

Like Father, Like Son in Istok Family: Ford Systems Engineer Supports Kids

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How about a hand for Ford automotive engineer Mike Istok, who supports his father Harry's classroom endeavors every year.

Harry Istok is a drafting teacher at Malow Jr. High School in Shelby Township and every year he offers his students a half-day "car show" so that they can kick the tires on hot Ford and GM cars and get excited about a future career in engineering.

His son, Mike, a Ford engineer in Dearborn, helps provide a series of Ford and Lincoln vehicles at the show.

"I've been doing this, I started with General Motors five years ago - we had about three-four cars out," Istok recalled. "We did that for two years. About three years ago, my son Mike was hired at Ford Motor

as an engineer.

"He approached his people because he went through this as a student at Chippewa Valley High School.

"And they said, 'Do it.' Every year, for the past couple years, this event has been getting bigger and bigger."

Dozens of Malow Jr. High School students just swarmed the cars that included hot Mustangs from Ford and hot Camaros and Corvettes from GM.

The car show gives these young teenagers a chance to get excited about a career in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

"This isn't about me, this isn't about Ford, this isn't about GM, this is about kids - because they represent the future of the country," Harry Istok said.

"Part of my job is to plant seeds and give them exposure. At the end of 8th grade, they develop a four-year high school

plan."

Istok, a drafting teacher, likes to light up the youngsters with inside looks at all of these hot cars.

Meanwhile, his son Mike is proud to help provide his dad with the Ford vehicles he needs to impress the kids at the Junior High's spring car show.

Said Mike Istok, "I work in the Product Development Center and I'm a systems engineer.

"As a systems engineer, typically we work across all car line. My commodity is center consoles and IPs. I'm constantly working with the design release engineers... best practices to make the instrument panels/center consoles, not only robust, but to meet our craftsmanship requirements for all nice and tight fit and finishes.

"I've been at Ford four years now. I took a drafting class in junior high, same age as these



PHOTO: GERALD SCOTT

Ford engineer Mike Istok, right, with his father Harry, a drafting teacher at Malow Jr. High School in Shelby Twp. Mike Istok helps bring a series of hot Ford and Lincoln cars to the annual display.

kids... just loved it and purposed a career in engineering ever since."

Mike Istok was asked which Ford car was his favorite.

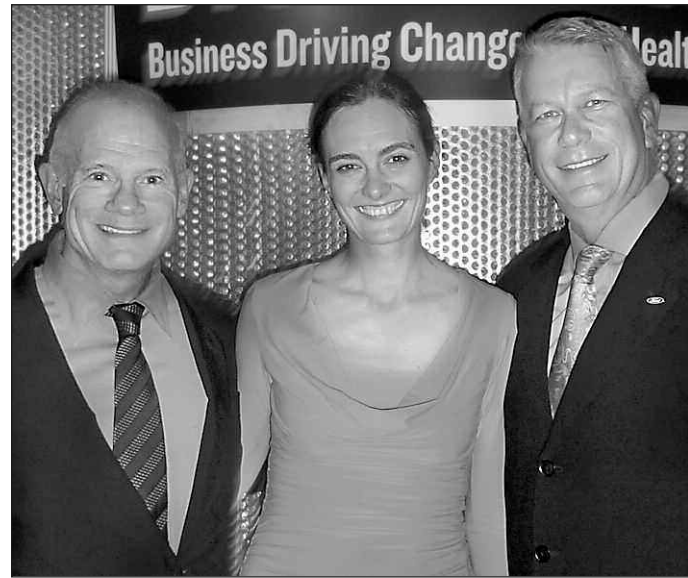
"That's easy, probably the new Laguna Seca that we brought out, Boss Mustang or

Shelby GT 500, I absolutely love them. I'm a performance guy."

The 2011 Malow Jr. High spring car show was a bitter-sweet one for the Istoks - the senior Istok is retiring from teaching after a 39-year career,

all right there at Malow.

