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INDUSTRY NEWS

CAR MBS

Grand Traverse City Resort, MI
August 1-3, 2023

IAA MOBILITY

Munich, Germany
September 5-10, 2023

THE BATTERY SHOW

Novi, MI
September 12-14, 2023

DETROIT AUTO SHOW

Detroit, MI
September 13-24, 2023

MOVE AMERICA

Austin, TX
September 26-27, 2023

SAE GLC

Greenbrier, WV
October 12-15, 2023

AUTOTECH: ELECTRIFICATION

Detroit, MI
October 17-18, 2023

THE ASSEMBLY SHOW

Rosemont, IL
October 24-26, 2023

AUTOMOTIVE TESTING EXPO

Novi, MI
October 24-26, 2023

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ALCANTARA INCREASES USE OF RECYCLED MATERIALS

ALCANTARA MILAN – Alcantara plans to increase the use of recycled post-consumer polymers in its luxury “Made in Italy”

material for the fashion, consumer-electronics and automotive industries, according to the company’s annual sustainability report.

Alcantara Chairman and CEO Andrea Boragno said the company is introducing new material with greater proportions of recycled polymers that could lead to products that rely solely on recycled material within the next three to five years.



The new material is certified to be from 68 percent post-consumer recycled polyester produced in Europe and covered by the RCS (Recycled Claim Standard). The recycled polymers are obtained from waste material to prevent plastic from being sent to landfills, incinerated or discharged into the ocean.



A corporate leader in the implementation of environmental initiatives, Alcantara was certified as Carbon Neutral in 2009. It is the first Italian industrial company and one of the world’s first companies to achieve Carbon Neutrality status.

Alcantara’s recently issued sustainability report

notes that its offset emissions amounted to 42,461 tons of CO₂ emissions during the last fiscal year.

Over the past 13 years Alcantara has supported 50 offset projects, including programs involving wind power, solar and hydroelectric in countries such as India, Turkey and Uganda.

The company also was able to avoid 15,272 tons in CO₂ emissions thanks to trigeneration and cogeneration systems in place at its facilities in Italy.

INTELLIAS EXPANDS IN THE AMERICAS WITH NEW OFFICES IN COLOMBIA

intellias CHICAGO — Intellias, a major provider of consulting and software engineering services to the auto industry, expands in the Americas with a new development center in Bogotá, Colombia.

The Intellias facilities in Bogotá will house more than 60 engineers and product specialists to support projects involving artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, cloud services and a variety of other software-based technologies for customers in North and South America. The center will contribute to further growth of the company's U.S. client roster. Intellias currently has offices in Chicago and in Boca Raton, Florida.

The company also has finalized partnership agreements with Japan-based Renesas to develop connected-car technology and with the NDS Association, headquartered in Germany, to work on global navigation standards.

The Renesas agreement, centers on the development of connected-car and advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS). Renesas is the world's leading manufacturer of semiconductors.

"Our partnership with Renesas underlines our expertise in software-defined vehicles, extended connectivity and digital interfaces," said Oleksandr Odukh, vice president of Delivery and head of Mobility at Intellias. "As an NDS member, we also will be able to help shape a new digital generation of mapping technology."

With the Navigation Data Standard (NDS) organization based in Germany, Intellias will work to develop map-data standards essential to advanced navigation, autonomous-vehicle, connectivity and related online-map technologies.

HITACHI ASTEMO PARTNERS WITH TEAM PENSKE ON 2023 INDYCAR PROGRAM

HITACHI Inspire the Next TOKYO — Hitachi Astemo continues its partnership with Team Penske for the 2023 INDYCAR SERIES season as a sponsor of the No. 2 Hitachi Dallara/Chevrolet with two-time series champion Josef Newgarden behind the wheel.

A five-time INDYCAR winner last year, Newgarden will be looking for his first Indianapolis 500 win and his third INDYCAR SERIES title this year. The talented American driver was the only driver to post wins on all three types of INDYCAR circuits in 2022 – street course, road circuit and oval track.

Newgarden has entered the 2023 season with 25 wins in his INDYCAR career. Last year he finished just 16 points behind Team Penske teammate Will Power for the series title.

The Hitachi name on Penske's No. 2 car appears on the sides and rear wing and Astemo appears on both front wings. The Astemo logo is also placed in the car's cockpit in full view of cameras broadcasting from the driver's seat.

Hitachi Astemo also continues to provide fuel-system components for all of the 2.2-liter, twin-turbocharged Chevrolet racing engines in the INDYCAR SERIES.

