



Q

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PHILIPPINES



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Gus Lagman
AAP PRESIDENT

Discovering Cinque Terre

I don't know how she found out about it, but my wife had been googling the area in Italy called Cinque Terre since last year. She suggested that the next time we travel to Europe, we could go see the place.

So last February, during the Travel Expo where plane tickets are offered at half the price, we bought two tickets for Verona and set our itinerary as follows: Verona, 2 nights, Milan, 3 nights, Cinque Terre, 4 nights, Florence, 3 nights, Rome, 1 night. Except for Verona and Cinque Terre, we had been to the other cities before.

Then we searched for hotels that are near the center of town so we could walk to see most of the sights and at the same time, have many restaurants to choose from for lunch and dinner. Because we always travel on a tight budget, the room rates are an important factor. "Airbnb" and "Booking.com" help a lot in this search.

Cinque Terre, or "Five Lands", are actually five villages along the Italian Riviera, which are only a few kilometers from each other, all accessible by train or ferry. What makes the villages unique are the multi-colored houses piled up in a mosaic on the hills and cliffs,

which according to the story, are meant for the fishermen to identify their houses even from far out on the sea.

These five – Riomaggiore, Manarola, Corniglia, Vernazza, and Monterosso al Mare – are sandwiched between La Spezia in the south and Levanto in the north, two towns where most of the tourists stay. We chose La Spezia because our next stop was Florence, southeast of the villages.

We went by train to three of the villages on our first day, and the other two on the second day. On the third day, we took the ferry to Porto

Venere, which is another lovely village, and then viewed the five, this time from the sea, but no longer alighting at each port as we had already been there the past two days.

Having tried all kinds of transport, I still believe that the best way of touring Europe is by car. We picked up a VW Passat van in Milan and dropped it off in Rome. Because we were going to stay for a few nights at each stop, we originally planned to drop off the car each time and pick up one again upon departure. Happily, the helpful rental car agent suggested that it would come out cheaper to book the car for one week to save on the expensive "drop-off" charges. A weekly charge is also much cheaper than the total of seven day-rates.

The GPS, which comes standard with the car was a big help, especially inside the cities, where routes are complicated and streets quite narrow.

We were pleasantly surprised that most of the hotels we stayed in were newly renovated and nicely designed by professionals. The appointments, the paintings chosen for the rooms and the lobby, the colors, the bathroom fixtures were mostly modern – even if, as expected in Europe, the building structures are all old. I was amused to note that our hotel in Verona was fittingly-named "Giulietta e Romeo".

We missed it during our first visit to Milan, so this time, we made sure to visit the retired convent which houses one of the greatest paintings ever created. Leonardo da Vinci's L'Ultima Cena (Last Supper) depicts Jesus announcing to his disciples that one of them would betray him. Another place that we missed in previous trips was the Santa Maria Novella in Florence. On its walls are some beautiful, huge paintings from the 14th to the 16th centuries.

On the flight home, I thought that it might be a good idea to start a section in AQ dedicated to travel, both local and international. Members would be invited to write. That way, we could compare notes on places to go to, exchange tips on traveling to those places, recommend good restaurants and dishes, suggest great hotels that are reasonably-priced, among others.

We'll start it in the next AQ. Please be generous in sharing your travel experiences. **AQ**

“ What makes the villages unique are the multi-colored houses piled up in a mosaic on the hills and cliffs, which according to the story, are meant for the fishermen to identify their houses even from far out on the sea. ”

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Aida Sevilla Mendoza
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When A Safety Device Becomes Deadly

IT is ironic that the airbag, long considered an important safety device of automobiles, has proven to be potentially deadly.

Defective airbags have become the subject of the biggest and most complex safety recall in automotive history.

Worldwide, at least 13 deaths and more than 100 injuries, many of them critical, have been linked to defective airbags made by Tokyo-based Takata, one of only three large airbag manufacturers in the world.

One airbag-related fatality occurred in Malaysia in July 2014. A pregnant 43-year-old woman driving a Japanese brand subcompact car bled to death after the airbag deployed and sprayed metal fragments into her neck when her car collided with a turning car.

The root cause of airbag malfunctions, according to a report by Orbital ATK, is a combination of manufacturing issues, the volatile ammonium nitrate propellant and prolonged exposure to hot, humid weather.

In such weather, defective airbag inflators that do not adequately keep out moisture can explosively break apart, sending shrapnel flying toward occupants of the car.

Fourteen automakers are recalling more than 60 million vehicles worldwide to fix the faulty airbags.

One solution offered by Takata is to fit airbags with a drying agent that helps protect the interior from damaging moisture.

In the United States, the world's largest car market and therefore the country most affected by the deadly airbag problem, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) fined Takata \$70 million for not promptly disclosing the defect and barred them

from using ammonium nitrate in new airbags.

However, the NHTSA gave the supplier until the end of 2018 to prove that the compound is safe in existing airbags and until the end of 2019 to prove that an airbag treated with a drying agent is safe.

If Takata fails to meet that standard, millions more vehicles will have to be recalled.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee reported that at least four car manufacturers continue to sell new vehicles with defective Takata airbags that will need to be recalled.

The report underscored how convoluted the mass recall of defective Takata airbags has turned out, with new models still being fitted with defective airbags and, in some cases, recalled cars also receiving defective airbags.

A NHTSA report said that 11 automakers have replaced more than 2.3 million older Takata airbags with newer versions that will also have to be replaced.

Automakers are not required to disclose that the cars carry the Takata airbags, leaving new owners unaware that their car has already been marked for recall down the road.

The newer airbags are considered safe for now because of the time it takes for ammonium nitrate to break down.

A senior analyst of an automotive research firm said that many mainstream carmakers know that they are selling cars that already have a defective part in them – and it's not just a defective windshield wiper or sun visor hinge, but an airbag, a primary safety device.

In other words, consumers are buying new cars, not knowing they are going to be recalled.

Automakers should be required to disclose which models have the airbags that will be recalled.

If a company is unwilling to disclose which models, a consumer should hesitate to buy any of their cars until he or she knows which models are affected. **aq**

“14 automakers are recalling more than 60 million vehicles worldwide to fix defective airbags”

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AAP Trustee Ricardo Guevara
and AAP Trustee Mandy
Eduque. Not in photo is AAP
Trustee David Arcenas, who
was out of the country.

Strengthening Membership Services at AAP's 85th annual meeting



At AAP's annual meeting, Guest Speaker MMDA Chairman Emerson Carlos talked about Metro Manila traffic and MMDA's long-standing partnership with AAP to promote road safety.



AAP President Gus Lagman reported on the club's activities and achievements in 2015.



Former University of the Philippines Dean Amado Castro speaks up during the open forum.

ON April 28, 2016, the Automobile Association Philippines held its 85th Annual General Membership Meeting at the Bahay ng Alumni in the University of the Philippines, Diliman with hundreds of members attending.

The AAP board of trustees, managers and staff were also there in full support of the afternoon's program with the theme "Strengthening AAP for Better Membership Services."

Gracing this year's meeting as the guest of honor was Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chairman Emerson Carlos who commended the national auto club for its steadfast cooperation with his agency.

In particular, Carlos was grateful for the active participation and valuable inputs of AAP during the MMDA-initiated transport summits that helped identify MMDA management projects.

During his speech, the MMDA chief recognized the major traffic problems in Metro Manila which have brought opportunities for the MMDA and the AAP to work together to advance road safety and driver education.

Carlos said that the MMDA will remain an ally of the club and asked AAP to "Increase even more your membership and network. Pursue with renewed vigor your road safety advocacies and please continue to be a genuine partner with the government in ensuring the general welfare of motorists all over the country."

Following Carlos' talk, the plenary session was called to order and AAP President Gus Lagman presented the 2015 Annual Report. Lagman touched on the various achievements of the club in 2015

and mentioned the AAP Tower which was inaugurated that morning.

Lagman noted the strides made by the club to improve its membership services, such as the increased incentives offered to members who participate in the AAP Rewards Program.

The club president stressed that "The reward points are not convertible to cash but can be redeemed when renewing membership or availing of AAP's goods and services."

Lagman capped off his speech with: "This year, your Club will turn 85, the oldest and biggest motoring club in the country, but still full of energy and determination to do more for you members."

Afterwards, the canvassing of the ballots was completed and the incumbent trustees were proclaimed as AAP's 2016-2017 board members.

The day's event ended with a raffle where AAP gave away over P200,000 worth of major and minor prizes. Royce Gerald Lao Chua won the top prize, a 40-inch Samsung Smart television.

AAP partners who attended the 85th General Membership Meeting included Philippine Prudential, Goodyear Philippines, Inc., Motolite Marketing Corporation, FPG Insurance Co., Inc., FLT Prime Insurance Inc., Smart Driving Corporation, Citibank Philippines, Agua Vida, Camelion Graphics Ent. Corp. and Brightways Commercial Inc. 

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A day after the 2016 Formula 1 Chinese Grand Prix ended, Shanghai was still abuzz when it hosted delegates from 18 countries for the 2nd Asia-Pacific FIA Sport Regional Congress.

On April 18-20, around 70 ASNs (National Sporting Authority) gathered to discuss how the region can sustain the development of the various initiatives of the motor sport community in the Asian zone with the help of the FIA (Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile).

Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) Motor Sport Committee chairman Mandy Eduque, AAP Motor Sport consultant Jun Espino and AAP Motor Sport operations manager Mark Desales were among the delegates.

AAP's MSDP Highlighted at FIA Sport Regional Congress in Shanghai

According to Desales, the four-day conference highlighted the development of grassroots programs to boost participation in motor sport within the region.

He reported that of all the projects that were submitted in 2015 to the FIA for funding, AAP's grassroots Motor Sport Development Program (MSDP) was the only one approved.

"We found out that AAP's MSDP was the only initiative that got approved by the FIA from among the programs submitted by other countries from around the world and not just in the Asian region," AAP's motor sport operations manager said.

He also noted that the FIA was impressed with the MSDP program because "we diverted from karting to circuit touring cars and combined it with road safety."

"The deputy president for FIA Sport was very pleased with the outcome of the MSDP in 2015. We got approved for a grant for 2016 and eventually we'll be applying for the 2017 grant which is something that we are looking forward to," Desales added.

Also at the Shanghai congress, the FIA launched a new division, Karting Slalom, which the FIA hopes will increase the overall number of competition license holders.

The FIA has assigned Sri Lanka to be the pilot ASN in the region for the grassroots Karting Slalom project which will also be introduced in the African and American regions within the year.

During the congress, experts appointed by the FIA discussed the different modules included in the Global Training Program.



AAP
Motor Sport
operations
manager Mark
Desales with
FIA President
Jean Todt



Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) Motor Sport Committee chairman Mandy Eduque, Hongkong touring car driver Danny Chau and AAP Motor Sport consultant Jun Espino at the Shanghai conference.

These modules focus on FIA and ASN relations, ASN governance and management, safety and motor sport development. The last day was reserved for one-on-one interactions with the FIA experts.

"We definitely gain more knowledge with the ASNs of the region, by becoming more open and sharing best practices with one other," Desales said. "We understand the challenges that they are facing with their programs and how to deal with the setbacks."

The congress was organized by the Federation of Automobile Sports of the People's Republic of China.

FIA President Jean Todt, who was in China to meet with the government regarding road safety projects, attended the congress.

FIA Sport Regional Congresses are held every year where ASNs participate in the practical sessions and discussions to assist the motor sport communities in the various regions. This is only the second time the congress has been held in the Asia-Pacific region. Last year, the inaugural congress convened in Kathmandu, Nepal. 



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AAP Motor Sport operations manager Mark Desales, AAP Motor Sport coordinator JC Quillan, AAP Motor Sport program manager and lead instructor Vip Isada, and MSDP finalists Gabie Recueno, Chenee Ang Jimenez, Polo Bautista, Bernardo Michael Santos, Paolo Santos, and AAP Motor Sport driver Allan Camino present the streamers of the 2015 Motor Sport Development Program (MSDP) partners Mazda Philippines and Seaoil Philippines Inc.

MSDP Finalists Enjoy Fun Drive on Scenic Marilaque Highway

THE Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) Motor Sport Department conducted a delightful day of driving for the 2015 finalists of the Motor Sport Development Program (MSDP).



The MSDP group had a hearty lunch at Paseo before continuing with the fun drive.



Each student was given a chance to drive the lead car while Vip Isada mentored the students via radio.

Last May 6, the group—composed of AAP Motor Sport operations manager Mark Desales, AAP Motor Sport lead instructor Vip Isada, AAP Motor Sport coordinator JC Quillan along with finalists Chenee Ang Jimenez, Polo Bautista, Bernardo Michael Santos, Paolo Santos and young motorsport enthusiast Gabie Recueno—went on a scenic excursion that took them along the towering timbers and running rivers of the Marikina-Infanta Highway.

According to Desales, the MSDP Fun Drive is one of the initiatives that future batches can look forward to when they complete the three levels of training.

With the continued support of MSDP partners Mazda Philippines and Seaoil Philippines Inc., the AAP activity also assessed what the students have learned from completing levels 1, 2, and 3 of the MSDP. At the same time, the Fun Drive allowed the students to enjoy and appreciate leisure driving.

"We chose Tanay because of the zigzag

roads and scenic drive so that the students would enjoy while learning," Desales said.

The Marilaque Highway—which stands for Manila, Rizal, Laguna, and Quezon—is popular among motorists because of the breathtaking views seen while driving along Marikina Valley and Antipolo City. This scenery stretches along the winding road when motorists make their ascent towards Sierra Madre before the road finally ends at Infanta, Quezon.

The group's 270-kilometer drive started at Shell Marcos Highway and ended at Sta. Maria Laguna, making a short stop at Pililla Wind Farm in Rizal to admire the view. The trip was supposed to go all the way to Quezon but it was cut short by a major road block in Laguna.

Nonetheless, each student was given the chance to drive the lead car of the convoy while Isada guided the participants via radio.

During the run, Isada regularly asked the convoy to stop and told the student driver to

sit with him to discuss and correct the errors made. The lead instructor, while talking via radio, demonstrated the appropriate driving technique before letting the student take the lead car once more. The student would then apply what he had learned from his one-on-one session with Isada.

According to Desales, the students committed a few lapses but these were still manageable. "The activity was helpful because we got to see what the students learned from the program," he added.

The MSDP was funded with a grant from the FIA (Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile) starting in 2015. It is also supported by local partners including Time Attack Manila, Aeromed Ambulance Transport, Dynamics Suspensions, and Autoperformance PH.

