

GM Vice Chair Stephens Decides to Retire April 1

DETROIT – General Motors Vice Chairman and Chief Technology Officer Tom Stephens has elected to retire effective April 1, capping a 43-year career that included leadership of the company's global powertrain and product development organizations.

In his most recent role as CTO, Stephens led the automaker's product technology arm, working to identify and develop advanced and game-changing technologies for integration in future GM vehicles. He also focused on building closer relationships with external and internal technology partners. His successor will be named later.

Stephens, 63, served as vice chairman, Global Product Operations from April 2009 through February 2011. He was Group vice president of Global Powertrain from July 2001 to March 2008, when he was promoted to executive vice president of Global Pow-

ertrain and Global Quality. His GM career began in 1969 as an hourly employee at the Chevrolet Engineering Center in Warren, under the University of Michigan Student Co-op Program. Stephens held several engineering positions at Cadillac Motor Car Division and a series of engineering leadership posts with the Buick-Oldsmobile-Cadillac Division before being chosen to lead the newly created GM Powertrain Division.

"Tom Stephens is an engineering icon within our company and within our industry," said GM chairman and CEO Dan Akerson.

"We have all benefited greatly from his passion, wisdom, and commitment to product excellence. His talent and contributions to GM are deeply appreciated and his expertise will be missed."

Key highlights of Stephens' career include leading the development of the first Cadillac



General Motors Vice Chairman Tom Stephens, center, hoists the 2011 Motor Trend Car of the Year award for the Chevrolet Volt electric vehicle at an announcement in the wind tunnel at the GM Aerodynamics Lab in Warren. Stephens says he will retire following a 43-year career on April 1.

Northstar engine, GM's premier dual overhead cam performance engine, which won numerous industry and engine awards.

He also spearheaded the creation of GM's advanced propulsion technology strategy, which guided the automaker's development of a wide range of advanced en-

gine technologies, hybrid vehicles, and the Chevrolet Volt. Stephens led the globalization of powertrain engineering, leveraging global centers of expertise to speed engine development.

He also championed the use of computational tools and common parts in GM engineering and product devel-

opment processes to increase quality and efficiency.

After retirement, Stephens will continue to serve on the board of directors of the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Foundation and the board of trustees for the Detroit Science Center.

He is a member of the Engi-



Retiring GM Vice Chairman Tom Stephens most recently led the automaker's Global Product Operations from 2009 until 2011.

neering Advisory Council for the University of Michigan School of Engineering and was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2007 for his contributions to powertrain engineering.



Buick and the GM Foundation have announced the expansion of the Buick Achievers Scholarship program. Besides allotting real scholarship money, the program puts the Buick name in front of a much younger audience than the brand typically engages.



Many students who drop out of college before completing their education cite the lack of financial resources as the main reason for dropping out. The Buick Achievers program "will enable many deserving student to complete their education," said Scholarship America Senior Vice President Donald Lassere.

Buick Expands Successful 'Achievers' Scholarships

DETROIT – Buick is taking a "good thing" and making it even better – a whole lot better.

That's because Buick and the General Motors Foundation last week announced an expansion of the 2012 Buick Achievers Scholarship Program to include current undergraduate students, as well as high school seniors and graduates, for the 2012-13 school year.

"In its second year, lessons learned were incorporated to further the Buick Achievers' mission to inspire, celebrate and enable human achievement," said Mary Barra, senior vice president of Global Product Development.

"These new steps demonstrate the commitment to a future generation inspired by the college experience and motivated to make a difference in their world."

The announcement of changes to the \$4.5 million-a-year program was made at the North American International Auto Show where Buick revealed the all-new Encore luxury small crossover.

"Almost one-half of college students drop out before completing their education," said Scholarship America Senior Vice President Donald

Lassere. "Many cite the lack of financial resources as the principal reason for dropping out. By including current undergraduate students, the Buick Achievers program will enable many deserving students to complete their education."

The move also helps identify current undergraduates who have had more time to develop interests in majors covered by the program including science, technology, engineering, mathematics, design, marketing and business administration.

