world.



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

Please see page 2

Transitional Center Opens at GRMP

A Grand Rapids Metal Plant Transitional Self-Help Center will open in the former Distance Learning Room, located in the first-floor hallway between the Plant Manager's Conference Room and the front lobby. The center is expected to open later this month.

The purpose of the center is to help employees identify employment alternatives. The center will be staffed by GRMP employees on both shifts. Also providing services to the center will be Michigan Works, Grand Rapids Community College, and the Department of Labor & Economic Development. Services the center will provide to GRMP employees include help with resume and cover letter writing, career exploration, job searching, training, and much more.

A joint team is working on getting the center started (see names below). As they're finalized, we'll communicate details to you through the *AutoKnow*, on *AutoView*, and on the UAW Local 730 website: <http://www.uawlocal730.com/>.

Joint Transition Committee Leadership

Russ Bolthouse
Mike Carlson
Nancy Fopma

Liz Gutierrez
Mike Reinerth
Maurice Scruggs

Other committee members include **Gilbert Arambula** (training), **Rick O'Rourke** (communication), **Chris Raterink** (training center co-coordinator), and **Mike Vincent** (training center co-coordinator)

New GM Vehicles Debut at Auto Show

General Motors opened the North American International Auto Show with a road rally of 16 new and upcoming cars and crossovers – including four global premieres – that underscores GM's ongoing commitment to emotionally compelling design, leading fuel efficiency and advanced technology.

In addition to the four world premieres – the 2010



2011 Chevrolet Spark

Chevrolet Equinox, 2010 Cadillac SRX, 2010 Buick LaCrosse and Cadillac Converj concept – Chevrolet announced it will produce and bring to the U.S. the highly fuel-efficient Spark four-door mini car and seven-seat Orlando multi-purpose vehicle.



2011 Chevrolet Orlando Show Car



Cadillac Converj Concept

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
Z2	A2185	10240129	Ext-F/Pan Rnf	2/20/2009	PARMA
NN2	B3424	25789236	Pnl-Hood Inr	2/20/2009	MARION
CO3	B3424B	B5789236	Pnl-Hood Inr	2/20/2009	MARION
CO6	A1736/A2050	25626713 25665276	Brkt-Rad Supt L Brkt-Rad Supt R	2/20/2009	INDY
O8	A1719 A1720	15230610 15230611	Rail-RR Cmpt Pan Rnf R Rail-RR Cmpt Pan Rnf L	2/21/2009	INDY
W	A0039	20762148	Pnl-H/Plr Inr L	2/21/2009	MARION
CO6	A2223-4	15857643 25975468	Rnf-W/S Frm Inr/Otr Lwr	2/21/2009	INDY
P	B3401	15912975	Rnf-Interm F/Pan L	2/22/2009	MANSFEILD
MM0	A8139	25784609	Pnl-Sill XBar #2	2/22/2009	MANSFEILD
CO3	B3401B	B5912975	Pnl-Interm F/Pan Rnf L	2/22/2009	MANSFEILD
P	B3402	15912976	Rnf-Interm F/Pan R	2/23/2009	MANSFEILD
CO3	B3402B	B5912976	Pnl-Interm F/Pan R	2/23/2009	MANSFEILD

Around Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids a 3-Star Energy Performer

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the successful shutdown of our facility over the holidays. Our plant met all three goals that were set for us. On December 24, an electrical usage snapshot was taken. Our goal was 80% reduction, and we met that goal at 80%! Our second goal was sustainment of 75% electrical reduction over the entire shutdown and we exceeded that goal at 77%! The third measure was reduction of compressed air usage by 85% and we reduced it by 89%! Excellent job!

Obviously, our company needs us to put forth all efforts to conserve cash, and this was a great example. Our corporation saved about \$693,300 over the 11 days (Dec 24 - Jan 3), which was the best shutdown ever. With volumes being down and fewer people in the plant, please continue to find areas to conserve energy.

Mandatory Fall Hazard Harness and Lanyard Annual Inspection

Dates and Times:

January 20, 2009 through January 23, 2009
from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

January 26, 2009 through January 30, 2009
from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location:

Safety Equipment Inspection Crib located on the north side of #3 crib

Safety Corner

Know Safety, No Accidents

Pedestrian Walkways

Pedestrian walkways exist as a guide to keep everyone walking in the same location, with the aim of making it a safer workplace.

Pedestrian walkways are an approximate 22-inch wide path marked with painted green lines on either side. Please try to stay within or follow these walkways, specifically if the walkway takes you through or near an Orange Crush zone.

Walkways are usually a shared space with either lift truck aisles or production work areas, so they are not to be treated as a right of way — they are a guide only. Vehicle traffic may cross these paths at any time.

Organizational Changes

The following organizational changes were announced earlier this week. Please take the time to congratulate the following people:

- **Joanne Dau**, senior industrial engineer, is transferring to Powertrain in Pontiac effective January 1, 2009. Joanne's responsibilities at Grand Rapids will be performed by Central Industrial Engineering.



Joanne Dau

- **Megan Rodgers**, production supervisor, is transferring to the Service Parts Organization in Rancho Cucamonga, California, as a supervisor, effective February 1, 2009.



Megan Rodgers

- **Craig Coulson**, labor relations representative, is transferring to the Warren Technical Center as a labor relations representative, effective March 1, 2009. Craig's responsibilities at Grand Rapids will be performed by **Lynne Welch Smith**.



Craig Coulson

- **Bob Nelson**, production planner/scheduler, is retiring effective March 1, 2009, after 30 years of service.



Bob Nelson