The objective of the MSDP is to train talented young drivers at the grassroots level via a series of workshops, clinics and competitions for eventual participation in motor sport. **aq**

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Legazpi City, Albay	(054) 480-8288
SM City Cebu, North Cebu City	(032) 412-0787
Mactan, Pueblo Verde, Lapu-Lapu City	(032) 345-4835
SM Seaside, SRP Mambaling Rd., Cebu City	(0917) 324-1934

Visayas and Mindanao

Suzuki Auto Bacolod	(034) 635-0288, 678-5400
Suzuki Auto Bohol	(038) 501-7874
Suzuki Auto Dumaguete	(035) 419-5821, (0939) 539-5877
Suzuki Auto Iloilo	(033) 509-5921, 321-0935
Suzuki Auto North Cebu	(032) 345-8892 to 93
Suzuki Auto South Cebu	(032) 401-2950
Suzuki Auto Tacloban	(0917) 314-7673
Suzuki Auto Cagayan de Oro	(08822) 728-898
Suzuki Auto Davao	(082) 234-0648, 234-0349
Suzuki Auto Gen. Santos	(083) 552-7167
Suzuki Auto Zamboanga	(062) 826-3247, 955-1139

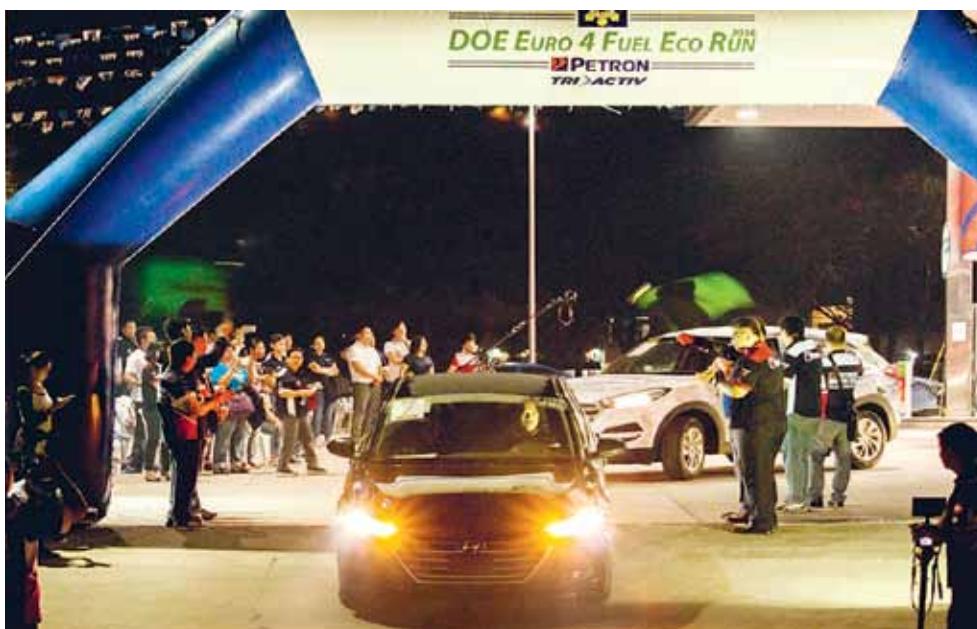
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ASC Reference Code S045P021216C





The Automobile Association Philippines assisted the Department of Energy and Petron Corporation in organizing the 1st Euro 4 Fuel Economy Run 2016 which was held on May 27.

AAP Assists Petron-DOE's 1st Euro 4 Fuel Economy Run 2016

THE Automobile Association Philippines, represented by Jun Espino of the AAP Motor Sport Department assisted the Department of Energy and Petron Corporation in organizing and implementing the 1st Euro 4 Fuel Economy Run 2016 on May 27.

Aside from AAP, various government agencies and private institutions assisted the fuel economy run, including the Citizen's Traffic Action (CTA), Clark Development Corporation, Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), Filipino Car Foundation, Manila North Tollways Corporation, Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway (TPLEX), Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc (CAMPI), Association of Vehicle Importers and Distributors (AVID) and the Philippine Information Agency.

Espino expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the program as it would promote fuel economy awareness among car buyers. "With this event, transparency of the data collated by the organizers will reveal how efficient brand new motor vehicles are," he said.

He added that ever since the DOE created similar programs years ago, AAP has always been actively participating.

Meanwhile, Petron was the official fuel for the DOE Euro 4 Fuel Economy Run which is part of the government's effort to expand the Philippine Energy Standards and Labeling Program (PESLP) by including light duty motor vehicles.

Some 70 vehicles from member companies of CAMPI and AVID joined the fuel efficiency bench marking run, 38 of which were gasoline engine cars that used Petron Euro 4 XCS and 32 diesel vehicles used Petron Euro 4 Turbo Diesel.

Before the economy run, Energy Department Undersecretary Donato Marcos expressed the DOE's appreciation with the participation of the private sector and revealed that the economy run would only be the first of government programs to promote energy efficiency.

Participants motored some 300 kilometers on the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX) and TPLEX, starting and ending the

economy run at the Petron Clark Station in Angeles City, Pampanga.

Those who joined handpicked their own driver-navigator teams, with an independent observer riding shotgun to ensure that guidelines were obeyed.

The participating car companies were Asian Brands Motors Corporation (Mahindra), Automobile Central Enterprise Inc. (Volkswagen), Bayan Automotive Industries Corporation (BAIC), Berjaya Auto Philippines (Mazda), British United Automobiles Inc. (MINI Cooper), Columbian Autocar Corporation (Kia), Eurobrands Distributor Inc. (Peugeot), Ford Group Philippines, Honda Cars Philippines Inc., Hyundai Asia Resources Inc., Isuzu Philippines Corporation, Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corporation, Motor Image Philippines Inc. (Subaru), Nissan Philippines Inc., PGA Cars Inc. (Audi / Porsche), Pilipinas Taj Autogroup Inc. (Tata Motors), Suzuki Philippines Inc., The Covenant Car Company Inc. (Chevrolet), Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation, United Asia Automotive Group Inc. (Foton) and Volvo Philippines.

Petron claims that it was the first oil company to locally produce a full line-up of gasoline variants that meet Euro 4 standards, six months ahead of the government mandate requiring all fuels sold in the country to meet the Philippine Euro 4 standard by January 2016.

The Clean Air initiative sets allowable sulfur content for gasoline and diesel fuels at 50 parts per million (ppm) which is 10 times cleaner than Euro 2 fuels.

As a fuel innovator, Petron has also especially formulated its Euro 4 fuels with advanced additives to deliver TriActiv benefits, namely: (1) better engine protection for longer engine life; (2) better mileage for longer drives; and (3) better power. Petron's line up of Euro 4 TriActiv fuels are available at all 2,200 Petron service stations nationwide.

On June 14, the DOE will present the official fuel efficiency ratings to car company executives who will attend the gala night at the Makati Diamond Hotel hosted by Petron Corporation. 



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Milo Rivera
and his F4 car
and team in
Italy.

AAP thrilled with Milo Rivera's Premier F4 Test

THE Automobile Association Philippines is pleased with the progress that Milo Rivera has made at the Formula 4 testing program in Italy.

Three years ago, AAP sent Rivera to the FIA Young Driver Excellence Academy - Asia Pacific Selection Event as the 2013-2014 FIA Young Driver Ambassador-Philippine Representative.

AAP Motor Sport department operations manager Mark Desales said that he and AAP Motor Sport Committee chairman Mandy Eduque were happy to learn that Rivera has taken steps to reach greater goals in motor sport after AAP had chosen him for the FIA Young Driver Excellence Academy-Asia Pacific.

Last May 19-20, Rivera completed his first Formula 4 test with DieGi Motorsport at the Adria International Raceway in Italy.

For young talents like Rivera, F4 is a cost-effective first step to Formula racing F3, F2, and hopefully, F1. F4 was created by the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), the Paris-based organization that governs all four-wheel motor sport worldwide.

F4 is a one-team, one-make championship program designed to test and highlight the skills of aspiring young drivers. At the F4 South East Asia scheduled to begin in August, drivers will compete with identically prepared machines.

In an interview, Rivera said that he drove a 160-hp, 1.4L turbocharged engine with a carbon monocoque chassis.

The 21-year old racer revealed that on his first seat-time, it was at first challenging for him as he had to adjust to the race car's reaction to his driving habits.

"The F4 car was very different compared to the ones I drive in the Philippines as its dynamics are diverse in comparison. I learned how to better handle the F4 through its different driving style and characteristics," Rivera said.

During the two-day session, Rivera and his team were able to identify his strengths and weaknesses on the race car he was fitted into via the performance feedback from the data systems and cameras for on-track coaching.

Apart from doing the test run, Rivera and his team talked briefly about the young racer's game plan towards his career in European single-seater racing. "We have agreed not to rush ourselves into racing as we want to make sure that I am prepared because competition here in Europe is tight," he explained.

He added that in order to increase his confidence in driving F4 cars, they plan to have around three more test sessions, depending on his progress. The team hopes to schedule these tests a month or two from now.

"We believe that with proper preparation and more seat time, we can eventually be 100 percent competitive and see action really soon" said Rivera.

At age 21, Rivera is already a veteran of the race tracks with his experience in driving go karts, touring cars, and slalom racing here and abroad. He started racing at age 12 and has amassed several awards including Driver of the Year in the 2015 Golden Wheel Awards. **aq**

**Petron Euro-4 Fuels
Deliver TriActiv
Performance Advantages**

**Now available nationwide
in 2,200 service stations**

Industry leader Petron Corporation continues to blaze new trails in fuels technology with its TriActiv gasoline and diesel products. Petron's TriActiv fuels have advanced additives uniquely formulated to meet Philippine driving conditions and cater to the needs of Filipino motorists.

Petron Euro-4 fuels deliver TriActiv performance advantages, namely: (1) better engine protection for longer engine life; (2) better mileage for longer drives; and (3) better power. Thus, in addition to cleaner engine and cleaner emissions, motorists can enjoy more savings on maintenance and fuel consumption.

Petron's full line up of Euro-4 TriActiv fuels include Petron Blaze 100 (the first and only premium plus gasoline with an octane rating of 100), Petron XCS, Petron Xtra Advance, Petron Turbo Diesel, and Petron Diesel Max. These are available at 2,200 Petron service stations nationwide.

Petron made headlines in June 2015 when it became the first oil company to



locally produce a full line-up of gasoline variants that meet Euro-4 standards, six months ahead of the government mandate to make available Euro-4 fuels by January this year. Motorists also welcomed the Company's move to introduce Euro-4 standard diesel in October last year.

As of 01 January 2016, all fuels sold in the Philippines are required to meet the Philippine Euro-4 standard that sets the allowable sulfur content for gasoline and diesel fuels at 50-parts per million (ppm). With this Clean Air initiative, local fuels are expected to be 10-times cleaner than the previous Euro-2 fuels which had up to 500-ppm sulfur content.

Petron Euro-4 TriActiv fuels are significantly more environment-friendly. They keep your engine clean and efficient because they have lesser tendencies to form carbon deposits that can clog injectors.

Even vehicles with Euro-2 engines can benefit from Petron's Euro-4 TriActiv fuels with their advanced detergent, combustion improver, and friction modifier additives. With these performance benefits, all vehicle types can contribute to a cleaner environment. At the same time, vehicle owners will definitely appreciate savings from improved mileage and lower maintenance costs.

Petron invested US\$2-billion to upgrade its Bataan Refinery and ensure the reliable production of more environment-friendly and premium fuels. It also operates a fuel additives blending plant in Subic Bay, in partnership with leading global fuel specialties company Innospec. With these capabilities, Petron is able to produce six Euro-4 fuel variants—the most extensive in the local oil industry—that meet the unique needs of motorists.





THINK BIKES CAMPAIGN GOES GLOBAL

An award-winning UK road safety initiative is being rolled out globally by the FIA.

THE Automobile Association (AA) Charitable Trust's Think Bikes campaign is being launched across Europe, the Middle East and Africa by the FIA.

The campaign encourages all drivers to do a double-take in their mirrors for those on two wheels. It now has the potential to reach millions more drivers across the 111 motoring clubs within this region.

Edmund King, director of the AA Charitable Trust, said: "We are so proud of how well received the campaign has been in its first year and are delighted by this latest development."

FIA Region I Director General, Jacob Bangsgaard, said: "The AA's Think Bikes campaign was a playful, but also important reminder that drivers must keep vulnerable road users in mind, especially when driving in city centres where 33% of the traffic is on bikes, motorcycles or scooters."

It was awarded the FIA (Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile) Region I Innovation Award and was nominated for the Cycling Media Awards.

Previous AA-Populus research revealed that the vast majority of drivers admit it is sometimes hard to see those on two wheels while driving (93% for cyclists; 85% for motorcyclists); and more than half (55% for cyclists; 57% for motorcyclists) are often 'surprised when they appear from nowhere'. **AQ**



Here are a few simple ways of avoiding crashes with motorcyclists:

Take longer to look for bikes

Look carefully for motorbikes when you pull out at a junction. If you're approaching a junction, look out for motorcyclists pulling out too.

Keep your distance

Driving too close can intimidate a less experienced motorcyclist.

Check for bikes when changing lanes

A motorcyclist may be in the space you want to move into, or moving into it fast. Remember your blind spot.

Check for bikes when turning

Parked cars or large vehicles can obstruct your view of a motorcyclist.

Motorcyclists might pass you on either side

Double-check for motorcyclists, whether you're turning left or right.

Park safely

Check for motorcyclists before opening your car door - and ensure that your passengers do the same. When you pull away, remember to look specifically for motorcyclists as they can accelerate faster than cars.

Source: fia.com/think.direct.gov.uk

ROAD SAFETY FACT SHEET

ROAD CRASHES ARE A MAJOR KILLER



Road crashes kill 1.3 million people every year.

Without action, by 2020, the number of deaths is expected to reach 2 million.

As of today, road crashes are only second to AIDS in terms of overall deaths.

In 2030, road crashes are expected to kill more than AIDS if nothing is done.



In other words, roads crashes kill one person every 30 seconds.
That is more than 3,000 killed a day.

This is equivalent to the passengers of 10 Boeing 777 crashing daily.



ROAD CRASHES INJURE MANY MORE



Every year 50 million are seriously injured on the roads worldwide.

Without action, by 2020, the number of injuries is expected to reach 80 million.

One out of two people suffering from spinal cord injuries has got hurt in a car accident.

SOME USERS ARE MORE EXPOSED THAN OTHERS



Road crashes are the #1 killer of 15 to 29 years old and soon expected to be the first cause of death for 4 to 15 years old.

Road crashes kill 500 children daily.

Three out of four victims of car crashes are men.



50% of those killed are vulnerable users
(pedestrians, cyclists or motorcyclists)



Over 90% of the deaths occur in low and middle-income countries where only around 50% of the vehicles registered worldwide are located.

In 15 years from today, the number of vehicles in circulation in developing countries is expected to rise from 1 billion to 2 billion.

ROAD ACCIDENTS HAVE A TREMENDOUS COST

Road crashes in developing countries cost a total of more than 100 billion USD to national governments, the equivalent of the international aid they receive.



That's more than three times the amount of money required to solve world hunger (according to FAO's estimates).

Globally, the cost of road accident amounts to more than 500 billion USD.

THERE HAS BEEN PROGRESS MADE BUT IT STILL REMAINS INSUFFICIENT.

In the last two decades, 87 countries have observed a decrease of road casualties while 88 countries have witnessed increases.

WHAT CAN BE DONE? SIMPLE SOLUTIONS, SIMPLE RULES

There are five main factors of accidents (according to WHO):

- Speed
- Drinking & driving
- Helmets
- Seatbelts
- Child restraints

Only 7% of the world's population is covered by laws comprehensively dealing with these five factors of risk.



