Limited 2,000-Run Dodge 'Shaker' on Way to Dealerships

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Ukrainian Crisis **Casts Shadow Over European** Vehicle Market

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and not consumer demand.

Before the Ukrainian crisis began, analysts predicted European car sales would grow by 2 percent to 4 percent - which is still 3 million vehicles off the 2007 peak.

"There is always going to be a surprise out there. Ukraine is an example," the CEO of Ford Europe, Stephen Odell, told journalists on the Geneva Auto Show's opening press day.

"You have to be flexibile," he said.

With three plants and annual sales volumes around 120,000 units, Russia is important to Ford Europe's goal of returning to profitability by 2015. Odell said the company is not giving forecasts for 2014 volumes in Russia "and frankly, given the volatility we have to wait and see.

The key going ahead, Odell said, is to have a plan but not be so rigorous in the face of changing realities.

The Renault Nissan alliance has the biggest market share in Russia thanks to its partnership with the Russian brand Lada, and operates four factories in the country. Last year, sales were 821,404 for a 29.6 percent market share.

"I think we have to be very prudent," Renault Nissan senior vice president Christian Mardrus told the Associated Press. He said the speed of the changes made the situation impossible to predict.

The new Dodge Challenger R/T Shaker models, with their functional throwback "Shaker" hoods, are in hot demand as they start making their way to Dodge dealers across the country.

After it was initially introduced at the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) show in Las Vegas in November, Dodge dealers ordered the entire production run for the 2014 Dodge Challenger R/T Shaker in just four days.

Dodge received 2,000 dealer orders from Jan. 7 through Jan. 10 after orders were opened, said Chrysler spokesman Jivan Cadiz.

"Based on this strong initial demand, it's clear that our customers are excited about the return of the legendary Shaker model, which was engineered for enthusiasts who asked for even more attitude and a dose of muscle car heritage," said Tim Kuniskis, Dodge Brand president and CEO.

"The 5.7-liter Hemi V8 engine with the unique hood and intake design makes this performance car an instant classic - much like the original 1970 Challenger R/T with the Shaker hood.'

The new 2014 Dodge Challenger R/T Shakers are shipping out of the Brampton (Ont.) Assembly Plant and starting to arrive at Dodge dealerships now, Cadiz said.

Pricing for this model starts at \$36,995 U.S. MSRP (\$37,495 with the custom one-of-a-kind hoodto-tail stripes). Cadiz said this represents a walk of only \$2,500 from the Challenger R/T Classic for "all of the unique features of this limited production model."

Only 2,000 Shakers will be produced.

"Injecting a fresh shot of heritage into the Challenger lineup," said Cadiz, "the new 2014 R/T Shaker model features unique throwback muscle-car cues that link directly to Dodge brand's performance legacy.

"The Shaker's been one of those nostalgic Challenger cues that came out in the 1970s that our hardcore enthusiasts have been asking for.

"We knew it was popular, but four days to sell out is just phenomenal. It's fast and it's fantastic."

Cadiz said that Dodge's efforts to keep customers interested in the Challenger have paid off. According to figures released in January, Dodge sold 51,462 Challengers in 2013, up from 43,119 in 2012.

As the model name suggests, the legendary "cold-air grabbing" Shaker not only looks good with its Satin Black center-mounted hood scoop, snorkeling up from the engine compartment, Cadiz said, it also directs cooler air back into the Hemi V8 engine.

And, like the original 1970 Challenger R/T with the Shaker hood, the new 2014 model continues the Dodge tradition of an engine-mounted hood scoop that "shakes" with the powertrain's movement.

Designed for muscle-car buffs who can't help but tinker with their toys, Cadiz said, the Challenger R/T Shaker features the 5.7-liter Hemi V8 engine producing more than 400 lb.-ft. of torque, with a functional Shaker hood with Mopar cold-air intake, conical air filter and optimized air box for improved airflow and performance. Lift the hood, said Cadiz, and enthusiasts will also be treated to an under-hood "Shaker" badge - reminiscent of the 1970s original.

