



27 APR 2005

[Home](#)
[A-Z Site List](#)
[Socrates Insider](#)
[Speeches](#)
[International Newslines](#)
[News](#)
[Releases](#)

Click Here for
GM Newslines
Archives



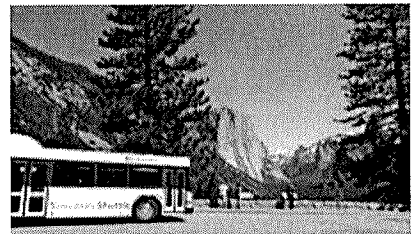
GM Newslines

CONNECTING GM EMPLOYEES GLOBALLY

Apr/26/2005

ENVIRONMENT

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK CELEBRATES DELIVERY OF GM HYBRID-POWERED BUSES The National Park Service demonstrated its ongoing commitment to preserving the natural beauty and environment of its national parks by celebrating the delivery of a new fleet of 18 Gillig shuttle buses to Yosemite National Park that are powered by GM's advanced hybrid technology. This is the first fleet of hybrid buses to operate in a U.S. National Park.



The fleet of hybrid buses will be maintained and operated by DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc. The buses will shuttle visitors in Yosemite Valley and in the Mariposa Grove of Sequoias. Yosemite joins the growing ranks of cities, counties and transit authorities that have invested in GM's advanced hybrid propulsion system for buses, which offers greater fuel economy and dramatically lower emissions over conventional diesel buses. GM hybrid-equipped buses are operating in 22 cities across the country.

The National Park Service's concern for increasing noise and emissions levels in the Yosemite Valley were the main factors behind the decision to replace its existing fleet of conventional diesel buses with hybrid-powered buses. The hybrid buses will operate year-round, carry up to 1,050 passengers per hour, and provide continuous service to visitors for 15 hours a day. Yosemite Valley ridership averages 17,800 passengers per day on busy days and can reach up to 23,000 passengers.

PRODUCT NEWS

2005 SPECIAL EDITION VZ COMMODORE EQUIPE Australia's most popular car is now available with more than \$5000 extra retail value in the special edition 2005 VZ Commodore Equipe sedan and wagon. In addition to a range of added features which buyers have come to expect from the Equipe nameplate, Holden is extending its factory warranty from three years/100,000 kilometers to five years/100,000 kilometers for the first time.



Based on the VZ Commodore Executive with advanced 175kW Alloytec engine and automatic transmission, the 2005 Equipe delivers sports suspension, larger 17-inch alloy wheels and exterior styling highlights. Interior appointments include special edition "Comet" circular knit fabric seats and door trim, air conditioning, leather treatment for the steering wheel, gear selector and handbrake and a six-disc in-dash CD.

A total of 3500 Equipes will be produced and are on sale now.

GM OF CANADA ANNOUNCES 2006 HUMMER H3 PRICING GM of Canada announced introductory pricing for the all-new HUMMER H3. The midsize SUV will be in dealers later this spring and starts with a base MSRP of \$39,995.



The H3 packs uncompromising HUMMER style and capability into its

midsize dimensions. Compared to the H2, the H3 is approximately 40 centimeters (16.9 inches) shorter in length, 15 centimeters (6 inches) shorter in height and 16 centimeters (6.5 inches) narrower. Powered by the Vortec 3500 5-cylinder engine with dual overhead cams and variable valve timing, the H3 features a combination of power and good economy. Plus, H3 will be the first HUMMER to offer the choice of a manual or an automatic transmission, as many off-road enthusiasts value the ultimate control of a manual.

4 GM VEHICLES NOMINATED FOR INTERIOR OF THE YEAR

AWARDS The Buick Terraza, Cadillac STS, Chevy Equinox and HUMMER H3 are among the vehicles nominated for an Interior of the Year award, part of the 12th annual Auto Interiors Show being held May 18-19 at Cobo Center in Detroit. Nominees were selected by the editors of *Ward's Auto World* magazine, based on overall styling, functionality, quality, fit and finish, convenience and special features, and will be voted on by members of the North American automotive news media as well as the industry at-large. The winners will be announced May 18.

