

Beyond Grand Rapids

GM deploys new military discount

GM has announced an online vehicle discount program for active and reserve military members that can save military families thousands of dollars when purchasing a new car or truck from Chevrolet, Saturn, Pontiac, Buick, Saab, Cadillac, GMC or HUMMER. Specific saving examples are available online at: <http://gmmilitarydiscount.com>

This new discount program enables military members to know the discounted price of their vehicle before ever walking into a dealership. Many other incentive programs can be combined with this discounted price. GM's previous military program was a \$500 discount from MSRP and had more limitations. For more information and to apply for your military discount online, visit: <http://gmmilitarydiscount.com/>. *Note:* Only active and reserve military personnel can log in to this site!

Toyota denies Tacoma is defective

Some 431 customers from around the country have reported unintended or sudden acceleration in their Toyota Tacoma pickups, resulting in 51 crashes and 12 injuries, but the automaker said there are no flaws in the trucks and that many reports were "inspired by publicity."

Federal regulators are still weighing whether to upgrade the investigation launched in February, which has broadened to include 775,000 Tacomas sold between the 2004 and 2008 model years.

Source: Detroit Free Press, June 10, 2008

Nissan building more cars and fewer trucks

Nissan said that it is adding a third shift at its Canton, Miss., plant to assemble the Nissan Altima, the automaker's best-selling model in the United States. U.S. sales of the Nissan Altima increased 43.7% in May to 34,428. Nissan also said it will cut back its truck production to just one shift.

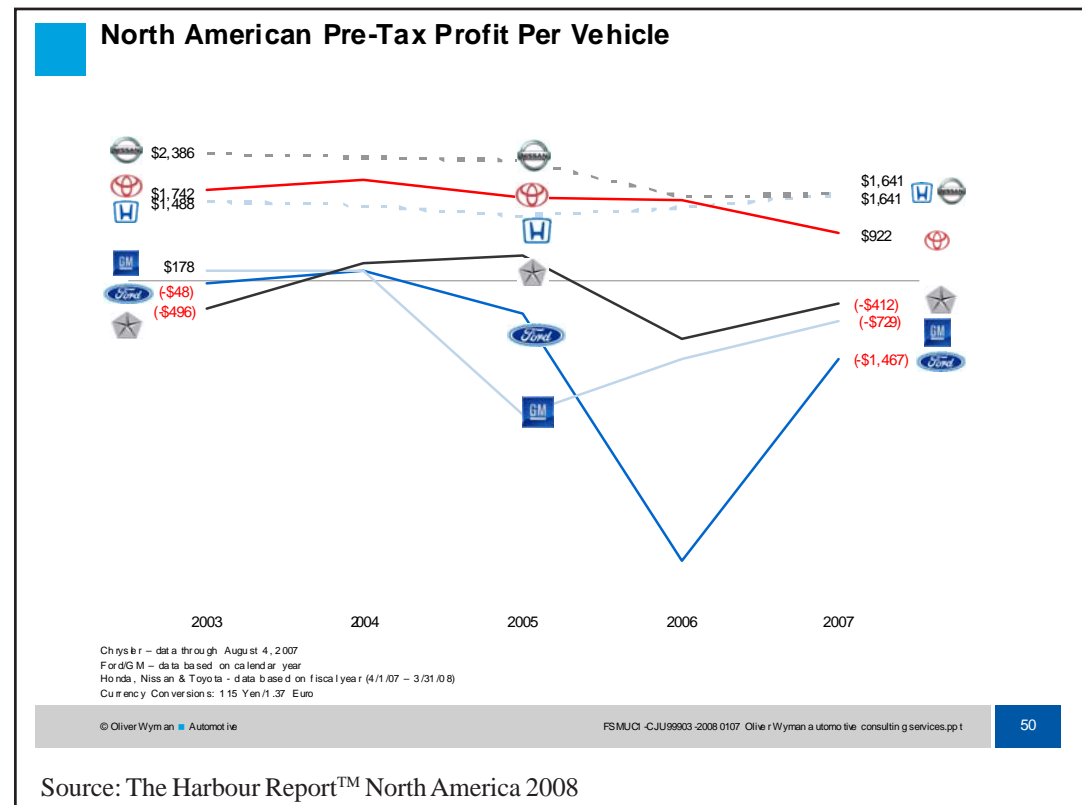
Source: Detroit Free Press, June 9, 2008

Toyota considering making the Prius in U.S.