A 5% reduction of the average speed would decrease the number of fatal crashes by 30%.

Strict enforcement of drinking and driving laws can reduce the number of road deaths by 20%, but only one country out of five applies such standards.



Wearing a helmet correctly can reduce by 40% the chance of dying in a crash when riding a motorcycle and diminish by 70% the exposure to severe injuries.



Wearing a seat belt can reduce by 50% the risk of dying in a car crash for front-seats occupants and by 75% for rear-seats occupants.

Child restraints reduce the risk of fatality for children by 70-80% (depending on the age). Only 23% of developing countries have child restraint laws

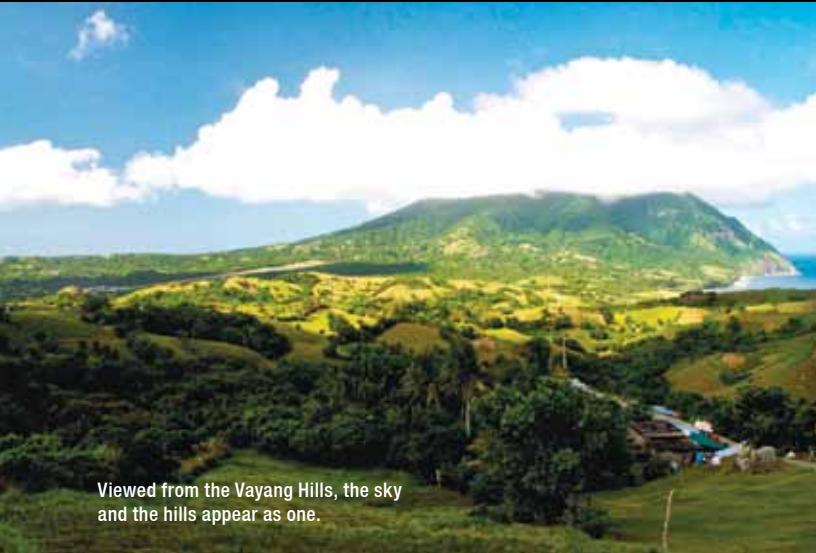
ABOUT FIA ACTION FOR ROAD SAFETY

The FIA's Action for Road Safety Campaign was launched in 2011 in support of the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020). It is structured around four key areas:

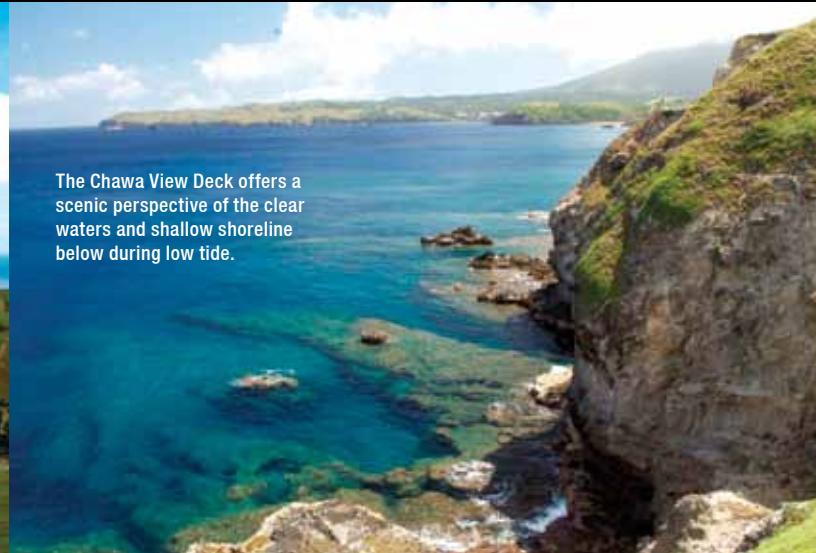
- Advocacy at the highest levels - the FIA has established working relationships with major international organisations such as the United Nations, the World Health Organisation, the European Union or the World Bank, advocating for the prioritisation of road safety.
- Action by clubs on the ground - through its club network constituted by more than 230 in over 140 countries, the FIA pushes for safer roads. In 2012 the FIA launched the FIA Road Safety Grant Programme, which funds more than 100 projects in 50 countries.
- Campaigns and partnerships - The FIA has established numerous institutional and commercial partnerships with leading actors. For instance the online Pledge is supported by the campaign's global partners – Michelin, Coca-Cola and PETRONAS, and official supporters – Nissan and Iveco.
- Motor sport & road safety – the Motor Sport community has been mobilising to promote FIA Action for Road Safety with drivers and key players of our sport accepting to act as ambassadors for the cause. For example, Lewis Hamilton was one of the first signatory of the Pledge. Many more drivers will follow soon.

ROAD SAFETY MILESTONES AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

- 2003 – First UN General Assembly Resolution on global road safety
- 2004 – World Health Organisation's 'World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention' launched
- 2009 - First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety in Moscow, following campaigning by the FIA and the FIA Foundation
- 2011 - Launch of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety and FIA Action for Road Safety
- 2012 – Launch of the FIA's Road Safety Grant Programme
- 2013 – The Long, Short Walk and Second UN Global Road Safety Week on Pedestrian Safety
- 2014 – Second UN General Assembly resolution on road safety
- 2015 – Launch of the Third UN Global Road Safety Week on Children's Safety
- 2015 – UN to finalise Post-2015 Goals and Second Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety in Brazil.



Viewed from the Vayang Hills, the sky and the hills appear as one.



The Chawa View Deck offers a scenic perspective of the clear waters and shallow shoreline below during low tide.

THE Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) kicked off this year's caravan tour series with a trip to the beguiling island of Batanes at the northernmost tip of the archipelago.

Dubbed "Escaping the Urban, Soaring the Northeast, Enjoying a Walktrip Adventure to Heaven's Paradise," the AAP-Petron Batanes Fly-Drive Caravan was made possible by the Department of Tourism (DOT) Region II, Tourism Promotions Board Philippines and Petron Triv-Activ as the major partner/sponsor.

Some 45 participants comprised of businessmen, diplomats, and media representatives joined the trip that was spearheaded by AAP Travel and Tourism Committee chair and AAP Travel president Mina Gabor.

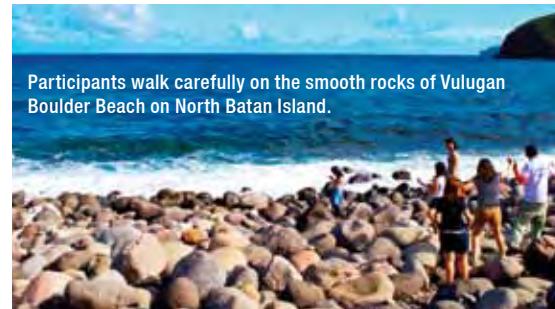
According to Gabor, the caravan was held in Batanes to let the participants "experience the famous Ivatan hospitality that the community is known around the world for. We also want them to see the breathtaking natural gift of this humble little province."

Aside from Gabor, AAP Director Joe Ferreria joined the fly-drive caravan and found it to be a great opportunity for family

First AAP-Petron Caravan of 2016 Flies and Drives to Batanes



Participants of the Batanes Caravan pose for a souvenir photo at the Petron service station while holding Petron Value Cards worth P1,000 each.



Participants walk carefully on the smooth rocks of Vulugan Boulder Beach on North Batan Island.



Left to right: Petron Corp. Marketing Officer Bong Cleofe, Basco, Batanes Mayor Demetrius Paul Narag, AAP Treasurer Joe Ferreria, AAP Trustee and AAPTravel president Mina Gabor

bonding like camping. Long-time caravan participants Regan Cua and Helen So also joined, along with their family and friends. Actually, the group of Helen So from La Union is getting bigger and bigger – starting with five people, the group has grown to about 15 to 20 regularly joining AAP Travel caravans, and still counting.

Lahoz, a new participant, told Gabor: "I attended this caravan because I don't want to worry about the details. I just want to enjoy my trip and bond with AAP members. This caravan is good because everything was already arranged and fixed and this is the best way to travel with AAP!"

This northernmost tip of the country is known for very tempestuous weather that makes trips to Batanes island rare. But with the recent tourism boom attracting many travellers, more trips to Batanes are facilitated by enterprises such as AirSwift Charter.

The Ivatan Way

The stark contrast between the Ivatans' way of living from that of the rest of the Filipinos in the country, especially Metro Manila, is a major attraction of this beautiful



Ivatan homes, built with limestone walls and a cogon roof, are designed to endure the powerful typhoons that frequent Batanes.



AAP treasurer Joe Ferreria sits on one of the massive boulders on the Vulugan Boulder Beach.



Participants sported "It's More Fun in the Philippines" t-shirts at the Octagon Bed and Dine lunch hosted by the Department of Tourism Region II.

island province. "It's as though Batanes is a totally different world. The participants' impression was that the Ivatans are very welcoming people. They live very humble lives and they have so much respect for nature," Gabor said.

The famous Ivatan hospitality is what first greeted the participants of the fly-drive caravan upon their arrival. A marching band played festive music as their plane landed. Staff members from the Batanes Wakay Travel and Tours, wearing traditional headgear called "vakul," welcomed participants with garlands as they alighted one by one.

The group boarded six vans that took them to their designated lodgings: Octagon Bed and Dine, Beach Front Bed and Dine, D'Island Lodge and Restaurant and Nathaniel's Lodge.

Batanes Mayor Demetrius Paul Narag met the group at the Octagon Bed and Dine, where they feasted on delectable buffet-style Ivatan cooking. After the sumptuous lunch, Narag talked a bit about Batanes and its people. Gabor also took the opportunity to express her gratitude to everyone for supporting AAP Travel's first caravan tour of the year.

From North Batan to Sabtang

Each day of the tour was packed with must-see and must-visit sites in Batanes. Participants were able to experience the various historical, cultural, and natural treasures that this tiny island has to offer.

From the majestic Mt. Carmel Chapel atop Tukon Hill—which is the epitome of the rubble masonry of traditional Ivatan houses—to the Tayid Lighthouse that offers panoramic views of the entire coastline of Batanes, the caravan covered every municipality.

Nature was also very much a big part of the trip with "Marlboro Country" or Rakuh a Payaman and Murung Beach, the most photographed spot in Batanes, as part of the itinerary among others.

The caravan was designed to be "one for the books." "We organize these caravans to make our AAP members feel how relevant they are to our organization. We made sure that every participant gets the full Batanes experience," Gabor stated.

"With the success of the Batanes Caravan, we hope that more AAP members will join us in the next caravans," Gabor added. "We are looking forward to more exciting destinations at reasonably priced package tours".

AAP Travel, a division of the Automobile Association Philippines, was established in 2009. It was launched to serve the travel needs of AAP members and help boost tourism in the country. In cooperation with the DOT, drive caravans have been a recurring tourism activity and this year's fly-drive tour to Batanes is the 12th of the series since AAP Travel began. **QQ**



As the country's leading oil company, Petron strongly advocates responsible driving, and promotes safe and fun travels. Petron fuels are specially formulated to meet Philippine driving conditions and cater to the needs of Filipino motorists. In particular, Petron Euro-4 fuels deliver Tri-Activ performance benefits, namely: (1) better engine protection for longer engine life; (2) better mileage for longer drives; and (3) better power. Thus, in addition to cleaner engine and cleaner emissions, motorists can enjoy more savings on maintenance and fuel consumption. These attributes make it a perfect match for the AAP Caravan, which aims to promote community tourism, environmental protection, and road safety.

COVER STORY



Story by Dino V. Directo III / Photos sourced online

Making vehicles safer thru tech

With the threat of global warming, and the ongoing quest to make our driving experience a fun and safer activity, automotive manufacturers are comparing notes on how to advance vehicle technology.



Coined by the U.S. Department of Transportation as a "revolution in safety", sophisticated car technologies are being introduced every year and most center around occupants convenience and vehicle safety. Historically, automakers have focused on engineering vehicles to enhance occupant protection in the event of a crash. That's why automobiles today have a range of airbags – front, rear, side and even curtains – as well as a long list of safety enhancements, including structural reinforcements to the passenger compartments and advanced safety belts.

The future of vehicle safety has expanded into technologies that help prevent or mitigate crashes. Crash avoidance, or "driver assist," technologies employ sophisticated software to interpret data from sensors, cameras, and radar based technologies that allow vehicles to sense the environment around them and assist drivers by alerting them to impending dangers.

At the recent Computer and Electronics Show (CES) and Geneva auto show, automotive manufacturers introduced the latest in passenger comfort, convenience and vehicle safety. Here are AQ's top innovation picks that will soon be available in most cars as a standard feature.

Pre-collision technology:

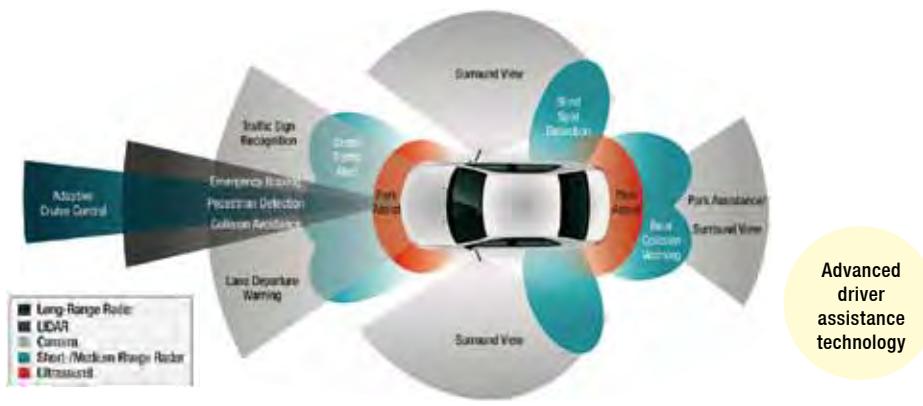
This technology is a complimentary innovation with the autonomous driving and the vehicle to vehicle communication modules. The pre-collision technology system utilizes two sensors; a front-mounted camera and tiny radar located in the front of the car, probably behind the radiator grill. These devices calculate distance and speed to another vehicle or object and sound a warning for the driver. If this warning goes unheeded the car will apply the brakes itself. Toyota has been working on such an ingenious system. Basically, we're talking about a device that warns drivers when a potential collision is sensed. There will be visual and immediate audible warnings to assist with the avoidance maneuvering.

Advanced driver assistance:

Currently being developed by Hyundai, this software can easily be incorporated into almost any vehicle. The system is a new approach to the heads up display that has become common in many vehicles. The display will show an array of information, such as speed limits, distance to traffic lights, time until the lights change and even the weather forecast. It is designed to improve the information available to a driver and, therefore, improve safety.

Driverless cars:

We all recently got amazed at Tesla's driverless car when the innovative manufacturer began uploading videos of their robotic cars driving while their occupants were asleep behind the wheel. It was a stunt that gave us a preview of what the future of automobile technology has in store for us. This has been a dream for many manufacturers and drivers for some time but it is an incredibly difficult and complex task to create a truly autonomous car. Aside from Tesla, Google has been working on several prototypes and has finally released one which is ready to be tested on public roads. The car needs no input from the driver other than to tell it where you wish to go. Should the design be successful the car will become an office on wheels or a playroom whilst travelling between destinations.