"Hitachi's partnership with Team Penske enters its 12th year in 2023 and we are expecting another exciting and successful INDYCAR SERIES with Josef Newgarden in the months ahead," said Rob Sharpe, senior vice president, sales & marketing, Hitachi Astemo Americas. "Being able to partner with Chevrolet in the development of its highly successful INDYCAR engine program is a significant added benefit."



CARMAX AND UVEYE AUTOMATE INSPECTIONS AT WHOLESALE AUCTIONS



DALLAS — CarMax, the nation's largest retailer of used cars and one of the largest used-car wholesalers, is partnering with UVEye to provide AI-enhanced condition reports for buyers of vehicles sold at auction.

CarMax has been a strategic investor in UVEye since 2021. The companies have been working together on innovative solutions to improve used-car auction processes. CarMax's wholesale business sold more than 700,000 vehicles during the past fiscal year.

CarMax is implementing UVEye's industry-first inspection technology for its wholesale business operations under a licensing agreement with UVEye.

UVEye systems use artificial intelligence, machine-learning, sensor-fusion and high-speed-camera systems and can spot issues ranging from worn tires and sheet metal-problems to underbody damage.

CarMax moved its auction sales online in 2020. In a remote-first world, capturing quality imagery is critical to providing buyers with a maximum amount of information about each vehicle. The company already has installed UVEye systems at several wholesale locations and plans to roll out the UVEye technology throughout parts of its wholesale business.

CarMax is using UVEye vehicle scans to check vehicle exteriors, undercarriage components and tires to quickly produce online user-friendly reports that include high-resolution photos. Systems in use at CarMax also have the ability to detect issues such as frame damage, missing parts and fluid leaks, as well as brake and exhaust-system problems.



COMPACT OPEL ASTRA WAS 2023 GERMAN CAR OF THE YEAR CLASS WINNER

ALCANTARA

MILAN – The compact Opel Astra along with the Genesis GV60, Land Rover Range Rover, VW ID. Buzz and Ferrari 296 were segment winners in the fifth annual German Car of the Year (GCOTY) program.

An overall winner selected from the program's five award categories by a panel of 30 automotive journalists was announced in December 2022. The vehicle award categories include compact, premium, luxury, new energy and performance.



The Opel Astra is available with optional seating equipped with Alcantara®. The "Made in Italy" luxury brand is an official 2023 GCOTY partner.

"The Opel Astra was a clear winner in the compact segment especially in 'emotional' categories such as driving pleasure, overall design and interior comfort," said Jens Meiners, a GCOTY founder and jury member. "We also were pleased to note that the Astra is offered with ergonomically designed seats with Alcantara as an option."



The 2023 GCOTY program kicked off in July 2022 with a three-day Summer Fest in Alsfeld, Germany, for journalists and car makers. The competition is affiliated with other international award programs such as the World Car Awards, the China Car Awards and India's Car and Bike Awards.

VEHICLE-INSPECTION TECHNOLOGY FOR DEALERS ON DISPLAY AT NADA



DALLAS — The auto industry's first fully automated suite of vehicle-inspection systems for dealership service departments and used-car auctions was on display at NADA 2023 in Dallas, Texas.

Developed in Israel with General Motors, Hyundai, Toyota, Volvo and CarMax as investment partners, the UVEye camera-based technology is significantly faster, more cost-efficient and much more accurate than any system currently in use.

UVEye vehicle scans use proprietary sensor fusion, artificial intelligence, machine-learning and high-tech camera systems. They are proven to catch 96 percent of existing problems compared to less than 25 percent for manual checks. A drive-through UVEye inspection of tires, underbody components and exteriors also takes less than 12 seconds compared to 20 minutes or more for traditional service-lane inspections.



Previewed at CES 2020 and shown for the first time at NADA last year, the industry-first technology was on display at UVEye's 2,000-square-foot exhibit (Booth #6239) at NADA 2023 at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas, Texas, and featured in the General Motors NADA display area (Booth #1545) as well.

UVEye CEO and Co-founder Amir Hever noted that Volvo, General Motors and CarMax each have announced plans in the past year to support the installation of UVEye inspection systems at dealerships and used-car auction facilities throughout the U.S.

HITACHI ASTEMO RECEIVES QUERETARO'S 2022 BUSINESS MERIT AWARD



QUERETARO, Mexico — Hitachi Astemo Mexico, S.A. de C.V. has received the State of Queretaro's prestigious Business Merit Award for foreign trade, product quality and its commitment to continuous improvement.

Mauricio Kuri Gonzalez, the state's governor, presented the award in December to Esteban Valera, Hitachi Astemo's Queretaro Plant site director. Founded in 2012, the facility produces chassis systems and components for the global automotive industry.



