

Attention News/Business/Education Editors:

GM Canada Salutes University of Waterloo Students for Winning First Stage of Prestigious North American Engineering Competition

Lone Canadian Team Tops 16 Schools in GM-sponsored Challenge X Competition; Drives Away with New Chevrolet Equinox and over \$20,000 in Prize Money

OSHAWA, ON, June 9 /CNW/ - GM Canada today extended congratulatory wishes to a team of students from the University of Waterloo, who drove away with a new Chevrolet Equinox, over \$20,000 in prize money and top honours in the first stage of the prestigious, three-year North American Challenge X: Crossover to Sustainable Mobility engineering competition.

The Waterloo team is the lone Canadian entrant among 17 universities from across North America that created a vehicle propulsion technology solution with the goal of improving on-road fuel economy and reducing emissions.

The Waterloo team's propulsion technology design -- called a "series fuel cell hybrid" -- will be placed into a 2005 Chevrolet Equinox compact SUV in Year Two and Year Three of the Challenge X competition. The technology itself also includes world-class, Canadian-made components, including a fuel cell engine from Mississauga, Ontario-based Hydrogenics Corp. and an electric drive from Burnaby, BC-based Ballard Power.

"This is the ultimate made-in-Canada success story," said David Paterson, Vice President Corporate & Environmental Affairs, GM Canada. "Canadian students using Canadian technology on a Canadian-designed and -built vehicle are shining on the North American stage. All of us at GM Canada salute the University of Waterloo team's major achievement, and we look forward to more success from these remarkable students in the years ahead."

The Equinox is GM's first vehicle designed and engineered in GM's Canadian Regional Engineering Centre and assembled at the CAMI facility in Ingersoll, Ontario. GM is Canada's only automaker conducting design-engineering for vehicles manufactured in Canada.

The University of Waterloo team was mentored by GM Engineers from the Canadian Regional Engineering Centre which is an integral part of the GM Global Engineering Enterprise, using state-of-the-art technology to leverage the best engineering talent around the world to bring customers the best vehicles.

GM's Oshawa-based Engineering Centre, in addition to having full-scale vehicle design and development capability, is also engaged in leading-edge hydrogen development work. These activities are being expanded with research projects at Canadian universities in the areas of vehicle hydrogen storage technology and the advancement of fuel cell materials.

About Challenge X

Challenge X is a three-year competition sponsored by General Motors Corporation and the U.S. Department of Energy. It focuses on the re-engineering of a General Motors (GM) crossover sport utility vehicle. The four-day event at GM University, held from June 5 to 8, marked the end of the first year of the competition. Years two and three of the competition will be held at the end of the 2006 and 2007 academic years to showcase the teams' learning and vehicle development from year to year.

About GM Canada

Headquartered in Oshawa, Ontario, General Motors of Canada employs more

than 20,000 people nationwide. GM of Canada manufactures a variety of vehicles, engines, transmissions and other components, and markets the full range of General Motors vehicles and related services through 785 dealerships and retailers across Canada. Vehicles sold through this network include Chevrolet, Pontiac, Buick, GMC, Cadillac, Hummer, Saturn and Saab.

For further information: Stew Low, GM of Canada, (905) 644-6786; Jill Rosenberg, Josh Cobden, Environics Communications, (416) 920-9000

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(70)



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