Several of the world's biggest car makers may be looking into developing robotic cars. This won't happen in a couple of years, although eventually it might be considering that technology is advancing so fast. At the 2015 Consumer Electronics Show in Vegas, the car exhibits took people's breaths away. The car that wowed those present was a Mercedes F015 prototype, also known as the "luxury in motion" car. It generated a lot of buzz mainly because it claimed to be a blend of robotic and driverless vehicle.

Turbine-electric hybrid power:

The supercar concept recently released by Jaguar with its C-X75 model is mind-blowing. The vehicle features a revolutionary design, and it also packs superb technicals. Each wheel has its own motor that draws energy from a central lithium-ion battery. The party pieces of the C-X75 are gas turbines, and Jaguar claims that the car concept blasts from 0 to 60 mph in 3.4 seconds. However, because the turbines are positioned behind the car, they must find a way to stop the heat from melting vehicles positioned behind Jaguar C-X75 on the street. If they can make that happen, we'll see this technology materialize by 2025.

Digital gauges:

This technology is now being used by some automotive manufacturers such as Toyota, Volkswagen, BMW, Audi and Mercedes Benz. Most of today's mechanical gauges are tough to read; they're inaccurate and to some extent they look outdated. Fully digitized dashboards are the future. They're slick and easy to use, not to mention that they will transform your car into a genuine spaceship.



Smart door handles:

Leading car manufacturers are constantly trying to wow buyers. Right now, some are working on developing vehicles with smart door handles. By making the handles touch sensitive, getting into a vehicle will become a lot more convenient. The feature will minimize drag and boost efficiency, which is ideal when driving fast.

Color adjustable headlights:

Porsche and Audi had beaten everybody to the draw with this technology, which many of us would know as mood lighting. These German automotive manufacturers have incorporated customizable headlights into their high-end cars so that the driver can adjust the color according to his mood.

Sharp LCD instrumentation:

The newest LCDs from Sharp are a massive improvement over the current TFT displays. The futuristic devices are expected to launch in 2017; they have a free form, which basically means that the designers have more flexibility to manufacture the most creative and high-tech interiors.

Inductive charging:

Hybrids are here to stay; although it can be annoying when you're in a hurry and you have to charge. Sometime in the future, we hope to have an inductive charging device for our electric cars. It's not rocket science, and soon enough the advanced technology will allow developers to make them.

Vehicle finder:

It can be incredibly frustrating when you have parked your vehicle and cannot remember exactly where you left it. Chrysler has now come up with the solution. Their software can be accessed via a standard smart phone. The vehicle will, on command, sound its horn to allow you to locate it. Alternatively you can follow the directions to either walk or drive to your vehicle and collect it. **AQ**

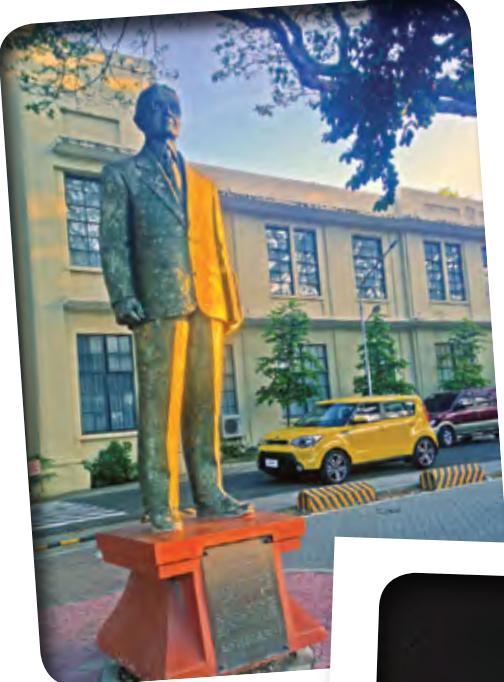
Images courtesy of Hyundai, Porsche, Jaguar and Google

KIA NEGROS EXPLORATION DRIVE: A World Made Bigger

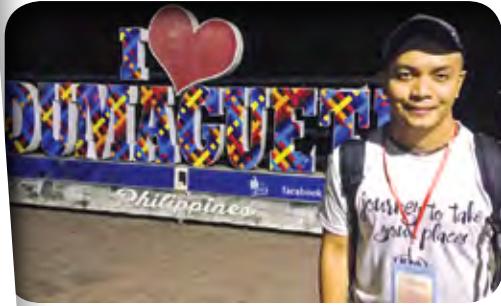


Story and Photos by: Ronald de los Reyes

"The World is Yours to Explore"



The funky yellow colored Kia Soul gets to tour around Silliman University.



The author showing some love for Dumaguete.



Established in 1901, Silliman University has been a beacon of education in the Visayas region for more than a century.

THIS was what Columbian Autocar Corporation (CAC) had in mind when they brought selected members of the motoring media to Bacolod for the three-day "Negros Exploration Drive".

The group first arrived at the "City of Smiles" one morning via the Bacolod-Silay airport and from there, we proceeded to the Kia Bacolod dealership. A hearty breakfast of the famed Chicken Inasal then welcomed us. And after that sumptuous meal, event head organizer and veteran race car driver Pepon Marave briefed us on the day's itinerary.

"In my surveys, Negros has one of the best road networks. Both traffic and driving conditions are great. You will love it," Marave said.

From the showroom, we were off to 250 kilometers of asphalt and rough roads enroute to Dumaguete.

Among the Kia fleet, the Sportage EX 2WD was first thrown in the mix for us to try out. Together with AQ Magazine's Bess Zamora, we got acquainted with their latest offering in the market.

Towards places unknown, we swept past the suburbs as we eventually discovered the Sportage's unique features.

Truly, it was "sporty, energetic and dramatic" as how Kia defines this fourth generation subcompact C-segment SUV.

Powered by the R 2.0L in-line 4 e-VGT CRDi DOHC Euro 4 diesel engine, its maximum output of 185 Ps per 4,000rpm could easily take the rough and more often than not harsh roads in stride. Not to mention, its emission, fuel efficiency, and response have improved while its NVH (noise, vibration and harshness) have been reduced.

Next, we found ourselves behind the wheel of a red Kia Forte. This looker behaved well on paved roads but needed a little push up hills. Inside, the comfortable cushy leather seats and cool dual zone automatic climate control would be perfect for long drives.

After that brief try, the Kia Grand Carnival was then ours for the taking.

Onboard this behemoth, the front seats immediately gave a commanding view of

the road ahead. Noticeable, too, is the generous legroom at the third row captain's and third row bench seats. The suspension was fine as it nonchalantly absorbed every bump on the road, making our ride cool and comfy. Despite its bulk, we never felt short of power, especially during the uphill climb as the 2.2L turbo diesel impressed us with its 193 hp and 441 Nm of torque.

After a long day spent driving, we finally clocked into Dumaguete by early evening. The place is known for the old American-rooted Siliman University and relaxing hangout spots by the sea. Here, a delightful dinner was then served to cap our night.

Day two was spent out in the sun. This time, we boarded the funky yellow Kia Soul going to the pier. This sexy compact hatchback has a 1.6 L diesel engine that delivers 128 hp and 260 Nm of torque. It produced enough power to keep up with the convoy.

Once at the docking area, we immediately embarked on a 45-minute boat ride towards the paradise island of Sumilon—where we spent a fun-filled day basking on the fine sand of its beach and gentle waves.

As we headed back to the famed "City of Gentle People", we were able to witness and appreciate more the beauty of nature. In fact, a friendly dolphin was there to bid us farewell—while a picturesque view of the sunset made it all

the more memorable.

The next morning, we woke up early to catch the sunrise for a panoramic photo of the whole Kia fleet: the Sportage, Forte, Soul, Grand Carnival and Sorento.

Shortly after breakfast, we chatted with Kia Philippines president Ginia Domingo before driving the 250 km route back to Bacolod.

"We made this journey so that you could see and feel for yourselves our vehicles and enjoy the cars as you explore the beauty of Negros," she said.

On the long trek back, we first tried the Kia Sorento before we turned the heat up for a spirited drive of the Sportage GT variant.

The Sorento's 2.2L turbo diesel engine squeezes out 200 hp and 441 N-m of torque which proves useful during overtaking maneuvers.

The top of the line Sportage GT, the most versatile of the fleet, delivered its promise of performance driving and comfort.

Its LED fog lamps, aluminum-effect skid plates, and 19-inch alloy wheels projected a more aggressive look. Inside, the Sportage GT impressed us with its D-shaped leather steering wheel, high quality piano black fascia, aluminum alloy pedals, and paddle shifters.

Performance-wise, its unique suspension characteristics are specifically designed for crisp handling and a firmer ride without sacrificing comfort.

As we closed another test drive chapter, we ended the day bringing memories of a world made bigger by exploring places unknown, such as wonderful Negros. **AQ**



The Kia Soul attracts attention wherever it goes.





By Kap Maceda Aguila
Photos by the author using a Canon SX410 IS

Porsche SUVs flex muscle in Cambodia temple run

A terrible drought – reportedly the worst in decades – has gripped this nation. As the mercury continues to soar, once-fertile paddies are reduced to a million sad, cracked, gaping mouths of Mother Earth.

Water buffalo dot the rural roadside of this northern Cambodia town just off its famous Angkor region. Deliberately going about their business of finding what precious little green is left to forage on, the herbivores are gaunt -- like wooden skeletal frames draped with leather. These beasts of burden don't need to speak of the crisis; their eyes do it for them.

Clouds of dust are kicked up by our convoy of Porsche SUVs as we push past the parched tableau of desperation. There's nothing to do except to whisper a prayer for rain. Water will make everything right. Water will make everything new again.

At the moment, the Cayenne we are on proves capable and compliant. Whatever worry there may have been about the S E-Hybrid variant being less gifted or athletic than its conventionally fueled siblings is put to rest quickly. The burly sport ute shrugs off bump after bump, and bestows boundless confidence on anyone at the wheel via its numerous technologies such as hill descent assist and hill hold. Aside from wielding its "green card" proudly (posting a peak fuel economy figure of 30 kilometers per liter), the e-hybrid is capable of churning out 333hp on its way to a top speed of 243kph.

"To showcase the best SUVs in the

industry," comes the simple statement from Porsche Cambodia CEO Michael Vetter, on the rationale for the off-road activity. "We see a lot of unpaved roads here, and that's why there's naturally a lot of SUVs in the country." He adds that the iconic carmaker's first showroom in Cambodia was opened more than a year back.

Our adventure takes us to some of Cambodia's most famous temple ruins. The first stop is the most distant among the three we visit – tucked deep in the heart of the Banteay Ampil District in Oddar Meanchey province. The dirt road we have been on progressively deteriorates into a constricted oxcart pressed on both sides by thick vegetation. The Porsche's full complement of sensors warn us of lower-level obstructions, and we are able to negotiate the journey sans incident.

"Since their launch, both the Cayenne

SUV and Macan compact SUV models have made a name for themselves. The decision in introducing Cayenne was considered a bold move back then and proven to be successful, contributing to 33 per cent of the total global sales last year. As for the Macan, it was unveiled for the first time in 2013 at the LA Autoshow. With worldwide sales of approximately 80,000 units in 2015 (36 percent out of total sales), the Macan continues to bring new customers into the brand," says Porsche Asia Pacific managing director Martin Limpert in a release.

A clearing mercifully appears, and the appearance of Porsche flags planted into the ground signal that we have reached our first stop. A short walk from our lunch area is an impressive temple ruin that seems to appear out of nowhere like a long-held secret. Much like the 2,000 or so such ruins, this one is a relic of the glory days of



the Khmer Empire, which held sway over most of mainland Southeast Asia from the 9th to 15th centuries. Eerily quiet, the temple seems ready to be swallowed by the forest. Indeed, the massive trees spring up from sections of the ruins, scattering massive, heavy blocks. Nature takes its time, but it will get the job done.

Up next is Ta Prohm, more famously known as the "Tomb Raider Temple," after the Angelina Jolie Hollywood hit in 2001. Although the film was shot in a number of the Angkor region's temples, Ta Prohm is reportedly most recognizable in the final product – owing to its well-preserved, picture-perfect state of condition. Like the previous temple, nature has elbowed its way into the



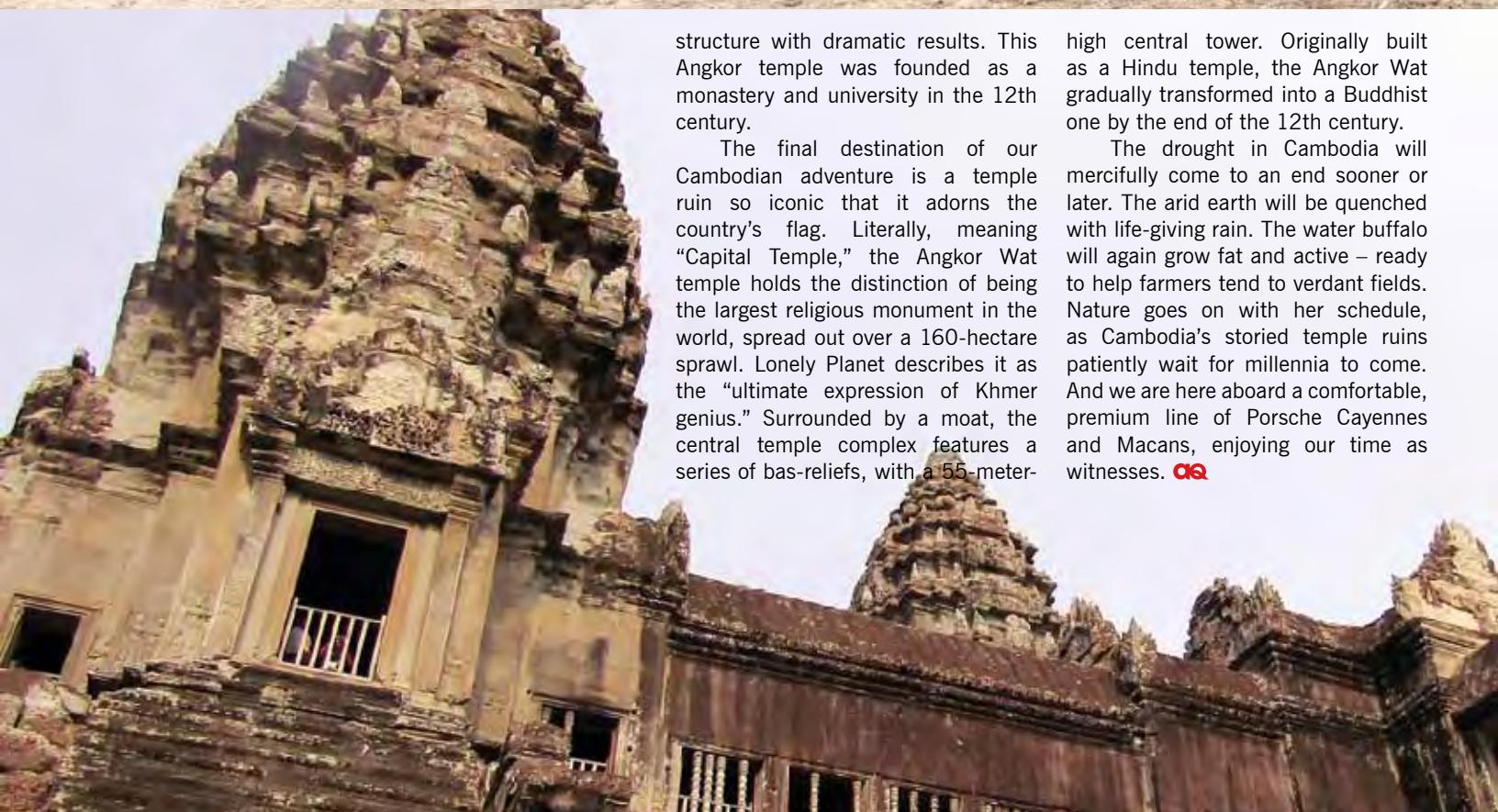
The e-hybrid is capable of churning out 333hp on its way to a top speed of 243kph

structure with dramatic results. This Angkor temple was founded as a monastery and university in the 12th century.

