

Detroit Auto Scene

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Cruze's One-Stage 'Smart' Air Bag

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tures than many vehicles in its class, Chevy officials say, and represents Chevrolet's commitment to continuous safety – before, during and after a crash.

StabiliTrak, Panic Brake Assist and Enhanced Smart Pedal/Brake Override are standard.

When it was introduced, the Cruze was the first car in its class with 10 standard air bags, including front knee air bags.

The 2013 Cruze also maintains the highest-possible ratings of "Good" in front, side, rear and rollover crash protection tests by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, which recognized Cruze as a 2011 and 2012 Top Safety Pick.

Grace Lieblein Named Vice President Of GM Global Purchasing and Supply

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report to GM Vice Chairman Stephen Girsky.

"Grace's track record is a diverse and very successful one that has prepared her well for this critical role," said Girsky. "Her wealth of experience in product development, manufacturing and general management gives her the insight needed to lead our Global Purchasing and Supply Chain organization and develop mutually beneficial and productive relationships with our suppliers."

Prior to this appointment, Lieblein had been president and managing director of GM do Brasil since April 2011. She previously was president and managing director, GM de Mexico.

Lieblein, 52, joined GM in 1978

Achates Power, AVL Awarded \$4.9 Million TARDEC Contract

The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) has awarded a \$4.9 million contract for design and construction of the next-generation combat engine to San Diego-based Achates Power and AVL Powertrain.

The new engine is expected to deliver superior fuel economy, high power density, low heat rejection and will be able to use multiple fuel sources.

To meet program requirements, AVL proposed an engine based on the Achates Power opposed-piston, two-stroke technology.

This includes more than 1,000 innovations which are either patented or have had patents applied for.

The Achates Power engine brings several advantages to the table, including reduced weight and complexity, lower cycle average brake-specific fuel consumption and less than 0.1 percent fuel-specific oil consumption, when compared to conventional diesel engines.

The engine also demonstrates numerous brake thermal efficiency advantages cited in SAE international Paper 2011-01-2216, including:

- Less heat transfer thanks to a lower ratio of surface area to volume in the combustion chamber;
- Leaner, faster and earlier combustion;

- Higher effective flow area and;
- higher scavenging efficiency with a high stroke-to-bore ratio.

"These results validate the engine's technical merit and are the reason that we chose to work with Achates Power on this program," said Don Manvel, chairman of AVL Americas.

"Since first releasing our engine's results, we have demonstrated a steady increase in brake thermal efficiency, all while meeting the toughest, global emissions standards ... and combined with the engine's flat fuel map, very low engine-out soot and demonstrated durability potential we have the utmost confidence that we will meet TARDEC's program objectives," said Achates Power CEO David Johnson.

Added David Merion, Achates Power technical advisory board member and former executive vice president of engineering at Detroit Diesel, "Achates Power has made excellent progress overcoming the challenges commonly associated with two-stroke engines ... The fact that their engine has very high efficiency and power density, along with low heat rejection to coolant, makes it well suited for military applications."

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