In addition to its driver-selectable sport-mode powertrain calibration, performance-tuned suspension, four-wheel disc brakes and steering calibration, the Dodge Challenger R/T Shaker includes the Super Track Pak, with high-performance steering gear, brake linings and monotube shock absorbers, P245/45R20 Goodyear Eagle F1 Super Car three-season tires and threemode electronic stability control (ESC) with "full off" mode. Allseason performance tires are available at no extra charge.

The new engine setup provides a new factory-designed foundation to maximize three all-new Dodge "Scat Packages," enabling customers to unleash even more power from their Challenger R/T Shaker.

"The public can still get these Challenger R/T Shakers," Cadiz said. "The 2,000 sales represent dealer orders. So those cars are hitting the lots now. And these cars can be sold to the public. Once these 2,000 are sold, that's it."



The 2014 Challenger R/T Shaker edition

'Flowtie' Design Aids Z/28's Engine Cooling

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dropped the temperatures of engine coolant and engine oil by 2 degrees Fahrenheit during extended track sessions. That seemingly small improvement was enough to justify making the Flowtie standard on every new Z/28.

"The Flowtie is just one example of the team's focus on track performance," said Al Oppenheiser, Camaro chief engineer. "That same attention to detail is evident throughout the cooling systems for the LS7 engine, as well as the carbon ceramic brakes and the differential.'

weighs 300 pounds less than the supercharged Camaro ZL1 and 55 pounds lighter than the Camaro 1LE - with changes ranging from lightweight wheels to thinner rear-window glass, Quinn said.

"The Camaro Z/28 has more than 190 unique parts, compared to a Camaro SS," Oppenheiser said.

"Like the Flowtie. each of these parts were changed with one objective: to deliver incredible performance on the track – not just for the first lap, but lap after lap." The 2014 Camaro Z/28 arrives

in dealerships this spring. In a similar move, Cadillac has

The naturally aspirated Z/28 engineered its wreathless shield to accommodate a radar device for the 2015 ATS Coupe's adaptive cruise control system.





Jeep Renegade Built to Meet Buyer Needs in More Than 100 Countries

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system with 20:1 crawl ratio.

Manley said that "innovation is

at the same time enhancing versatility, maneuverability and style.

"Additionally, Renegade had to also at the forefront of any new offer the open-air freedom that Jeep vehicle, and the Renegade dates back to its 1941 roots with the Willys MB Jeep The result, Manley said, is the all-new 2015 Renegade, a vehicle that builds on the Jeep Wrangler's powerful stance, and "features fresh new styling with rugged body forms and aggressive proportions that enable best-in-class approach and departure angles purposely designed to deliver best-in-class offroad capability. "And for segment-exclusive panoramic views," he added, "two available My Sky open-air roof panel systems conveniently stow to provide passengers open-air freedom with ease.' He said the Renegade will come in 16 powertrain combinations, the most ever in a Jeep. It can be customized to markets around the world to meet a range of performance and efficiency needs, he said.

is the first small SUV to feature a disconnecting rear axle and power take-off unit (PTU) - all to provide Jeep Renegade 4x4 models with enhanced fuel economv

The system instantly engages when 4x4 traction is needed."

Both Jeep Active Drive and Active Drive Low 4x4 systems include the Jeep Selec-Terrain system, providing up to five modes (Auto, Snow, Sand and Mud modes, plus exclusive Rock mode on the Trailhawk model).

Jeep will be offering a variety of different Renegades to meet customers' different needs.

Manley described the Renegade as a global Jeep design for a rapidly growing global brand.

"From the start," he said, "Jeep designers knew the Renegade would need to deliver best-inclass off-road capability with city-sized proportions that exuded the brand's rugged style while

The vehicle will be the world's first small SUV with nine-speed automatic transmission.