The final destination of our Cambodian adventure is a temple ruin so iconic that it adorns the country's flag. Literally, meaning "Capital Temple," the Angkor Wat temple holds the distinction of being the largest religious monument in the world, spread out over a 160-hectare sprawl. Lonely Planet describes it as the "ultimate expression of Khmer genius." Surrounded by a moat, the central temple complex features a series of bas-reliefs, with a 55-meter-

high central tower. Originally built as a Hindu temple, the Angkor Wat gradually transformed into a Buddhist one by the end of the 12th century.

The drought in Cambodia will mercifully come to an end sooner or later. The arid earth will be quenched with life-giving rain. The water buffalo will again grow fat and active – ready to help farmers tend to verdant fields. Nature goes on with her schedule, as Cambodia's storied temple ruins patiently wait for millennia to come. And we are here aboard a comfortable, premium line of Porsche Cayennes and Macans, enjoying our time as witnesses. **ao**





TOYOTA ROADTREK 2016:

Text and photos
by Dino Ray V. Directo III

Ride and drive yields fuel efficiency ratings



If you're the country's most dominant automotive manufacturer and you want to highlight the overall performance of your vehicle line-up, how will you do it? Toyota Motors Philippines did one for the books by flying in a select group of motoring journalists to Palawan recently.



Aside from the fuel efficiency contest, Toyota prepared a series of mind and physical games to make our experience a more memorable one.

"This ride and drive will enable you to test the cars, while enjoying the good roads and the natural beauty of this famous island," says Satoru Suzuki, President of Toyota Motors Philippines (TMP).

After spending the night in Puerto Princesa, the intrepid group of pen pushers geared up for the 53 kilometers ride to Astoria, Palawan. Toyota prepared brand new units of the Innova, Hi-Lux and the Fortuner SUV as the participating media men were divided into groups of four per vehicle. For the first leg of the 'Road Trek', my group rode in a Hi-Lux G 4x2 automatic. The fuel efficiency rating which we had to beat in our category was 10.7 kilometers per liter.

Aside from the fuel efficiency contest, the organizers prepared a series of mind and physical games to make our experience a more memorable one.

At the end of the day, our team managed to rack up an impressive fuel efficiency rating of 16.8 kilometers per liter, with the A/C on full blast and me driving like there's an egg at the back of the accelerator pedal. The Innova was able to get

a thrifty 20 km per liter while the Fortuner V was able to hit the 17km per liter mark.

After the "working" part of this year's Road Trek, the Toyota convoy drove for another four hours to the Lio airport, for 45-minute boat ride that took us to our final destination in El Nido Lagen Resort.

Nestled between a lush four-hectare forest and a calm, shallow lagoon, Lagen Island is one of El Nido's eco-sanctuary island resorts. Luxurious bungalows strategically placed along the shoreline with a dense forest and a limestone rock face surrounding us, we all felt that we were in for some serious fun and play for the next couple of days.

Now on its 12th year, the Toyota Roadtrek is an annual road trip organized by TMPI. This four-day event requires its participants to engage in a friendly competition and stock up some precious points. It also has fun competitions added into the mix, with this year's theme requiring all media participants to compete for top honors for social media and fuel efficiency drive contests. **AQ**

MITSUBISHI Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC) brings more excitement to the pickup segment as it unveils the all-new Mitsubishi Strada. This 5th generation model is engineered as a sport utility truck combining the functionality of a pickup truck, comfort of a passenger car and amenities of a Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV). Since its introduction, the Strada has been part of the top choices in the pickup category and has now become one of Mitsubishi Motors' global bestsellers. The first generation of Strada was launched in 1978 and for over 36 years, more than four million units were sold worldwide. In the Philippines, MMPC sold more than 56,000 units of the Strada from the time it introduced the 2nd generation in the 90s up to the current 4th generation model. With its unique features and distinct styling across generations, the Strada became a popular choice among pick up buyers.

Mitsubishi Motors Philippines unveils the All-new Strada

After its grand launch in Thailand last year, the Philippines is the second country to release the 5th generation Strada. It will also be introduced in the ASEAN, Oceania, Middle East, Europe, Africa, Latin America and will soon be exported to 150 countries. The all-new Strada is manufactured by Mitsubishi Motors Thailand.

Performance

Further development and enhancements were done to ensure that the all-new Strada will provide features that perfectly addresses the diverse needs of customers who use this pickup as an everyday workhorse either for personal or for commercial purpose. Beyond its new look, the improvements on the performance and other features are easily noticeable. In the Philippines, the all-new Strada will be available in 6 variants, two wheel drive (2WD): GL 4x2 base model Manual Transmission (MT), GLX 4x2 MT, GLX V 4x2 Automatic Transmission (AT) and four wheel drive (4WD): GL 4x4 base model MT, GLS V 4x4 MT and GLS Sport V 4x4 AT.

At the heart of the Variable Geometry Turbocharged (VGT) variants is a 2.5 Liter 4 In-Line 16-Valve DOHC Turbocharged (VGT) and Intercooled Common Rail Direct Injection Diesel (4D56). Thanks to this reliable engine which creates a maximum power of 178Ps/4,000rpm and an improved torque of 400N-m/2,000rpm. The top of the line GLS Sport V is equipped with an electronic dial of the Super Select 4WD-II. This technology provides an outstanding off-road performance and superior handling with just a turn on the knob. This feature also controls the torque distribution between front and rear at a ratio of 40:60 equating to a superior handling and easy operation. This new Super Select feature enables the all-new Strada to run on full time 4WD.

Meanwhile the GL 4x2 MT, GLX 4x2 MT and GL 4x4 MT are powered by 2.5 Liter 4 In-Line 16-Valve DOHC Turbocharged and Intercooled Common Rail Direct Injection Diesel (4D56) engines. Maximum power is at 136Ps/4,000rpm and maximum torque is at 324N-m/2,000rpm.

Exterior

The exterior of the all-new Strada gets more refinement as it flaunts a dynamic and yet sophisticated stance. The front bumper evokes strong curves with the lines appearing to flow smoothly from the three-diamond logo on the grille to the headlamps. The improved bumper design also directs water spray outward rather than on the windshield, avoiding blinding situation when driving at cruising speed through puddles. Headlamp design is styled to show powerful penetrating light beams suggesting a solid impression. LED daytime running lights add to its sporty yet elegant styling. Top of the line



variants such as GLS 4x4 MT and GLS Sport 4x4 AT are equipped with High Intensity Discharged headlamps for assured night time driving visibility.

The distinctive "J-line" provides a clever engineering design to shorten wheel base and maximize the interior space. Its wheelbase of 3,000mm, front tread of 1,520mm and rear tread of 1,515mm are set to improve both handling stability and riding comfort. These tread dimensions also provide increase in maximum steering angle that permits a class-smallest minimum turning radius of 5.9m.

The all-new Strada now comes in an array of exterior color to choose from which will perfectly match your taste. Nine available colors are Quartz Brown Metallic, Impulse Blue Metallic, Earth Green Metallic, Rosita Red, Virgil Gray, Sterling Silver Metallic, Polar White, Savanna White and Pyrenees Black.

Interior

Inside the Strada is a two-tone Black/Gray with Piano Black and Silver accent center instrument panel for a more stylish and neat impression. Essential information that every driver would want to know comes in a handy and accessible feature with the touchscreen multimedia system with dealer option GPS Navigation, Tire Pressure Monitoring System and Reverse camera display. The multimedia system's versatility in function for any media you use, at the same time can be linked with any Android or iOS-devices ensuring pleasurable drive in every travel.

The all-new Strada's interior offers ample space and comfort for every occupant. Compared to its predecessor, the Strada's interior length grew by 20mm as it boasts of a 1,745mm legroom, which is the most spacious in its class. The seats of the all-new Strada use wider and longer seat cushions and backrest to provide better support to its occupants.

Safety

With its predecessor known for being the safest pickup, the all-new Strada uses the same Mitsubishi's exclusive Reinforced Impact Safety Evolution (RISE) body. The RISE body construction incorporates front and rear crumple zones with reinforced beams to absorb collision force and direct it away from the vehicle's interior. The engine and drive components also absorb energy, preventing further damage from reaching the cabin. Aside from the RISE body, the Strada has dual-stage front SRS Airbags and seat belt pre-tensioners that react instantaneously in the event of a frontal collision and these greatly reduces the chance of passengers being slumped into the steering wheel or dashboard. **CQ**



Mitsubishi Motors Philippines launches the 2016 Mirage

MITSUBISHI Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC) adds more excitement to its passenger car lineup as it unveils the refreshed 2016 Mirage. After almost four years of being introduced and warmly accepted in the market, the Mirage gets major upgrades and is now loaded with new features to make it even more fun and exciting to drive. The 2016 Mirage is available in GLX and GLS variants with both 5-speed manual transmission (MT) and Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT).

New Features

Similar to its predecessor the 2016 Mirage is powered by a 3-cylinder 1,200cc engine with the exclusive Mitsubishi Innovative Valve timing Electronic Control system (MIVEC). The Mirage's engine which is now Euro 4 compliant is capable of achieving a maximum output of 78 PS at 6,000 rpm and 100 N·m at 4,000 rpm of torque.

What gets the most update is the Mirage's exterior styling starting with the facelift. The new bumper design with new chrome grille evokes a sportier look. The GLS variant is now equipped with new Bi-xenon High Intensity Discharge (HID) Headlamps with LED-Type position

lamps. Alloy wheels for both variants were redesigned. The GLS is now equipped with 15-inch two tone alloy wheels while the GLX variant 14-inch alloy wheels. This refreshed exterior design provides a fun and attractive styling suitable for all ages.

Two new vibrant exterior colors were added which are the Wine Red Pearl and Sunrise Orange Metallic to give customers more color options to choose from. These new colors perfectly complement the Mirage's new face as it keeps its youthful and yet sporty stance fit for every lifestyle. The following colors are also available for the 2016 Mirage: Cool Silver, Majestic Red, Medium Blue Mica, Virgil Gray, Aurora White, Savanna White and Pyrenese Black.

The sporty yet subtle look is complemented by the Mirage's black-

themed interior with its new high-grade black fabric seats. The dashboard provides a clean styling for excellent forward visibility. The GLS variant's meter cluster is updated to white lit semi high contrast meter cluster for an improved brightness and an added luxurious feel.

New features which are available on all variants are the welcome and coming home lights. Welcome home lights make it easier to locate the Mirage in the parking lot at night. The front and rear position lamps and room lamp stay on for 30 seconds when the doors are unlocked via the keyless entry transmitter while with the coming home lights remain on even after shutting off the engine. Various lights including the headlamps, illuminate your path from the car making it convenient when walking off the dark. The lights stay on for 60 seconds, automatically switching itself off.

The 2016 Mirage is sure to give driving pleasure with the array of new features and upgrades that it is equipped with. Exceptional value and uncompromising safety is what you can expect on the Mirage as it features standard dual-SRS airbags, Anti-Lock Braking (ABS) system with Electronic Brake Force Distribution which prevents the wheels from locking in emergency stops, giving greater control even on tougher driving conditions. **QQ**

PRICING AND WARRANTY

Suggested retail introductory price starts at Php 553,000 for the GLX MT, Php 603,000 for the GLX CVT, Php 663,000 for the GLS MT and the top of the line GLS CVT is available for Php 713,000.

For a worry free ownership the Mirage has an extended warranty period of 5-years or 100,000 kms whichever comes first.





HYUNDAI VELOSTER: UNCONVENTIONAL + IMPRESSIVE

Interestingly Different

One look at the Veloster and it's sure to strike you as provocatively sporty and sensually stimulating. It's playful like a coupe, yet boasts of functionality like your dependable hatchback. In one sweep, it's a crossover utility vehicle that's exceptional in character.

The Veloster instantly commands attention with its aggressive styling that flaunts confidence at virtually all angles. Hyundai ingeniously engineered the Veloster to meld the concepts of "velocity" and "roadster," hence its quirky name.

Sporting a wide low stance and Hyundai's signature hexagonal grille at the front, the Veloster oozes with contemporary style, complimented by dynamic character lines that flow through the car in every direction, sleek contours that are every

Is it a coupe? Or is it a hatchback? However you may look at it, one thing is certain: this car is of a different breed altogether. Designed to challenge convention, impressively packaged and engineered with an engine in a class of its own, the Hyundai Veloster is a game changer in the sports, coupe and hatchback categories. With great pride, Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI), the only authorized distributor of Hyundai vehicles in the Philippines, officially launches the Hyundai Veloster at the Manila International Auto Show.

Action-ready interior

Step inside the Veloster and you're transported into another dimension. You think you're still in the confines of a car? Perhaps, but it gets even better, once you realize that the Veloster's interior space is inspired by a different kind of machine, one that embraces the thrill of the open road: the motorbike. Swooping and curving to evoke a powerful sense of motion and freedom, the Veloster boasts of generous interior space, made even more robust with high-tech features, sporty convenience, and smart finishing touches that make for an assertive, action-ready ambience.

Take command at the driver's seat and bring the car to life with a touch of button. A futuristic-looking supervision cluster that's dual-cylindered like the twin pipes of a motorbike exhaust lets you in on all the vital driving information you need as you cruise down the road.

Further emphasizing the Veloster's elegant, high-tech interior is the tastefully fitted center fascia, with switches and controls that are within easy reach to access the car's multimedia functions, plus a 7-inch LCD touchscreen that displays all the information you need. Other fine touches like metal-painted details around the center console, door handles, air vents, and gear stick make the Veloster's cabin even more sophisticated.

Amplify the delight of driving the Veloster by listening to your favorite music. With its premium sound system, it's easy, with its built-in CD/MP3 player, and Aux-input. You can even plug in external devices via USB connection, and go hands-free, as the Veloster is Bluetooth ready.