Toyota's popular Prius hybrid could soon be "Made in U.S.A." The company is considering a North American production site to meet soaring demand for the fuel-efficient car.

With gasoline prices leaping to record highs, Toyota is facing a Prius pinch. Global production capacity is 280,000 units. But in the first four months of the year, 107,100 vehicles had been sold worldwide. At that pace, sales are clearly outstripping supply.

Source: Automotive News, June 9, 2008



Source: The Harbour Report™ North America 2008



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.

Absentee Call-in System and Some Payroll Forms Change to Require GMIN

Effective July 3, 2008, employees must enter their GM Identification Number (GMIN) instead of their Social Security Number (SSN) when using the Absentee Call-in System to report absences, as well as when filling out some payroll forms. After 10:00 a.m. on July 3, the Absentee Call-in System will only be able to accept GMIN.

Affected payroll forms will also be changed to require GMIN, and new forms will be available to employees at all locations. Please note: Some forms will continue to request SSN due to government requirements, so check to make sure you provide the correct identification number (GMIN or SSN). You should continue to provide SSN on the forms that request SSN.

All GM employees should have received a home mailing of their GMIN card in the spring of 2007. If you have misplaced your GMIN wallet-sized card, you can print a replacement card. Simply go to <http://GMIN.gm.com> for instructions and answers to frequently asked questions. If you require further assistance, please see your supervisor.



Hearing Protection Stations Added in Plant

Have you heard that we have new hearing protection stations on the three main north/south aisles? These are located at 5-Bay, which is the point at which hearing protection is required in the plant (from 5-Bay south).

The purpose of these stations is to provide more visual reminders that you are entering the part of the plant that requires 100% hearing protection. These stations will also save walking time for people who forget to wear their hearing protection when they entered the plant floor at the north end.



Contact Gary Evey (616-246-3132) or Rick O'Rourke (616-246-3124 - UAW). Fax 616-246-3150.
 Grand Rapids GM Metal Fabricating Plant, 300 36th Street SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49548.
 E-mail: gary.d.vey@gm.com, or rick.orourke@gm.com

Check Process During Summer Shutdown

All checks for week ending June 29 will be mailed on Tuesday, July 1. All checks for week ending July 6 will be mailed on Tuesday, July 8. The checks will be mailed from the Flint processing center for both weeks. **No checks will be mailed to the plant.** This is the same as last year and means that whether or not you are working during the shutdown break, you will receive your check in the mail. Also, checks will **not** be held in Payroll for pick up since all checks will be mailed to the address of record from the Flint processing center.

This process will ensure every employee receives his or her check in a timely manner by eliminating having the checks mailed to the plant, which delays mailing by one day. All employees should ensure that their correct address appears on their current paycheck. If your address is incorrect, you must change it in Personnel.



Service Awards

Congratulations to the following employees for their years of service to GM and this plant.

