

Impala's Valvetrain Raises Fuel Efficiency

DETROIT – Drivers of the 2014 Chevrolet Impala coming early next year can get improved fuel economy due in part to a new advanced valvetrain technology on the Ecotec 2.5L four-cylinder engine.

Chevrolet's redesigned flagship sedan uses new Intake Valve Lift Control (IVLC) technology that enables variable intake valve lift, duration and timing over a wide range of engine operation.

When the technology operates in low-lift mode, the engine pumps only the air it needs to meet the driver's demand. The system switches to high-lift mode at higher speeds or under heavy loads, providing the full output capability of the engine.

"Intake Valve Lift Control works so seamlessly drivers aren't likely to notice it at all," said Mike Anderson, GM global chief engineer for Ecotec engines. "What they will notice is a fuel savings of up to one mile per gallon."

The engine achieves variable valve lift using an innovative all-new rocker arm that switches between low and high lift intake cam profiles. The mechanism is actuated by an oil control valve through a dual-feed stationary hydraulic lash adjuster. It is the first of its kind for low friction roller-type finger-follower valvetrains in gasoline engines. The engine's computer continuously selects the optimal lift profile based on conditions such as engine speed and load.

Impala's three powertrains all feature fuel-saving direct injection and lightweight components.

Impala's Ecotec 2.4L engine works with the eAssist system to provide electrical assist in certain conditions to help save fuel. It is GM-estimated at 182 horsepower (134 kW) and 35 mpg on the highway.

The Ecotec 2.5L is one of a new



2014 Chevrolet Impala

family of four-cylinder engines developed with increased efficiency and greater refinement. Output is estimated at 195 horsepower (145 kW).

Output for the 3.6L V6 is estimated at 303 horsepower (226 kW). All of Impala's engines are matched with six-speed automatic transmissions.

The powertrains are the force behind Impala's responsive driving experience, tuned for a spirit-

ed yet comfortable performance., Chevrolet says.

A MacPherson-strut front suspension and four-link rear suspension underpin the Impala with an isolated front cradle and hydraulic ride bushing that help deliver a smoother, quieter ride.

All models feature an electric variable-assist steering system that helps save fuel by drawing energy only when the steering wheel is turned.

WSU Appoints Myers to the Reuther

DETROIT – Bringing more than a decade of experience in history and archives, Elizabeth Myers was recently appointed as director of the Wayne State University Library System's Walter P. Reuther Library.

"Beth Myers' knowledge and archival experience will certainly benefit the Reuther Library," said Wayne State Library System Dean Sandra Yee.

"She has extensive experience in 20th century American history, public history and women's history, as well as managing and directing archives programs. We look forward to her leadership, which we expect will raise the

Reuther Library's services to even higher levels in years to come."

After receiving her master's and doctoral degrees in history from Loyola University, Myers accepted an opportunity to lead the Women and Leadership Archives at Loyola University Chicago, where she served as its director since 2006.

At Wayne State, Myers is looking forward to working with the Reuther staff on new and ongoing projects as well as developing more community outreach activities. "Reuther is a dream job," Myers said. "It's so well known and respected."

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