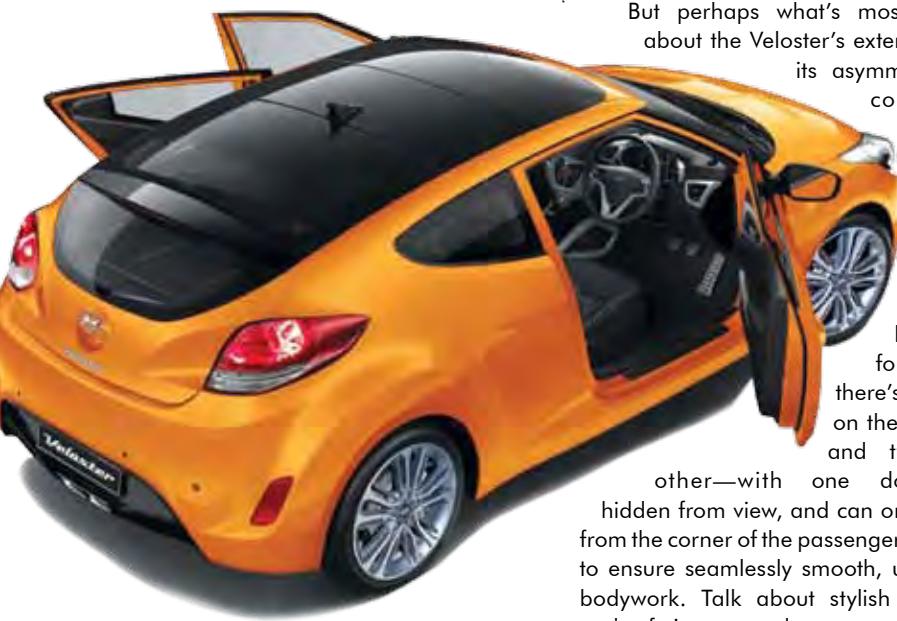
Extend the convenience of controlling the car's multimedia functions via steering wheel, with controls for audio and Bluetooth hands-free system. Paddle shifters provide a tactile feel

inch an expression of boldness, a short front overhang connecting with a front-to-back sloping roof, and bonnet character lines that are profiled in two planes, featuring symmetric cutouts that further enhance its unique, energetic character. The curvaceous rear is unmistakably arresting.

The Veloster's "eyes" pierce authoritatively with projection type LED headlamps to accurately illuminate the road ahead. Increasing its dynamic and high-tech look are unique rear lamps, stylishly shaped LED side repeaters that intensify visibility when turning, rear spoiler with LED type High Mount Stop Lamp, front fog lamps that are set low on the bumper, a centered twin tip exhaust tipped in chrome, and a panoramic sunroof that lets the sunrays and fresh air in with just a push of a button.

But perhaps what's most interesting about the Veloster's exterior design is its asymmetrical door configuration.

Yes, you got that right; it sure looks like a coupe with its two doors, but you're in for surprise: there's one door on the driver's side and two on the other—with one door handle hidden from view, and can only be flicked from the corner of the passenger side window to ensure seamlessly smooth, uninterrupted bodywork. Talk about stylish functionality and safe ingress and egress.



MDPS reduces steering complexity and engine load, delivering excellent steering response and helping improve the car's fuel economy, respectively. The steering wheel also has manual tilt and telescopic function to help adjust it at a level most comfortable to you.

When it comes to driving stability, the Veloster's suspension system comes equipped with MacPherson strut with coil spring and stabilizer bar at the front, and coupled torsion beam axle at the rear for smooth cruising. Front and rear disc brakes on the other hand give the Veloster superior stopping power.

Safety is priority

For Hyundai, it's not just your driving pleasure that's important; your safety as a responsible road user is of equal importance. That's why in the Veloster, Hyundai has thoughtfully put together advanced safety technologies to help keep you in control at all times.

The Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) and Electronic Stability Program (ESP) keeps the wheels from locking instantaneously, and determines the brake pressure and engine output, respectively, to help you steer the car properly and safely under control. Another active safety technology is the Hill-start Assist Control (HAC), which maintains brake pressure to prevent the car from slipping backwards on inclined slopes, or when the car is starting off uphill.

The Veloster's shell is built to be tough with high-strength B Pillar Impact Management System. The dash cross and side members, roof structure, and pillars are engineered with reinforced steel to protect the car's occupants in a collision.

To help cushion driver and passengers and reduce the possibility of injuries in the unlikely event of an impact, front SRS airbags, side and curtain airbags deploy immediately.

Rear parking assist system with back warning camera incorporates sensors in the rear bumper to easily detect obstacles when the car is reversing, which you can conveniently check on the LCD monitor in the car. A buzzer alerts you when the car gets too close to an object, or curb.

Additional safety and security features include: central door lock/unlock (driver control); Inside Handle Override (Driver side); impact-sensing door unlock; speed-sensing auto door lock; keyless entry with Smart Key function; child safety rear door locks; and power window controls that include convenient single-touch auto up/down function.

So, is it a coupe, or a hatch? Frankly, it's impressively the best of both worlds. Because life is meant to be enjoyed in more ways than one, there's the Veloster to give you the unconventional privilege to enjoy them all. And why not? It's a Hyundai. 



to a thrilling drive while giving you control over the vehicle without moving your hands from the steering wheel.

For a cozy ambience, a Full Auto Air Conditioner makes it easy for you to set the desired temperature and just let the system handle the rest, ensuring a customized interior climate that suits you right.

Taking the Veloster's interior aplomb a notch higher are plush bucket leather seats that are relaxing, as well as functional with several purposeful add-ins. At the front, the driver's seat is fitted with height adjustment and recline functions, headrest with up/down adjustment, plus power seat with electric lumbar support for excellent back support. Rear seats also have headrests with up/down adjustment, and have 60/40 split folding capacity to give extra room for bigger gear and items. A center cup holder at the rear seats keeps your refreshments within easy reach.

Other conveniences that embellish the Veloster's cabin include sun visor with vanity mirror and cover with illumination and ticket holder; center room lamp plus front map lamp with sunglass case; luggage lamp; power window with auto up/down (driver), and safety window (driver); and seatback pocket (front passenger) for maps and other handy reading materials.

Another extension of convenience is the Veloster's rear view camera fitted at the boot handle, which displays the view to the rear on the 7-inch LCD screen, making parking a cinch for you.

T-GDi – The Great Driving Innovation and more

With its powerful looks, the Veloster has an equally powerful engine that matches this roadster's passion for velocity: a Gamma 1.6-liter T-GDi DOHC engine. Delivering maximum power output of 204 ps at 6300 rpm, and maximum torque of 27.0 kg-m

The Veloster is available at P1.548M.

Colors:

- Sleek Silver
- White Crystal
- Dazzling Blue
- Phantom Black
- Sunflower
- Vitamin C
- Veloster Red



at 4500 rpm, the Veloster endows you a whole new sensation of sporty driving experience, and at the same time, optimizes fuel economy. Lightweight and quiet in operation, the Veloster's engine, equipped with T-GDi, or Turbo Gasoline Direct injection technology, makes for above par responsiveness and robustness that elevate your driving experience. Hyundai's T-GDi engine is made of a solid aluminum block and ladder frame construction, giving it less weight, while maintaining its rigid construction for less noise, vibration, and harshness. A serpentine belt system runs the alternator,

idler, water pump, and air conditioning that helps lessen noise and makes the engine lighter and more durable. Maximizing fuel efficiency is its offset crankshaft design that reduces friction and shortens the time to main combustion. An acting type valve operator (Mechanical Lash Adjuster or MLA) attached between the camshaft and the intake and exhaust valves provides enhanced fuel efficiency and better engine durability.

Take advantage of the Veloster's full engine power with a 7-speed Dual Clutch Transmission (DCT) with H-Matic that provides enhanced fuel efficiency, improved driving quality, reduced noise, and better durability with performance-enhancing features that make gear-shifting exhilarating, as well as effortless. An electric motor type clutch actuator fitted in the DCT allows for practically seamless gear change with precise control and optimized response. With a double input shaft structure gear train that uses one solid and one hollow input shaft, DCT delivers excellent gear shifts with no loss of power for smoother shifts and accurate power delivery.

Comfortable and responsive steering feel is made possible by Motor Driven Power Steering (MDPS). Using an electric motor,

PEUGEOT TO SERVE AS OFFICIAL PREMIUM TRANSPORT PARTNER AT THE 21ST FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

French automobile maker Peugeot gave its support to this year's French Film Festival as official premium transport partner. The French Film Festival is an annual event conducted by the French Embassy in Manila. Peugeot Philippines has been supporting the annual event since it began operations in the country in 2013. This year, as official premium transport partner, Peugeot vehicles was made available to festival guests on the gala night, Wednesday, June 8. Guests can park their cars at Three Parkade, and from there, Peugeot will shuttle them to Central Square BGC, where the premiere of French director Maiwenn's film, *Mon Roi*, was held. For her role in the film, French actress Emmanuelle Bercot was given the Best Actress Award at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival.

"The French Film Festival is a salute to the arts. Over 21 years, the French Embassy in Manila has been giving Filipinos a glimpse of French artistry via these beautiful works of modern art. Peugeot, which has a deeply rooted history in premium design, also churns out works of modern art. In essence, we at Peugeot Philippines also aim to give Filipinos a taste of French artistry. Our goals are one and the same – to offer the best of France to the Filipino. We feel that we share a bond with the Embassy of France in this effort," said Glen Dasig, Peugeot Philippines President.



Partners for the French Film Festival: (L-R) Martin Macalintal, Audio-Visual Attaché for the French Embassy; Special Assistant to the CEO of SSI Group, Inc. Michael Tantoco Huang; French Deputy Head of Mission Laurent Legodec; French Councilor for Cooperation and Cultural Affairs Yves Zoberman; and Peugeot Philippines President Glen Dasig.

The red carpet was rolled out in honor of the cast and crew of *Ma'Rosa*, a film by director Brillante Mendoza which was selected in the Cannes Film Festival's Official Competition and for which Filipina actress Jaclyn Jose won this year's Best Actress Award. Both Mendoza and Jose, along with several dignitaries from the French Embassy in Manila, will be shuttled in Peugeot vehicles, as well. **AQ**

Third Authorized Dealership in the Country A New Milestone for Harley-Davidson Asia Pacific



Bernie Ledesma (Branch Manager, Harley-Davidson of Manila BGC), Jay Bautista (General Manager, American Motorcycles, Inc.), Greg Yu (Chairman, American Motorcycles, Inc.), Peter MacKenzie (Managing Director, Harley-Davidson Asian Emerging Markets), Felix Ang (President, American Motorcycles, Inc.) and Frankie Ang (Vice-President, American Motorcycles, Inc.)

AMERICAN leisure motorcycle manufacturer Harley-Davidson recently announced the opening of its newest dealership, Harley-Davidson of Manila – Bonifacio Global City to further reinforce the brand's continued commitment to the Philippines. The Manila dealership is the third authorized dealership for Harley-Davidson in the Philippines, and is owned and operated by American Motorcycles, Inc.

Harley-Davidson owners, riders from Manila and throughout the Philippines, along with Harley-Davidson Dealer Principals from 11 countries were present at the opening. Mr. Peter Mackenzie, Managing Director of Harley-Davidson Asia Emerging Markets, said, "The mountain passes, coastlines, historical sites, and a mixture of picturesque towns and bustling cities found in more than 7,000 islands of the Philippines makes it one of the most exciting touring destinations in the region. At Harley-

Davidson, our goal is to develop a trusted network of independently owned dealerships, offer great experiences that draw more people into the sport of motorcycling, and fulfil the riders' dreams of personal freedom. The launch of the latest dealership in Bonifacio Global City will give riders access to unrivalled products and services direct from the legendary brand, while adding their own welcoming local touch."

The new dealership will offer Harley's entire range of bikes, including the Dark Custom line, featuring the Iron 883™, Forty-Eight®, and Harley-Davidson Street™ motorcycles, sleek machines that offer an authentic, affordable experience to a new generation of riders. Also available will be best-in-class after-sales services and original parts for owners to customize their motorcycles, as well as apparel and riding activities. It will serve as a platform for local riders and enthusiasts to share their passion for riding together across the Philippines' many breathtaking destinations.

Felix R. Ang, Dealer Principal of Harley-Davidson of Manila – Bonifacio Global City, said, "Welcome to the new home of Harley-Davidson in Manila. It is about time for riders here to experience the thrill of owning a true American legend. Harley-Davidson's presence in Bonifacio Global City adds much excitement to the district, known for passionate minds who will appreciate the iconic brand's spirit of freedom and adventure."

The new dealership is located at the Shangri-La at the Fort in Bonifacio Global City, an emerging contemporary lifestyle district at the center of Metro Manila and one of the fastest growing urban developments in Asia. A perfect new address for the American icon, the location of the new dealership makes the Harley-Davidson lifestyle more accessible to Manila residents, especially young professionals looking to get into the sport of motorcycling to pursue personal freedom and self-expression. Here, customers can purchase Harley-Davidson motorcycles, parts and accessories, as well as riding gear and casual clothing including the Slim-Fit Custom line that is created specifically for the Asian region. **AQ**



World-Class Safety with the Mercedes-Benz C-Class

THE Mercedes-Benz C-Class has been highly regarded as one of the iconic vehicles of the Mercedes-Benz brand. Last year, it was awarded the 2015 World Car of the Year, besting out 24 other vehicles in its category. Dr. Dieter Zetsche, Chairman of the Board of Management of Daimler AG, Head of Mercedes-Benz Cars was quoted saying, "The C-Class is a best seller that has always been a trendsetter in the premium medium-size category."



In the development of the new C-Class in-house test requirements and test criteria for crash testing were applied that go beyond what is required by law. Knowledge gained by Mercedes-Benz Accident Research was furthermore taken as a basis. Mercedes-Benz not only looks to vehicle ratings such as Euro NCAP, but for all safety measures also takes into account what actually happens in accidents, resulting in "real-life safety". The C-Class right away met all rating requirements worldwide. The basis for this is the intelligently designed

body shell with particularly rigid passenger cell. The front end structure, floorpan, side wall and rear end were designed for high structural safety with regard to geometry, joining techniques and material quality.

Three-point safety belts with pyrotechnical belt tensioners and belt-force limiters are installed for driver, front passenger and passengers on the outer rear seats. In the PRE-SAFE® phase belt tensioning is electronically controlled and reversible. The center seat of the second row is equipped with a standard 3-point belt system. A rear seat-belt status display in the instrument cluster informs the driver whether the passengers in the back have fastened their safety belts.

The front passenger seat can be fitted with automatic child seat recognition, which dispenses with the existing transponder and instead works with a weight mat. This enables any child seat to be used. The airbag is automatically deactivated in this case and reactivated once the child seat has been removed. Unlike systems offered

by competitors, which often use a key switch to deactivate the airbag, this system prevents the user from improper operation. Users often forget to manually activate the front passenger airbag when removing the child seat. In the event of an accident this can place adult occupants in considerable danger since the front passenger airbag and the seat belts work in tandem and can only achieve the necessary protective effect for adults by operating together.

New head restraints for driver and front passenger provide early support for the head in the event of a rear impact and thus are able to reduce the risk of whiplash injuries.

The award-winning vehicle is still loaded with advanced systems for more active safety such as Collision Prevention Assist which detects danger of head-on collisions, Active Parking Assist System for hands-free parking and Attention Assist System which recognizes dwindling attentiveness, among others. It also boasts a built-in Garmin MAP PILOT Navigation System which provides user-friendly navigation, precise map data and excellent route guidance for drivers.