40 Years of Credited Service:

- **Richard Zylstra** Plant Maintenance
- **Homer Roark** Material Handling
- **Wayne Beltz, Jr.** TDO
- **Robert Rector** Welder Maintenance

35 Years of Credited Service:

- **Harvey Hamilton** Press Room
- **Abdul Memon** WFG

30 Years of Credited Service:

- **Steve VanAndel** Quality Control
- **Doug Barton** Press Room
- **Phillip Jones** Press Room
- **James Terranova** Press Room
- **Robert Walker** Press Room
- **Rosemary Fiscus** Maintenance
- **Elbert Bardwell** Maintenance
- **David Boyer** Material Handling
- **Doug Hoekstra, Jr.** TDO
- **James Johnson** TDO
- **Craig Kaster** TDO
- **Roger Crosthwaite** Tech Support
- **Donald Phillips** Tech Support
- **Kenneth Bart** WFG
- **Marvin Plas** Metal Assembly

Safety Corner

From a strictly measurement perspective, we cannot have more than **15** additional recordable injuries between now and the end of 2008 if we want to meet our Recordable Injury Rate stretch goal of 2.20.



Report Ergonomic-related Injuries

We all must be actively engaged in identifying potential ergonomic concerns on the job to reduce strain and sprain injuries. The Quick Response Process (QRP) is in place to identify potential job hazards and quickly involve GRMP's Joint Ergonomic Team (JET). If you think you have symptoms of an ergonomic-related injury, request to go to Medical. A QRP form will be initiated in Medical if the nurse thinks your symptoms indicate a potential ergonomic injury. If you don't have any symptoms but have a question about your job, talk with your supervisor and fill out a QRP form together. If you have any questions about the QRP process, contact GRMP's JETs (**Lisa Donovan** and **Fleur Zylstra**).

Know Safety, No Accidents

	2007	Through 6/20/08
First-aid Injuries	454	165
Recordable Injuries	65	20
Lost Work Days	6	1
Near Misses Reported	232	198

Lights Out!

If you notice that the lights are off in many of the vending machines around the plant, it's not that the machines aren't working. Instead, the lights are out simply to conserve energy.



Around Grand Rapids

No AutoKnow

There will be no *AutoKnow* our first week back from summer shutdown, July 16, 2008.

AutoKnow to be Published on Tuesdays

After shutdown, the *AutoKnow* will be published on Tuesday of each week, instead of every Wednesday.



UAW-GM Quality Network Employee Recognition

Fred Zarzecki and Gary Bentfield

Congratulations to **Fred Zarzecki** and **Gary Bentfield**, both of whom were recognized as part of the UAW-GM Quality Network recognition process.

Fred, first-shift TDO, was selected by the QN People Recognition Steering Committee as Employee of the Month for March 2008. He was nominated by a customer of the Machine Department and recognized for "ensuring departmental efficiency through improved scheduling, fast response, and throughput. Fred is representative of GM's Core Values of *Teamwork, Customer Enthusiasm* and *Individual Respect and Responsibility*."

Gary was nominated for recognition by fellow team members for "ensuring new team members are trained and feel at ease in the area. He is representative of GM's Core Values of *Teamwork* and *Individual Respect and Responsibility*."



Fred Zarzecki
1st shift TDO



Gary Bentfield
Metal Assembly

UAW-GM QN Suggestion Corner

	06/07/08-06/22/08	YTD
*Awards Paid:	22	565
\$ Paid Out:	\$ 4,977.54	\$172,658.75
Savings to GM:	\$ 6,315.00	\$769,715.12
*Tangible and intangible awards		

Janitorial Transition Begins After Shutdown

In line with the provisions of the National Agreement, Grand Rapids Metal Plant will begin transitioning to third party housekeeping beginning July 14. Premier employees will begin on July 14 by taking over responsibilities for janitorial duties on first and second shifts and responsibilities for duties in the pit. This transition process will be complete by September 1.

As General Motors employees who recognize our commitment to treating all employees with dignity and respect, please welcome and assist, if necessary, these Premier employees to our plant.



Welcome Back Meetings

As we always do, we'll hold mandatory Welcome Back meetings at the start of each shift on Sunday, July 13 (third shift), and Monday, July 14 (first and second shifts). Your supervisor has a schedule. Schedules will also be posted at each trestle entrance upon your return to work after shutdown.