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31201 Chicago Road South #A-101
Warren, Michigan 48093
586-939-6800 Auburn Hills 248-852-6800

William Springer, Publisher

Gerald Scott, News Director
Lisa A. Torretta, Operations
News@DetroitAutoScene.com

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Ads@DetroitAutoScene.com 586-939-5850 Fax

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Ford used its tricked-out Fiesta driven by Ken Block to tape the hot auto video "Gymkhana FIVE."

CAR Plays Host To Large Global Engine Seminar

The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) is hosting a major powertrain conference in Ann Arbor on July 25.

"Powertrain Strategies for the 21st Century: Designing Global Powertrains" will be held at the Michigan League Ballroom, 2nd floor, on the U-M campus in Ann Arbor from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This 4th annual conference will focus on current powertrain topics and their effects on the future of the auto industry.

Confirmed speakers include Bruce Belzowski (UMTRI); Chris Cowland (Chrysler); Bernd Boiston (Bosch Corp.); John Kerwan (Delphi Corp.); and Michael Omotoso (LMC Auto / U.S.).

U-M's Belzowski will also moderate the conference. Visit the UMTRI website for registration info and other key details on the conference.

FEW Women to Meet at RenCen

The Federally Employed Women's (FEW), 43rd National Training Program (NTP), "Wheels of Change Keep on Moving!" will be held July 16-20, at the downtown Detroit Marriott at the GM Renaissance Center in Detroit.

Based on FEW's commitment to improving opportunities, its training has been designed to provide all federal,

private and public employees, including military personnel, with the tools necessary to establish and build successful careers.

Courses and workshops were selected, using the Office of Personnel Management Executive Core Qualifications (ECQ's) as the framework. Many of the FEW participants work at TACOM in Warren.

Block, Fiesta Jump Streets of 'Frisco

DEARBORN - Ken Block debuted the "Gymkhana FIVE" video to more than nine million viewers in just the first two days, thrilling fans with the fifth installment of the award-winning viral video franchise.

The impressive landscape, iconic landmarks, and a classic appearance by Travis Pastana provided Block the

chance to do only the unthinkable and shocking.

"The goal is to always make the next one better, which is tough, because every time I finish one of these I think it's the best one yet," said Block.

"When we found out that San Francisco was actually available as a location, that's when the gears started turning about what we could do,

how we could utilize the unique terrain within the city. Once I knew I'd be able to envision certain tricks, like the jump drift."

Before Block filmed the epic routes highlighted in "Gymkhana FIVE: Ultimate Urban Playground; San Francisco" in his Ford Fiesta, he utilized the Focus ST, Ford's first

K & F Electronics Has 70 Domains To Its Name

By Gerald Scott

Local circuit board maker K & F Electronics in Fraser has the good fortune of owning a strong legacy website name related to its business - it actually owns the coveted www.circuitboards.com site.

K & F President Rick Kincaid credits former K & F employee Rick Burbary, his nephew, with having the foresight to encourage Kincaid to buy that domain name 25-30 years ago at the practical start of the Internet. Burbary is now chief digital officer at Campbell Ewald, the big ad agency in Warren.

"I had that name when the first dial-up modem came into play," Kincaid said. He thought he needed his company name and not necessarily the product, but Burbary convinced Kincaid that the circuit boards name would be hot.

"I finally bought my own name five years ago, I never even owned K & F Electronics (dot.com)," Kincaid added.

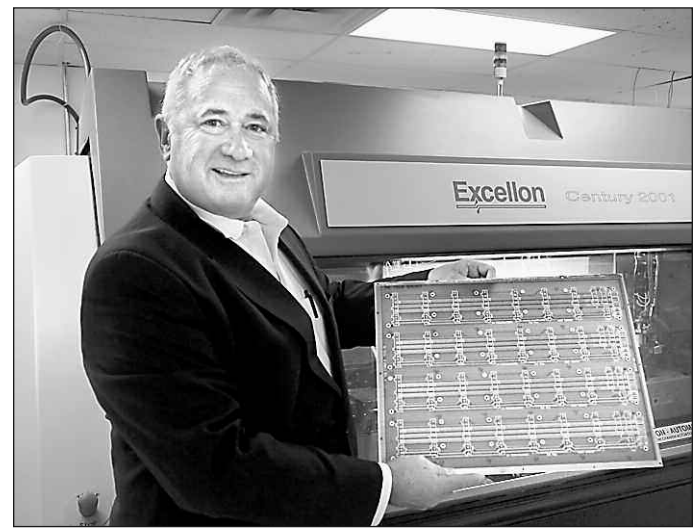
"I think we survived because of that. I've had a few offers (for the circuit board name), but I couldn't give it up. It was in its infancy. I own dot.net, info, biz, gov, (derivatives of circuit boards name).

"I own 70 names related to our product. The technical name for a circuit board is 'printed wiring boards,' and I bought all those. That's how they originated and how they were known in the industry.

"Engineers used to hand-wire the lines, it was a mess, I don't know how an engineer didn't pull his hair out dealing with that.

"I take it for granted, maybe, sometimes, but it's really been a savior for me. We do work in every state of the United States - people type that phrase into search engines and there I am."

With some domain names being sold for big money, Kincaid is in the catbird seat.



Rick Kincaid, president of K & F Electronics in Fraser.

Local Circuit Board Firm Marks 40 Years of Work

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

K & F recently did some circuit board work for the R&D version of the Chevrolet Volt, but not the production version. But still, that's a prestigious contract for a small, 30-employee firm.

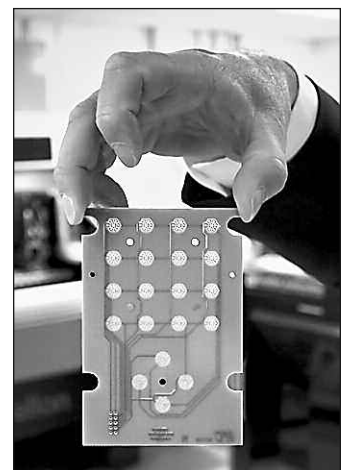
Kincaid observed this about circuit boards and autos:

"Even if it's not an electrical vehicle, I don't think there's too much difference that we do process-wise that's different. It's still done the same way to make a board, but it's different in theory of functionality of the parts they put on (today's vehicle)," Kincaid said.

"They're putting more stuff on, they are-and-they-aren't. We do a lot of dashboards for first tier to General Motors, but we've seen a lot of computerized dashboards going away again.

"My theory is they put too much on there, and you're going to have a failure or breakdown. Now we're going back to speedometer and branching out of heated seats. You're going to need circuits for that.

"We're seeing a lot of heavy copper: heated seats, cool-hot-cold-seats. The engineers I deal with tell me they want



A pattern of a circuit board for the handheld device market.

heated seats, heated armrests, even the cupholders - there is a circuit in there, but to do all that you need thicker copper.

"There's other, different materials today, there's high-tech materials, RF, radio frequency materials. We do a lot of RF, since we're a smaller company, we can get into it. We have experienced people who can look at something and say, 'This can't be right.'"

"That's growing the business: what they get from us is added value, making it better, making suggestions. We've always kept that theory."

Dykema Is Top Firm

DETROIT - Dykema announced that it has been named Detroit's top corporate law firm by Corporate Board Member magazine.

This is the 2nd consecutive year - and third time since 2009 - that Dykema has earned this notable honor.

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