The Mercedes-Benz C-Class is being distributed by Auto Nation Group with the best offer yet through their dealer networks that include CATS Motors in Greenhills and in Bonifacio Global City, Automotive Icon in Alabang and Global Star Motors in Cebu.

For more information on these vehicles, you may contact (02) 784-5000. **AQ**

Isuzu Philippines displays key strength in 2016 Truck Fest



CONTINUING to bolster its position in the domestic market as the leading assembler and seller of commercial vehicles and trucks, Isuzu Philippines Corporation (IPC) has put on display the products that define the Isuzu brand's key strength.

Exhibited at the 2016 Isuzu Truck Fest, from April 14 to 16, 2016 at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City were the company's range of truck models, presented in a diverse range of applications and sizes designed to meet the requirements of an equally varied profile of commercial vehicle users. Themed as "Trucks for Life," the models featured at the show not only demonstrate Isuzu's heritage in and core competency at truck manufacturing, but also strengthen the company's ties with consumers.

"One of the key ingredients in our partnership with our clients is the trust that has been forged through time, and which is emblazoned in every Isuzu vehicle," said IPC President Hajime Koso. "Isuzu trucks are not merely figures in the company's sales report, but are testaments to the security and assurance that they provide to customers. Isuzu is a responsible partner for life."

Leading the 19-vehicle lineup at this year's Truck Fest are Isuzu's heavy-duty models, which have long served as benchmarks both globally and locally for their quality, durability and reliability. Boosting this reputation are Isuzu's leadership in diesel technology, the wide availability of parts to support the vehicles' operation for numerous years, and the competent service provided by a large network of dealerships.

At the 2016 Truck Fest, taking the spotlight are Isuzu's C-Series and E-Series models, most prominent among which are the CYH51S (GVW 41 tons), a 20-cubic-meter dump truck, and

the similarly configured CYZ51M (GVW 33 tons), a 15-cubic-meter version. Another CYZ51M, equipped with a control lever and is designed as a concrete mixer, complete the full-size C-Series range.

The heaviest sized E-Series models are represented by two examples of the EXR51F (GCM 45 tons), and an EXZ51K (GCM 60 tons). Displayed as tractor heads, the trucks are readily configurable to serve a variety of purposes. For their part, the EXR51F flatbed and the two EXZ51K fuel tankers can immediately be deployed for their respective duties.

Along with the heavy-duty models, also showcased are Isuzu's light-duty N-Series trucks, which have been the Philippines' best-selling light-duty commercial vehicles for more than 15 consecutive years. Lined up at the event are the NPR85 and NPS models, which come in cab and chassis format so these can be designed for different applications. Exhibited as purpose-built models are the



NHR NT flexi truck, NHR MB i-Van, NQR dropside, and an NQR aluminum van with a side door.

For the medium-duty category, an F-Series FRR aluminum van, also equipped with a door on the side, is also featured.

Adding even more diversity to the show are two special vehicle bodies imported from Thailand, one of which is mounted on an FVM truck. The other body has an interior where the temperature can be controlled.

Meanwhile, IPC provided their guests relevant information on the benefits of purchasing brand-new trucks, and outlined the risks involved in choosing used ones. The company also treated on-site customers to P10,000 worth of fuel cards, P10,000 worth of LTO registration services, and P10,000 worth of parts coupons. According to Koso, both activities are meant to show IPC's gratitude toward Filipino consumers.

"There is nothing more valuable than the trust that our customers have put into our hands, and for this reason, we are continuously working hard to provide excellent products and services best suited to the demands of the Filipino market," Koso said. **AQ**





Welcome the new Suzuki Ertiga: NOW with MORE reasons to LUV compact cars

COMPACT multi-purpose vehicle (MPV) lovers have an exciting reason to celebrate as Suzuki Philippines announces the arrival of the upgraded 2016 Suzuki Ertiga. The newest version of the well-loved Ertiga, which is one of the bestsellers of the Japanese automotive company, combines the maneuverability and agility of a compact car and the spaciousness of a family car with its 7-seater capacity. No wonder this sleek beauty has been dubbed a Life Utility Vehicle (LUV).

New features and technologies define the new 2016 Ertiga, which also exudes a more sophisticated exterior compared to its predecessor. Those going for the GL or GLX variants will find a new triple-slat chrome grille that stretches sideways all the way to the headlamps, and a new front bumper with smaller air-dam and fresh fog lamp trims. The body-colored electric folding side mirrors with integrated signal lamps, the chrome tailgate garnish, and the tail light extension at the rear make the Ertiga look bolder and more aggressive. An unlock button is also available for the GLX variant.

Apart from these, new 15" alloy wheel designs (for GL and GLX) and 15" steel wheels with full hub caps (for GA variant) complete the impressive exteriors of the new Ertiga iteration. There's a spare standard wheel included for all variants.

The interior updates also bring exciting news. The driver can enjoy the multimedia Android touch screen, Bluetooth, wifi, and USB connectivity with hands-free function. Offline navigation is optional. Audio and hands-free switches are embedded in the GLX variant's steering wheel to facilitate easy access to various tasks. The rear seats are now 50:50 split folding, thus improving the versatility of the MPV. Additionally, the keyless push start system and reverse sensor with on/off switches make driving a truly comfortable experience.

A smart, great value, multi-function choice with class-leading fuel efficiency and up-to-speed features, the new Ertiga is the perfect MPV for every Filipino family.

Suzuki Philippines General Manager for Automobile Shuzo Hoshikura proudly shared, "Amid the great demand for a new version, we decided to bring in the refreshed 2016 Ertiga because we want Filipino families to experience its best-in-class innovations designed for comfort and style."

Mr. Hoshikura added, "The arrival of the new Ciaz in April this year, and the new, amped-up edition of the Ertiga are testaments to our commitment to continue innovating and manufacturing cars that meet the needs and expectations of our customers. In particular, compact vehicles are what we are passionate about, and we are determined to hold leadership in that category."

The 2016 Ertiga comes in 4 variants: the Ertiga GA Manual Transmission with prices starting at Php 665,000; the GL Manual Transmission (Php 759,000); the GL Automatic Transmission (Php 799,000) and the GLX Automatic Transmission (Php 918,000), all of which are already available in all Suzuki dealerships nationwide. Choose from Silky Silver Metallic, Graphite Gray Pearl Metallic, Prime Cool Black, Pearl Radiant Red, Pearl Burgundy Red and Pearl Snow White. **aq**

SUZUKI SWIFT HAS NOW SOLD 5 MILLION UNITS GLOBALLY

SUZUKI Motor Corporation's bestselling compact car, the Suzuki Swift, marks a milestone for having sold 5 million units worldwide this April, 11 years since its introduction.

First launched in Japan in November 2004 as one of the automotive manufacturer's world strategic models, the Suzuki Swift shows the company's quantum jump towards making cars that are sporty, stylish and fun to drive.

The Suzuki Swift instantly became a favorite among car enthusiasts throughout the world, earning high praises for its design, performance and bold style, as well as winning numerous Car of the Year Awards worldwide. It hit its one million cumulative worldwide unit sales in 2008, two million in 2011, three million in 2013, four million in 2014 and five million in 2016. It is produced in Japan, Hungary, India, China, Pakistan and Thailand, and is an easy favorite among subcompact sedans in more than 140 countries and regions around the world.

In the Philippines, Suzuki Swift was launched in 2011 and since then has been a favorite among first-time car owners and younger drivers in the local market. This subcompact car is among the top sales drivers of Suzuki Philippines for several years, and it significantly contributed to the total sales figures of the company in the first quarter of 2016.

The well-loved Suzuki Swift is a perfect subcompact car for first-time car owners. It boasts of a sporty, stylish and premium design with amazing fuel efficiency that makes it the perfect city car for the young urbanite. With its superior handling and fuel economy, the Swift makes driving a smooth yet thrilling experience.

SPH General Manager for Automobile Shuzo Hoshikura shared, "We are proud of what the Suzuki Swift has achieved with five million unit sales worldwide. We have always known that this subcompact car would do well in the market due to its uniquely spirited character, and we are doubly delighted that it reached this milestone at a relatively short time. We are proud to note that it is also doing great locally. On behalf of Suzuki Philippines, we would like to thank those who supported the vehicle in our market." **aq**



HONDA Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI) rolls out the New Brio Amaze 1.3 S AT Special Edition, equipped with new and exclusive features that provide a more dynamic customer experience for Honda's "Everyday Amazing" compact sedan. With its limited availability in the market, customers are already encouraged to reserve at their chosen Honda dealership to be one of the few to own this exclusive product.



Honda brings out the New Brio Amaze 1.3 S AT Special Edition



THE NEW BRIO AMAZE 1.3 S AT Special Edition will be available with the following colors:

- Crystal Black Pearl (New)
- Lunar Silver Metallic (New)
- Taffeta White

Find out more about the New Brio Amaze 1.3 S AT Special Edition by visiting any authorized Honda dealership nationwide, or www.hondaphil.com.



The New Brio Amaze 1.3 S AT Special Edition bears new exterior features, such as fog lights and 14" alloy wheels, especially designed to embody a stronger styling statement for the New Brio Amaze.

On the inside, the New Brio Amaze 1.3 S AT Special Edition is designed with an Interior Trim Garnish for a classier and a more sophisticated feel that complements its spacious interior. It also comes with an Advanced Audio (USB, Auxiliary Connectivity), and new exclusive features, such as Rear Seat Arm Rest, Driver and Front Passenger Vanity Mirrors, Driver and Passenger Seatback Pockets, and a total of Five (5) Cup Holders. To ensure utmost customer safety, the New Brio Amaze 1.3 S AT Special Edition is now incorporated with a Security Alarm.

The development of the Brio Amaze proudly embodies the application of Honda's "man maximum, machine minimum" design concept, as it proudly showcases high levels of Honda DQR – durability, quality, and reliability.

Considering its compact size, measuring at 3,990mm (length) with 2,405mm wheelbase, the New Brio Amaze boasts a powerful yet fuel efficient 1.3 liter i-VTEC engine, which delivers a maximum power output of 100 ps at 6,000

rpm, thus providing a more comfortable mobility in a wide variety of driving situations.

With all these features in place, the New Brio Amaze 1.3 S AT Special Edition retails at P719,000. Customer deliveries started on the third week of April 2016. **AQ**





Mazda Philippines unveils

Mazda6 Sedan and CX-5 CUV SKYACTIV-DIESEL

BERJAYA Auto Philippines, the exclusive distributor of Mazda vehicles in the country has just launched all-new variants of the highly acclaimed Mazda6 Executive Sedan and the CX-5 compact Sport Utility Vehicle.

Featuring Mazda's latest SKYACTIV-D diesel engine technology, the all-new Mazda6 and CX-5 diesel come equipped with a 2.2-Liter two-stage turbocharged motor that produces 173 horsepower and 420 Newton-meter of torque. More remarkable is lowest in the world diesel engine compression 14:1, the SKYACTIV-D is Mazda's answer to the quest for lower emission, high combustion efficiency, more power and torque and superior fuel economy.

"The Mazda Skyactiv-D diesel engine is amongst the most advanced in the world, and with the availability of low-sulfur Euro4 Diesel fuel, we are proud to be able to introduce the engine into not one, but two of the critically acclaimed and award-winning Mazda6 executive sedan and the CX-5 compact crossover," reveals Berjaya Auto Philippines President Steven Tan. "SKYACTIV-D is the cleanest and most fuel efficient diesel engine available in the market and our customers deserve the best that Mazda can deliver."

To put the all-new Mazda6 and CX-5 diesel to the test, 30 motoring journalists were invited to the SKYACTIV-Discovery Press Ride and Drive event for them to experience the Skyactiv-D engine in both vehicles. The 114-kilometer drive to the resort town of Mabini near Anilao, Batangas started from the newly opened Mazda Makati showroom. After a brief product overview by Mr. Chiaki Santo of Powertrain Planning Development from Mazda Motor Corporation of Japan, the convoy then drove along the South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) straight to the Southern Tagalog Arterial Roadway (STAR) to Batangas. The highway legs allowed the journalists to experience the smooth power and torque of the SKYACTIV-D engines to the hilt. With traffic slowing down as the drive reached Bauan, Batangas, both the Mazda6 and CX-5 diesels relied on the highly effective i-STOP ignition start and stop system to reach commendable fuel economy figures despite the distance travelled.

The second day drive to Tagaytay from Anilao took the Lemery route on the way up.

The 68-kilometer drive was characterized by a smooth ascent up the Tagaytay ridge via mildly winding roads for the journalists to experience the much praised handling prowess of the two latest diesel-engine variants. After a brief lunch, it was back to Mazda Makati to cap the two-day 246-km drive.

The all-new Mazda 6 and CX-5 diesel are both available at the Mazda showrooms located across the country. Priced at Php1,985,000.00 for the Mazda6 SKYACTIV-D and Php1,985,000.00 for the CX-5 SKYACTIV-D, Mazda aims to target a larger share of the executive sedan and compact SUV market who not only value practicality and fuel efficiency but also put a premium on a driving experience that is unlike any other.

Berjaya Auto Philippines, Inc. is the exclusive distributor of Mazda vehicles and parts in the Philippines. Current product line-up includes Mazda2 sub-compact sedan and hatchback, Mazda3 SKYACTIV compact sedan and hatchback, Mazda6 executive sedan, CX-5 compact SUV, CX-9 seven-seater SUV, MX-5 2-seater sports roadster and the BT-50 pickup truck. There are 17 Mazda sales and service dealerships located across the Philippines and Metro Manila – Mazda Greenhills along EDSA, Mazda Pasig along C5, Mazda Quezon Ave., Mazda North EDSA, Mazda Alabang, Mazda Cavite, Mazda Sta Rosa, Mazda Pampanga, Mazda Dagupan, Mazda Cabanatuan, Mazda Tarlac, Mazda Cebu, Mazda Iloilo, Mazda Cagayan De Oro, Mazda Davao, Mazda Makati and Mazda Pulilan. **aq**



FROM over a million Robinsons Rewards Card (RRC) holders, Rose Ong was among those who least expected how far the card would take her. Even during the awarding held recently at the Caltex Malugay station in Makati City for the winner of the "Win a BMW X1" contest – the businesswoman from Quezon City still couldn't believe she'd bring home the luxury crossover SUV that's the dream car of millions.

Robinsons Rewards and Caltex hand over brand new BMW X1 to lucky customer

"I was aware of the promotion but never expected that I'd be lucky enough to win. When I got the notification letter, I immediately called them to verify," Ong said.

The latest collaboration between Chevron Philippines Inc. (CPI), marketer of Caltex with Techron and Robinsons Rewards, lets members earn one electronic raffle entry for every P1,000 single receipt transaction at participating Robinsons Retail stores and Caltex stations from November 15, 2015 to January 15, 2016. The brand new BMW X1 came with P100,000 worth of Caltex StarCash.