Community service is a consideration in each student's application, and another change for 2012 increases the weight of those activities.

The program, which Buick and the General Motors Foundation launched in 2011, rewards 1,100 students from across the country who demonstrate excellence in the classroom and in the community, and lack the financial resources to attend college.

The scholarship program provides up to \$25,000 a year to 100 students, renewable for up to four years and one additional year for five-year engineering programs.

An additional 1,000 students receive a one-time

\$2,000 award. The program is funded by the GM Foundation and is among the largest awarded over multiple years.

"Special consideration is given to students who are military personnel, veterans or their dependents, as well as women and other minority groups," said GM Foundation Chairman Bob Ferguson.

"This ensures that we help build a strong and diverse manufacturing workforce that will ultimately strengthen our nation's global competitiveness."

In 2011, scholarships were awarded in all 50 states and nearly half were given to students who were the first in their families to attend college.

"My parents and brother never had the chance to attend college, so you can imagine how important it is that I'll be the first one in my family to do so," said Yanqui Lin, a business administration student at Ohio State University. "I'm not only realizing my dream, but also theirs."

Information and applications are available at

www.buickachievers.com.

Applications will be accepted through Feb. 29, 2012, and scholarships will be awarded in Spring 2012 for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Since its inception in 1976, the GM Foundation has donated hundreds of millions of dollars to deserving American charities, educational organizations and to disaster relief efforts worldwide.

The GM Foundation focuses on supporting Education, Health and Human Services, Environment and Energy and Community Development initiatives, mainly in the communities where GM operates.

GM and the GM Foundation also invest in nationally recognized competitions like FIRST, for engineers.

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NHTSA, GM, Ford to Participate In Auto Megatrends Conference

Safety, connectivity and electrification – three critical technology drivers in the automotive industry – will be debated at Automotive Megatrends USA 2012, a conference hosted by Automotive World Ltd., which will take place in Dearborn from Jan. 31 through Feb. 2.

NHTSA Administrator David Strickland will give the opening presentation at the event, which will be attended by over 250 key decision makers and representatives from global OEMs and suppliers, as well as industry bodies and regulators.

Pre-registered delegates include heads of safety, connectivity and vehicle electrification, as well as vice presidents, directors and other senior executives from stakeholders across all three areas.

Automotive Megatrends USA 2012 is a three-day event focusing on Safety (Day 1), Connectivity (Day 2) and Electrification (Day 3). Speak-

ers from GM and Ford are scheduled as well.

The event takes place at The Henry hotel in Dearborn.

Visit the Automotive Megatrends USA's corresponding Web site for more details.

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Chevy Sets New Mark: 4.7 Million Worldwide

DETROIT – Chevrolet sold 4.76 million vehicles around the world in 2011, setting a global sales record and driving General Motors Co. global sales to more than 9 million vehicles, a 7.6 percent gain compared with 2010.

GM gained four-tenths of a point of market share to 11.9 percent of the global vehicle industry. Sales were up in all four reporting regions – North America, South America, Europe and International Operations – as GM sold a total of 9,025,942 vehicles compared with 8,385,484 in 2010.

The United States led the way for Chevrolet with total vehicle sales of 1,775,812, up more than 13 percent from 2010. China posted record sales of 595,068, up 9.5 percent from the previous year.

Other markets that posted significant year-over-year increases include Vietnam (79

percent), Russia (49 percent), Turkey (30 percent) and Germany (21 percent).

"Chevrolet's impressive growth in both established and developing markets is the result of a strong new product lineup that meets the diverse needs of consumers around the world," said GM Chairman and CEO Dan Akerson.

"In addition to Chevrolet's record-setting sales, the entire lineup of GM vehicles is meeting customer needs for fuel-efficient cars and work vehicles as well as unmatched luxury."

Chevrolet is building its global presence by delivering cars like the Cruze, Sonic (Aveo) and Spark, the all-new midsize global Malibu, and crossovers and trucks like the Orlando and Colorado designed for varied driving conditions and customer preferences around the world.

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