Harry Istok is proud that his son turned out to be a Ford engineer and he hopes that some of the current Malow students who attended the car show might one day follow in Mike's path.



William Rody, Friederike Baugner-Weihs and Jeff Nemeth at the event honoring Ford South Africa.

Ford Honored for Its HIV / AIDS Work in S. Africa

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa - Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa (FMCSA) has been recognised for its innovative Wellness Cluster program by the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GBC).

FMCSA President and CEO Jeff Nemeth accepted the GBC Business Action on Health Award on June 2 in New York, during the GBC's annual conference.

The two-day conference took place at Cipriani Wall Street, with the participation of celebrities like Whoopi Goldberg and Sigourney Weaver, business luminaries such as Ted Turner and Richard Branson, and former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

"It is heartbreaking to see the devastating toll HIV/AIDS has taken on families in South Africa and around the world, especially when its spread

can be prevented through education and awareness," Nemeth said. "My hope is that this recognition will energise our efforts and encourage others to join the fight against this disease."

The Wellness Cluster programme helps FMCSA's family of supplier companies to provide in-house HIV/AIDS counselling and testing for automotive industry workers in South Africa.

The program was first launched in 2009 by the Ford Struandale Engine Plant in Port Elizabeth, in conjunction with the Automotive Industry Development Centre (AIDC) and Aids Workplace Programmes in Southern Africa (AWISA).

"Ford South Africa is like a family, and we look out for family," said Nemeth.

"Our family includes customers, suppliers and dealers, and on behalf of all the hard-working, dedicated men

and women in our family, I am proud and humbled to represent an organisation that is truly committed to making the world a better place."

The initiative has achieved phenomenal success. Ten automotive industry suppliers in South Africa have enrolled in the Wellness Cluster programme thus far.

To date, more than 2,000 employees have volunteered to be tested for HIV, receiving potentially life-saving counselling in the process.

The benefits to the workers and their families are immediate, with indirect benefits spreading throughout the greater community at large as awareness of how to combat and treat the disease continues to spread by word-of-mouth.

"The HIV/AIDS pandemic is not only tragic in terms of the toll it takes on people and their families," said Kurt Bothman, Human Resources man-

ager at the Ford Struandale Engine Plant.

"It's the single greatest threat to the viability and success of the automotive sector in the Eastern Cape. It's essential that we tackle this issue with a strategic, carefully planned, well-executed and measurable programme that can turn the tide, and secure a prosperous future for our companies and the wider community."

The 2011 GBC Awards include six categories: Ford took second place in the Partnership/Collective Action category.

The organization represents more than 200 private sector companies that aim to take the lead in the business community's efforts to improve health conditions around the world. The GBC is celebrating its 10th anniversary, and this year's award selection process was the most competitive yet.

Ford Eyes 8M Global Units

NEW YORK - Ford Motor Company said it expects its worldwide sales to increase by approximately 50 percent by mid-decade to about 8 million vehicles a year - with improved operating margins - as the company continues its One Ford plan to accelerate product introductions and expand quickly in growth markets.

In a presentation today to financial analysts led by Ford President and CEO Alan Mulally, the company said it is well positioned to grow profitably. Ford expects industry-wide vehicle sales to rise substantially by mid-decade, with much of Ford's growth opportunity driven by accelerated expansion in the developing markets, recovery in mature markets, and sales of smaller and more fuel-efficient vehicles.

"Ford is a growing company operating in a growing global automotive market," Mulally said. "Through our One Ford plan, we are increasing our product investments to meet this growing demand with a full family of best-in-class products."