"The Business Merit Award demonstrates what we've accomplished and what we can achieve going forward," the governor said. "The State of Queretaro is ready and able to help business continue to grow and succeed."

Esteban Valera recognized Ricardo Esquivel Chavira, Hitachi Astemo's Corporate PC&L General Manager for Mexico, Anaid Aida Grande Cadena, Foreign Trade & Logistics Manager for Mexico and the Queretaro site's Foreign Trade Team for their work and leadership in winning the award in the foreign trade category. The award was presented during recent ceremonies in the city of Queretaro.

"This award marks an important milestone in the history of our Queretaro plant," Valera noted. "It recognizes Hitachi Astemo as a leading producer and exporter of quality automotive products and is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of our employees."

TIM CLARK NAMED CEO AND PRESIDENT OF HITACHI ASTEMO AMERICAS



FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. — Tim Clark has been appointed CEO and president of Hitachi Astemo Americas, Inc.

Clark is a senior vice president and executive officer of Hitachi Astemo, Ltd. He had been president of Hitachi Astemo Europe, based in Munich, Germany. He succeeds Paul Carroll who recently was named global account manager for Hitachi America, Ltd.

Clark also had served as vice president of sales and marketing for Hitachi Automotive Systems in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and previously was general manager in charge of international sales for Hitachi Automotive Systems based in Tokyo.

Prior to joining Hitachi in 2003, he was general manager of Unisia North America and also had held executive positions at Nissan North America and with Mazda in Japan.

Fluent in Japanese, he holds a bachelor's degree in Japanese Studies from Brigham Young University.

Hitachi Astemo Americas has more than 20 manufacturing plants, research-and-development centers and sales offices in the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Brazil. Hitachi Astemo, its parent company, was created in 2021 by the merger of Hitachi Automotive Systems with three former Honda affiliates: Nissin Kogyo, Keihin and Showa.



AUTOMOTIVE NEWS RECOGNIZES UVEYE WITH ALL-STAR AWARD



DETROIT — Amir Hever, UVEye's CEO and co-founder, has received an Automotive News All-Star award for the company's development of vehicle-inspection systems to improve customer service at new- and used-car dealerships throughout the United States.

General Motors and Volvo this year announced plans to install UVEye technology at dealership service departments throughout the United States. In addition to GM and Volvo, other automotive investors in UVEye include CarMax, Hyundai Motors and Toyota Tsusho.

UVEye's high-speed inspection systems use artificial intelligence, sensor fusion and high-speed camera technology to spot within seconds issues ranging from worn tires to defective underbody parts. Already in place at several hundred U.S. dealerships, they are faster and more accurate than traditional service-lane inspections and have been proven to help dealers significantly improve customer service.

General Motors in early 2022 entered into a commercial agreement with the company to explore the use of UVEye technology at GM dealerships throughout the world. In March, Volvo announced plans to equip its U.S. dealerships with UVEye's automated inspection systems as well.

"It's truly an honor to have been recognized with this prestigious Automotive News All-Star award," Hever said. "The real winners of this award, however, are UVEye's dedicated employees around the world as well as our investors, automotive partners and dealership customers.



AUTOCOM ASSOCIATES NAMED U.S. AGENCY OF RECORD FOR INTELLIAS



AUTOCom ASSOCIATES
PUBLIC RELATIONS

DETROIT — Intellias, a leading global provider of software development services for the automotive, transportation and related mobility industries, has selected AutoCom Associates as its public relations agency of record in North America.

Headquartered in the Ukraine, Intellias is a global company with offices in the United States, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Croatia, Columbia, Bulgaria, Malta, India, Saudi Arabia, UAE and the UK. The company's mobility customers include leading original equipment manufacturers and their Tier One suppliers, as well as transportation and mobility suppliers such as LG Electronics, DKV, Connex2X and HERE Technologies.

For more than 20 years, the company has been digitally transforming businesses to deliver navigation software today used in nearly 180 million vehicles from 10 global car brands while reducing CO2 emissions for 250,000 fleet owners and digitally analyzing traffic flow on more than 60,000 roadways around the world.

Intellias recently celebrated its 20th anniversary, showcasing its software expertise in connectivity, digital cockpit development, cloud platforms and HMI (Human-Machine Interface) at CES 2023. The company plans to be an exhibitor and presenter at other major U.S. technology conferences throughout the coming year.

"The company has forged major partnerships with industry groups such as AUTOSAR and COVESA (Connected Vehicle Systems Alliance), as well as with Connex2X for aftermarket applications and WattEV for commercial vehicles," noted AutoCom President Larry Weis. "We're looking forward to working with Intellias as they expand their partnership networks in the United States and Europe."

SAVE THE DATES



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