



Weekly Car Dealers Newsletter

November 29, 2010

This information that follows is taken from sources including *The Carconnection*, *Autoweek*, and other industry sources.

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LIVE FROM THE LA INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW
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KIA MOTORS TO SELL NEW VEHICLES ON EBAY AMID U.S. EXPANSION
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MCLAREN MP4-12C TO START AT ABOUT \$230,000

LIVE FROM THE LA INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW

On Thursday (Thanksgiving Day) I attended the LA Auto Show. Many, many people there and some great displays. I took pictures and here are some of the photos I took, if you would like any please send me an e-mail and I will forward you a photo when I return to the office December 6th.

2011 Camaro SS Convertible
2011 Corvette ZR1
2012 BMW 6 series Coupe
Fisher Karma
Jaguar Coupe Concept
Lexus Hybrid
Porsche 911 Hybrid Racer
2011 Ford Explorer Concept
Subaru Legacy Concept
Chrysler 200
Nissan Leaf
Nissan Murano Convertible
Various Cars from SMS
Slammed Sienna
Suzuki Kizashi Russia to LA car
Cadillac Urban Concept

2011 GMC Acadia Denali
2012 Buick Regal GS
Chevy Volt interior
GMC Graphite Concept
Lexus LFA
Porsche 356
2011 Ford Mustang BOSS 320
2011 Dodge Charger
Fiat 500
Dodge Challenger "Hemi 392"
Nissan Concept Coupe
Honda CR-Z Racer
3 Morgans
Suzuki Kizashi – Bonneville racer
Infiniti Coupe Concept

ELECTRIC VEHICLES SEEN AS SLIVER OF 2020 MARKET

Automakers around the world are pouring money into developing a slate of hybrid, plug-in and electric vehicles, but pure EVs are expected to make up just a sliver of the global auto market in a decade's time. Pure electric vehicles-- which do not have an internal combustion engine and are plugged in to recharge-- will make up around 5 percent of the global auto market by 2020, some auto experts said. "The business model doesn't compute," BorgWarner Inc CEO Timothy Manganello said at the Reuters Global Autos Summit. "The more these guys make electric vehicles, the more money they are going to lose." One of the main stumbling blocks for the widespread adoption of electric cars is the price of the batteries, which Manganello said can cost between \$10,000 and \$14,000 to replace. "You are never going to have a low cost car as an electric vehicle," said Manganello. BorgWarner is a leading supplier of turbochargers and other engine and transmission components. *Source: Reuters*

KIA MOTORS TO SELL NEW VEHICLES ON EBAY AMID U.S. EXPANSION

Kia Motors Corp. will begin selling new vehicles through EBay Inc. as South Korea's second-largest automaker looks to increase brand recognition in the U.S. with the help of the second-most visited e-commerce site. More than 300 of Kia's 725 U.S. dealers are enrolled to list their inventory on EBay and kia.ebay.com, said Tom Loveless, Kia's vice president of U.S. sales. EBay's arrangement with Kia is similar to its new-vehicle promotion in California with General Motors Co. last year, which the automaker let expire after about eight weeks. "This exposes our brand to a percentage of the car-buying public that perhaps wouldn't otherwise have considered us," Loveless said in a telephone interview. *Source: Bloomberg*

CHRYSLER, GM PLAN FACTORY INVESTMENTS

Chrysler Group LLC said Tuesday it plans to invest an additional \$843 million at its transmission manufacturing facilities in Kokomo, Ind., to produce front-wheel-drive automatic transmissions for future vehicles. Separately, General Motors Co. on Wednesday is expected to announce an investment at a Flint, Mich., engine plant. GM says it has spent \$3.1 billion on U.S. factories that have created or retained 7,900 jobs since the company emerged from bankruptcy last summer. Chrysler's investment would fund the installation of equipment and tooling to modernize two facilities. The company said that would extend the life spans of the plants and allow for the retention of nearly 2,250 jobs *Source: The Wall Street Journal*

CERBERUS SAID TO SEEK BUYERS FOR AUTO LENDER CHRYSLER FINANCIAL

Cerberus Capital Management LP is seeking buyers for auto lender Chrysler Financial, which the private-equity firm acquired as part of its takeover of Chrysler LLC in 2007, said two people with

knowledge of the matter. Cerberus in recent days began soliciting interest in the Farmington Hills, Michigan-based business from large banks, said the people, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the discussions are private. The former lending arm of Chrysler has a book value, or assets minus liabilities, of about \$6 billion or \$7 billion, the people said yesterday. Chrysler Financial had \$26 billion of loans and had issued less than \$100 million of new loans in the first half of this year, a person with knowledge of Chrysler Financial's business said in July.
Source: Bloomberg

NÜRBURGRING LAP TICKET PRICED AT \$32 FOR 2011.

Thirty-two dollars is a small price to pay to get a taste of the Green Hell. That will be the cost to drive one lap on the famed Nürburgring racetrack in Germany in 2011--up from \$29 a lap this year.



Four laps on the 73-turn, 13-mile course will cost you \$119. That includes a few bucks for food and drink at the Eifeldorf Grüne Hollé restaurant and one Ring Werk Museum ticket.

Visitors who don't want to drive but still would like the full 'Ring experience can jump in one of the Nürburgring taxis for a quick thrill.

For those looking to drive a little longer on the most difficult racetrack in the world, the 'Ring offers 15-lap tickets for \$415 and 25-lap passes for \$629. Both include food and drink vouchers and one ticket to the museum.

The top hot shoes will no doubt opt for the season ticket, which costs about \$1,800. That allows hot shoes to drive anytime that the track isn't rented out by an automaker throughout the year. The price includes \$130 in free drinks and food and two tickets to the museum. If you just happen to be near the 'Ring with 20 minutes to kill, \$50 bucks will get you two laps, if you're really, really fast. *Source: Autoweek.com*

MCLAREN MP4-12C TO START AT ABOUT \$230,000

The McLaren MP4-12C sports car will have a sticker price of between \$230,000 and \$250,000 when it goes on sale in the United States about a year from now. McLaren said on Wednesday that the sports car will be priced at 168,500 pounds (about \$265,800) in the United Kingdom and at 200,000 euros (about \$267,200) in Europe when it goes on sale in that region in early 2011.

A final price for the U.S. market will be set in early 2011, McLaren spokesman Mark Harrison said.

The MP4-12C's performance comes from a 3.8-liter twin-turbo V8, rated at 592 hp, mated to a lightweight carbon-fiber chassis. The car has a curb weight of 2,866 pounds.



McLaren said it will build up to 1,000 copies of the MP4-12C in the car's first full year of production. After that, the company expects to build about 4,000 copies a year. McLaren will build the car at the same facility where it produces its Formula One race cars. The MP4-12C can be customized with a wide range of options. Buyers can choose from 17 paint colors and 14 interior trims. A sports exhaust system, carbon-ceramic brake discs, polished-finish calipers and two lightweight forged wheel options are some of the available performance upgrades. Also, the mirror casings, engine cover and engine-bay panels can be constructed from carbon fiber. *Source: Autoweek.com*