By mid-decade, Ford said it expects:

- Its vehicle sales will increase approximately 50 percent to about 8 million - from 5.3 million in 2010
- Global Automotive operating margins will increase to 8 to 9 percent from 6.1 percent in 2010, with North America operating margin at mid-decade in the 8 percent to 10 percent range*
- Capital spending will average about \$6 billion annually through mid-decade, an increase from \$3.9 billion in capital spending in 2010
- Total Automotive debt will be reduced to about \$10 billion, down from \$16.6 billion at March 31, 2011 and from \$33.6 billion at the end of 2009

The company will return to investment grade in the near-term, and resume paying dividends at an appropriate level of after-tax earnings

Ford Credit to increase managed receivables to the \$110 to \$120 billion range by mid-decade, compared with \$83 billion at year-end 2010; Ford Credit also expects to achieve an after-tax return on equity in the low double-digit range

• These milestones will be achieved, the company said, by continuing to make progress on its One Ford plan: Meanwhile, Ford's mid-

decade outlook is driven by the company's confidence in its product plan and ability to expand into new markets and appeal to a broadening customer base.

By 2020, Ford expects about 32 percent of vehicle sales to come from the Asia Pacific Africa region, more than doubling the current percentage of global sales volume Ford achieves in the region.

Globally, small vehicles will increase from representing 48 percent of Ford's sales to about 55 percent of the company's global sales by 2020.

The company also said that by 2014 more than 140 percent of the global product portfolio will be new or significantly refreshed compared with 2009.

This will include a continued focus on global vehicles, including one midsize vehicle, one full-size commercial van and one global compact pickup - in addition to the global small vehicles already being sold today. Ford said it has proven it can win with this strategy.

Ford Intros Two C-MAX Cars - Both Electrified

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its Dearborn Center of Excellence.

Marakby explained the technology behind the C-MAX Energi, which he said will have a range of more than 500 miles. The plug-in hybrid is powered by a gasoline engine, a lithium-ion battery and boasts regenerative braking.

If fully charged, the car operates on pure electricity. If extra power is needed, as in freeway entry, the gasoline engine kicks in, after which it reverts back to all-electric. Once the charge is depleted, the car operates as a hybrid.

This is Ford's first use of lithium-ion battery technology. The car can be charged by either 120 or 240 volts and will include a mobile charge station.

Ford collaborated with Microsoft for its "smart" charger, which can pick the lowest cost time to start charging.

Marakby said the C-MAX Energi will charge faster and go further than the Chevrolet Volt, though did not release either the range of the vehicle on a full charge nor the time to charge because it is still in the certification process.

Ford Launches New Business Venture in Russia

MOSCOW - Ford Motor Company and Sollers OJSC have signed agreements to establish a 50-50-owned joint venture in Russia. The new business, named Ford Sollers, is scheduled to start operations later this year.

Stephen Odell, chairman and CEO of Ford of Europe, and Vadim Shvetsov, general director of Sollers, signed the final agreement papers at a ceremony today held in Moscow with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.

Ford and Sollers also signed a Letter of Intent with Vnesheconombank (VEB), the Russian development bank, for long-term financing for Ford Sollers of 39 billion Russian roubles, or approximately \$1.4 billion.

The new joint venture also announced the Ford Transit medium commercial vehicle will be among several new Ford products to be built by Ford Sollers.

"This is an historic day for the Ford brand in Russia," Stephen Odell said. "Together with our friends and partners at Sollers, we have established the new Ford Sollers business with the clear objective of providing our customers with more Ford products and increased service in the Russian market.

"Russia is set to become Europe's largest market for new vehicles by mid-decade and provides the Ford brand a huge growth opportunity. Ford Sollers will help to build the Ford brand in Russia and support profitable growth, while also strengthening the Russian automotive industry and its local supply base," said Odell.

"We are delighted to work with Ford, and this partnership is a vital step in the development of Sollers," said Vadim Shvetsov.

"We are confident that our mutual efforts on the development of manufacturing facilities, new product launches and localisation of parts content will ensure success for our strategy and a leading position for the Ford Sollers joint venture company in the Russian market."

Ford Sollers operations will include the Ford manufactur-

ing plant in Vsevolozhsk, near St. Petersburg, which currently builds the Ford Focus and Ford Mondeo, in addition to two Sollers production facilities in the Republic of Tatarstan. Together, these three plants will manufacture a range of Ford passenger cars and light commercial vehicles, including the Ford Transit commercial vehicle.