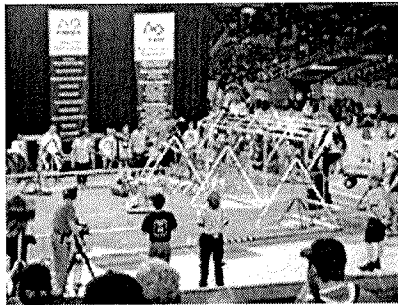


Chevy Equinox Interior

AWARDS/HONORS

GM TEAM CAPTURES FIRST ROBOTICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

It was a "HOT" time in Atlanta for the GM Milford Proving Ground "HOT" (Heroes Of Tomorrow) Team last weekend. They accomplished a feat at the FIRST World Championship Competition in Atlanta that no team before them ever has - winning FIRST's two highest awards, The Chairman's Award and the top spot in the Robotics Competition.



The HOT Team breezed through the qualifying matches, won their divisional competition, and then took the World Championship along with their alliance partners from Novi and California. Their opponents in the final matches were led by the GM Desert Proving Ground Team.

Other GM Teams also did well. The Desert Proving Ground finished 2nd overall and won the GM Team Award. The Team Award is presented annually to recognize the contributions that GM teams have made in promoting science and engineering to young people in their communities.

Team 66, the GM Powertrain Ypsilanti/Willow Run High School, won the Delphi "Driving Tomorrow's Technology" Award. Team 1547, a GM of Canada sponsored all-girls school won the Rookie Inspiration Award. Team 245 from Rochester Adams High School sponsored by the GM Finance Staff won their divisional title, and Team 135 GM/Penn High School in Indiana was a divisional finalist

INDUSTRY NEWS

VW BRAZIL EXPORTS TO TAIWAN Volkswagen of Brazil has begun exporting the Brazilian-made Saveiro compact pick-up to Taiwan, its first deal with the country. According to *Just-auto.com*, the Saveiro will be called the Pointer in Taiwan. The Saveiro/Pointer is a pick-up based on the Gol compact hatchback. The version for Taiwan has a 1.8-liter eight-valve engine modified to run solely on gas; in Brazil the engine runs on a gas-25 percent alcohol blend.

NISSAN TARGETS 120,000 SALES IN GCC STATES Nissan Middle East hopes to sell 120,000 vehicles in six oil-rich Gulf Arab states by the end of the fiscal year that started this month, according to *Reuters* news

agency. The automaker sold 100,000 vehicles in the whole Middle East region, including the six Gulf nations, in the last fiscal year. Achieving a target of 120,000 for only the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) market will ensure higher total sales for the Mideast region.

U.S. HYBRID SALES UP 81 PERCENT R.L. Polk & Company says that sales of hybrid cars rose by 81 percent last year, and by 960 percent since 2000. Polk also reported that the top five states for hybrid sales are California, Virginia, Washington, Florida and Maryland. Japanese companies sell 96 percent of the hybrid vehicles on the market; Toyota dominates with 64 percent of the hybrid market and with 53,761 Prius hybrids registered last year. In the first quarter of 2005, Toyota sold 22,880 Priuses and expects to produce 100,000 Priuses for the U.S. this year.

FYI

ON WALL STREET The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed Monday at 10,242.47 up 84.76 points. GM common stock closed up .01 at 26.75. DTV was up .06 at 14.07. News Corp. Ltd. was down .05 at 16.53. Raytheon A was up .27 at 37.03. Delphi was unchanged at 3.79. Ford common stock was down .10 at 9.79 and DaimlerChrysler closed up .15 at 39.85.

(The purpose of the GM International Newslines is to provide news and information pertinent to GM, the auto industry and the market. Content includes a summary of news from a variety of sources and does not necessarily reflect the views of the corporation. The GM International Newslines is published by Internal Communications).

To reach the editor of the GM International Newslines call 313.665.3186.