In 2002, Ford became the first foreign automaker to manufacture cars in Russia. Ford brings to the Ford Sollers venture its extensive manufacturing experience, a dealer network of 107 sales and service sites in 71 cities across Russia, and a strong reputation with Russian cus-

tomers. In addition to the vehicles Ford Sollers will build in Russia, the joint venture will have access to the global range of Ford's latest products delivered under its One Ford plan.

Sollers, Russia's second-largest producer of passenger and light commercial vehicles, will support Ford Sollers through its manufacturing capabilities, knowledge of the Russian market, experience in distribution and work with the Russian supply base. This significant contribution will strengthen Ford Sollers, and will be an important contributor to its future success.

Ford Sollers will be responsible for the import and distri-

but ion of Ford brand products, parts and accessories in Russia.

In addition to vehicle production, Ford Sollers will produce engines, operate a stamping facility providing a higher level of local parts content for Ford vehicles built in Russia, and establish local research and development activities.

The joint application by Ford and Sollers to the Russian government for participation in the new industrial assembly regime was approved by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade on June 1, 2011. Ford Sollers will begin formal operation later this year.

High Schoolers Flock to Dearborn For Chance at \$12M in Scholarships

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and have taken several different paths in pursuit of their dreams. Some of the personal storylines include:

• For team member Eric Vong of Clinton High School Career Complex in Clinton, Miss., just reaching the Mississippi State Finals was truly a win in itself.

Vong, who suffers from a rare blood disorder, was unsure if he would be able to compete at all, but through the support of his instructor and his teammate, he made it to the state championship.

• Vong's teammate, Chase Mitchell, also had his own strong support system in step-father Razi, an immigrant and automotive shop owner, who plans to pass down the shop to his son.

• Winning the Arizona State Finals was truly a milestone for Flowing Wells High School, which has never captured the title before.

Unable to secure a Ford Mustang on which to practice, the team jumped at the chance to learn the ins and outs once they arrived at the State Finals.

Staying up until 1:00 a.m., the boys used the few tools available to take apart the display car and gain additional hands-on knowledge of its inner workings.

Fortunately, this commitment paid off and they were able to drive home the victory.

• 2011 is the first year Merritt Island High School has nabbed the title of Florida State Champions. Team member Sam McLean, who had open heart surgery as a baby and today wears a pacemaker, described the state finals as his "Super Bowl."

Sam, along with teammate Johnny White III, is looking forward to the National Finals in Michigan, which will mark the first time either student has flown in a plane - something of an irony, considering both boys have parents that work in the space industry at Cape Canaveral.

It will be an exciting set of firsts for the entire team.

• The team from Thomson High School in Thomson, Ga., has a rich history with the Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills competition and the automotive industry.

Instructor Jason Brooks was a student competitor in the 1998 competition; his team came in fifth place at the National Finals. Additionally, his students, Chevy Phillips and Dakota Aldred, grew up in the industry, as both their fathers are automotive technicians. This experience and background knowledge will likely

serve them well at this year's National Finals.

• It's all in the family for Dwight Nieboff and Brenten McManis from Lamar Area Vocational Technical School in Lamar, Mo.

Both students' fathers were Auto Skills Missouri State champions when they were in high school - and McManis' father even placed in the top ten at the national championship. Nieboff and McManis had some great role models, but they also have some big shoes to fill.

Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills is a nationwide automotive technology competition for high school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing careers as automotive service technicians.

Now in its 62nd year, the popular, national competition tests students' automotive knowledge, workmanship and problem-solving abilities with a written test as well as a race against the clock to diagnose and properly repair intentionally "bugged" vehicles.

Ford and AAA are dedicated to the competition as part of their commitment to the future of automotive service in America.

For information on competing in the Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills, visit AutoSkills.com.