CPI country chair Peter Morris, Robinsons Retail Holdings, Inc. president and COO Robina Gokongwei-Pe, and RRC brand ambassador Jessy Mendiola handed over the BMW X1 and the StarCash which can be used to purchase Caltex products to the overjoyed Ong, whose e-raffle entry was selected during the grand draw held last January 29, 2016.

"Robinsons Rewards Card offers great perks, discounts and rewards points for shopping and fueling up at Caltex stations, but promos like this put the icing on the cake.



Robinsons Rewards' Christmas Promo Raffle draw winner Rose Ong (driver's seat) getting a Caltex with Techron full tank bonus with Chevron Philippines Inc. country chair Peter Morris.



Peter Morris, Rose Ong, Robina Gokongwei-Pe and Robinsons Rewards brand ambassador Jessy Mendiola.

This tie-up of Caltex and Robinsons Rewards Card encourages customer loyalty. I will certainly look forward to other great deals and surprises Caltex and Robinsons Rewards will offer as program partners," Ong added.

Using RRC to shop in any Robinsons store and to fuel up at Caltex lets members earn points which they can use to pay for purchases in Robinsons stores and get discounts in participating Caltex stations. Aside from the rewarding shopping and motoring experience, card holders get the five key benefits of Caltex with Techron which are maximized power, better fuel economy, smoother drive, lower emissions,

and reliable performance.

In addition to the grand prize, the Robinsons Rewards promo also gave away Php10,000 worth of Star Cash courtesy of Caltex to 10 lucky members who fueled up at Caltex stations, as well as Php10,000 worth of Robinsons gift certificates to 10 other winners.

Morris said, "Our partnership with Robinsons Rewards brings more value for the customers that both our brands share. Expect more exciting surprises from the team up of Robinsons Rewards and Caltex with Techron which will allow more people to experience the best of our loyalty rewards."

"Since CPI became the first external partner for Robinsons Rewards, we haven't looked back. We share the same vision when it comes to delighting our loyal customers with the best rewards program in the market. This is a long-term partnership that will result in more win-win deals for everyone – CPI, Robinsons Retail and our customers," added Gokongwei-Pe.

Robinsons Rewards Applications Kits are available at any Robinsons store for only PhP150. **QQ**



Caltex-Pugad livelihood programs spread wings of migrant youths, make trainers out of trainees

SELF-VALUE, empowerment, a chance to fulfill dreams, and most of all, an opportunity to give back to others. These are what the migrant youths gain, and what some have achieved at the Caltex-Pugad Foundation training centers.

Founded in 1987, the Parish Urchins at Don Bosco (PUGAD) is a drop-in center for street children and migrant youth. Its apostolate is to rehabilitate street children, prevent them from returning to the vagrant life, and eventually reunite them with their families.

The center also offers skills training to migrant out-of-work youth, aged between 18 – 22 years old. A donation of a professional baker's oven to the center and seed money for a skills training program from Chevron Philippines in 2003 evolved to become one of the most sustainable skills training program ever established by the partnership between the energy company and the NGO. From the popular Pugad pandesal, the training bakery had quickly expanded its output to various pastries like its bestselling malunggay or ashitaba cookies, carrot pandesal, and pan de coco. These are baked and sold at the Manna from Heaven bakeshop, a project spin off, located at the Don Bosco parish grounds by underprivileged migrant youths of Pugad, who at the same time, are taking up vocational courses at Don Bosco Technical Institute (DBTI).

SPREADING WINGS

One of the proud products of the training is Ricky Madiw, originally an out-of-school youth from the Ifugao province who found a refuge in the Pugad as one of the bakers. Madiw, now 25 years old and a qualified holder of NC2, a national certification for technical-vocational and livelihood skills for completing culinary training from the Technical Education and Skills Development Academy (TESDA), is set to do unto others what he gained: teach other migrant youths employable skills such as baking and cooking. He at the same time inspires other migrant youths, and has an assistant now named David Francis Bacuta, who has expressed his desire of becoming a baker and follow the footsteps of Madiw. **QQ**



Toyota's Great Deals for New Wheels

TOYOTA, the #1 automotive brand in the country extends its "Great Deals for New Wheels" promo! This whole month, the car manufacturer offers great savings with packages that will make owning a brand new car so easy. Choose from various financing options that will suit your lifestyle.

Start the fun at an easy price with the country's best-selling vehicle, the Vios, and pay as low as P6,193 monthly (Vios 1.3J M/T)! You may also save as much as *P50,000 in the other Vios variants.

Aside from Toyota's subcompact sedan, get the easy-to-own Wigo for as low as P4,571 monthly or pay as low as P49,629 for the all-in package! You may also save as much as *P25,000 on the other Wigo variants. Lastly, the heart-pounding Corolla Altis is also within arm's reach for you can save P25,000 in all variants!

Toyota showcases these offers for everyone to have a hassle-free and easy ownership. Don't be the last to purchase so visit any of Toyota's 50 authorized dealerships nationwide and take advantage of this limited time offer! So what are you waiting for...drive home a Toyota now. **QQ**



For more details on these promotions, visit the nearest Toyota dealership or log on to www.toyota.com.ph or call (02) 819-2912. Financing scheme is only available through Toyota Financial Services (TFS) & subject for approval



SsangYong Philippines unveiled its all-new product lineup to the public at the 2016 Manila International Auto Show. Featuring three new products that highlight SsangYong's rich utility vehicle manufacturing heritage, the Korean brand will begin selling the Rodius MPV, the Korando compact SUV and its latest global model, the Tivoli subcompact SUV.

"We are proud to present to the Filipino motoring public SsangYong's three core global products in the Rodius, the Korando and the Tivoli," says Dave Macasadia, SBMP Managing Director. "All these models are designed to address Filipino families' needs for stylish, durable, economic and dynamic modes of transportation," adds Macasadia.

SsangYong Philippines' initial offerings will cater to families and individuals who are looking for trendy designs amidst the commonality prevalent in industry products today while at the same time hoping to achieve this without breaking the bank.

"SsangYong Philippines has studied the growing Philippine automotive market and has seen an opportunity in the Sport Utility Vehicle genre," shares Macasadia.

The 2016 SsangYong Rodius is a dynamic and elegant Multi-Purpose Vehicle with true Sport Utility Vehicle functionality that allows one to go anywhere and carry everything in comfort and style.

It redefines the established norm by delivering all the necessary features and amenities of a luxurious MPV while at the same time displaying the ruggedness and functionality of a full-sized SUV. The 2016 SsangYong Rodius is perfect for families that require the ultimate in space, versatility and comfort.

Powered by a precision-engineered 2.0-liter turbocharged Direct Injection diesel, the 2016 SsangYong Rodius is designed to provide a relaxed journey for the whole family. And with its double-wishbone front and multi-link rear suspension and rear-wheel drive layout, superior handling performance and a comfortably superb riding feel typical of high-end saloon cars are realized.

The 2016 SsangYong Korando is a compact crossover teeming with style, elegance and functionality dressed in a complete package

THE fourth largest South Korean automotive manufacturer reenters the Philippines market under the supervision of an all-new distributor - SsangYong Berjaya Motor Philippines.

SsangYong is back in the Philippines



that epitomizes true SUV performance. It symbolizes the forward-thinking direction that SsangYong has set out to traverse. Donning Italian-designed contemporary styling, class-leading creature comforts and unparalleled engine and drivetrain performance, the 2016 Korando comes in four variants to cater to the varied tastes and amenities of the discerning Philippine market.

Three engine options are available for the SsangYong Korando: a 2-liter gasoline and 2-liter CRDi diesel both with 149ps; and a 2-liter CRDi with 175ps. All these are wrapped under a rigid monocoque structure that offers car-like handling, ride and comfort. The 2016 SsangYong Korando variants achieve distinct levels of drivability, functionality and fuel efficiency.

Finally, the SsangYong Tivoli is a smart, modern everyday urban vehicle designed to dynamically deliver and standout with youthful confidence. Its bold, stylish and decidedly different design is the main quality that makes it a standout on the road.

Handsome equipped with the latest features essential to fast-paced modern day living, the all-new SsangYong Tivoli is packed to the brim and ready to answer to the needs of those who value functional, dynamic and modern design.

Motivated by a 1.6-liter Dual-CVVT gasoline that is mated to either a six-speed automatic or manual gearbox, the all-new SsangYong Tivoli makes for a fun yet comfortable drive around town.

Supporting the day-to-day operations of the newly formed business is parent company Berjaya Auto Philippines. This is the same company that distributes and promotes the Mazda brand in the country.

Macasadia adds, "Our aim is to provide the best service as we uplift the SsangYong brand in the consciousness of the Filipino motorists." Thus, SsangYong Philippines is welcoming owners of earlier released SsangYong models to visit the upcoming showrooms for servicing and parts requirements. According to Macasadia, this is how SsangYong aims to establish a strong connection with its former and future customers. SsangYong Philippines will further expand its network to address the wants and needs of the growing market. **AQ**

Ford Philippines Achieves All-Time Record Month, Led by Everest, Ranger, EcoSport

FORD Philippines today reported an all-time record month with retail sales in April that soared 93 percent year-over-year to 3,152 units, led by strong demand for the Ranger pickup and all-new Everest, EcoSport, and Explorer SUVs.

The record April performance helped Ford's remain one of the fastest growing automotive brands in the Philippines this year.

"Our full lineup of global Ford vehicles continues to be very well received by customers, helping our brand continue to gain momentum and even more appeal," said Lance Mosley, managing director, Ford Philippines. "Whether it's one of the 13 variants of the Ranger, or one of our segment-defining SUVs, we're connecting with the diverse lifestyles and work requirements of Filipinos across the country."

Ford's record month was led by the all-new Everest which delivered retail sales of 1,308 units. The Everest has enjoyed immense popularity since being launched, and remains Ford's best-selling nameplate in 2016 with year-to-date sales now totaling 4,838 units.

The all-new Everest raises the bar for mid-sized SUVs with its striking design, outstanding capability, and advanced connectivity and driver assistance technologies that make it one of the smartest vehicles in its segment.

The EcoSport compact SUV continued its momentum in April with retail sales rising 25 percent year-over-year to a best-ever month of 837 units. EcoSport's year-to-date sales total 2,667 units, continuing to lead its segment in the Philippines.

The segment defining Ranger pickup truck – offered in a range of 13 automatic- and manual-transmission variants – contributed to Ford's record month sales rising 13 percent year-over-year to 786 units.



"The Ranger brings a new level of comfort and refinement to its segment without compromising on its rugged, 'Built Ford Tough' heritage," explained Mosley.

April sales of the premium Explorer SUV rose 16 percent to 80 units, while the sporty Ford Fiesta – featuring the high-performance 1.0L EcoBoost engine – delivered sales of 81 units.

The new Mustang delivered April sales of 19 units, driving up year-to-date sale to 98 units. Equipped with either a V8 5.0L or EcoBoost 2.3L engine, the Mustang comes with world-class handling, more precise steering control and enhanced ride comfort.

Ford recently expanded its SUV lineup with the introduction of the EcoSport Black Edition and Everest Titanium 2.2L 4x2 with Premium Package, which are both available at Ford dealerships nationwide.

"We expect these new variants of the EcoSport and the Everest to give our overall sales another boost, and allow us to offer even more power of choice to Filipino customers," said Mosley.

Previously offered only on the Titanium 3.2L 4x4 variant, the Everest Premium Package for the 2.2L 4x2 variant comes with additional safety, smart and convenience features such as Adaptive Cruise Control, Lane Keeping System, Lane Departure Warning, and Active Park Assist.

The limited EcoSport Black Edition is now equipped with contrasting black details complemented with stylized accessories for a bold, distinct look on the road. It also features Keyless Swing Gate, Push-Start Button, Rear Parking Sensors, and SYNC 2 among others for added convenience to the driver. 



“EcoSport delivers best monthly sales since its April 2014 launch”





The new MINI Convertible Always on the sunny side

MINI Asia and MINI Philippines have introduced the new MINI Convertible - a premium convertible in the small car segment that offers a refreshing open-top driving experience on all four seats. It is available in two variants: MINI Cooper Convertible S and MINI John Cooper Works Convertible.

For the first time, the new MINI Convertible is fitted with an automatic and electrically powered soft top that comes with fully integrated rollover protection. The soft top roof can be fully opened or closed in just 18 seconds. When the vehicle is stationary, the soft top can also be operated by means of a button on the remote key. An additional convertible-specific button is provided in the control box located in the door trim on the driver's side for simultaneous opening or closing of the four side windows. The soft top of the new MINI Convertible also offers a sliding roof function, which allows the front section of the top to be retracted to continuously variable levels by up to 40cm.

The new MINI Convertible embodies the most exclusive and emotionally intensive way of savoring authentic MINI driving fun, as the new generation of engines and suspension technology are matched specifically to the model. The highly torsionally stiff body structure further ensures a significant increase in both sporty flair and characteristic brand agility.

The increase in wheelbase and track width as compared to the predecessor model, the concept of power transmission to the front wheels that is typical of the brand, the low center of gravity and the high-quality suspension technology provide the ideal basis for characteristic go-kart feeling in the new MINI Convertible. The combination of single-joint strut front axle and multilink rear axle - unique in the small car segment - and a set-up of wheel suspension, body mounting, vehicle suspension and damping that is geared in detail towards the vehicle characteristics of the open-top 4-seater guarantees not just agile handling but also optimised ride comfort. In order to increase component rigidity and reduce weight, the front axle is fitted with

aluminium swivel bearings. Components made of high-strength steel are used in the front and rear axle as well as tube-shaped stabilisers. A sports suspension is optionally available which has a set-up geared towards dynamic driving.

The electromechanical power steering includes speed-related Servotronic steering support for maximum precision when cornering at speed and for comfortable manoeuvring at low speeds. The Dynamic Damper Control now comes standard on the new MINI JCW Convertible for the first time. Two program maps are available to choose from for an electronically controlled damper set-up. In this way, the MINI Driving Modes can be used to activate either a comfort-oriented response or else a direct, sporty response to bumps in the road, according to requirements.

The exterior dimensions of the new MINI Convertible have become bigger compared with its predecessor model. The new MINI Cooper Convertible is now 3,821mm long (+98mm), 1,727mm wide (+44mm) and 1,415mm tall (+1mm). Meanwhile, the new MINI Cooper S Convertible is 3,850mm longer (+121mm). The new dimensions preserve the model's typical proportions while ensuring that occupants on all four seats benefit from a noticeable increase in freedom of movement. The luggage compartment volume of the new MINI Convertible is also significantly larger than in the previous model.

When driving with an open top in the new MINI Convertible, all occupants can be sure of a place on the sunny side. Intense open-air pleasure is ensured by the upright windscreen and the elongated shoulder line. In addition, the interior of the new MINI Convertible features a design

that is both high-end and harmonious, as well as offering premium material and workmanship quality along with significantly increased space comfort.

The MINI Cooper Convertible and MINI Cooper S Convertible are both powered by the latest generation three and four cylinders engines, respectively. They are also driven by MINI TwinPower Turbo Technology. All motorisations meet the EU6 exhaust emission standard.

The MINI Cooper S Convertible is powered by a 2.0-liter 4-cylinder engine with a peak output of 192hp and maximum torque of 280Nm from 1,250 rpm. Torque can even briefly be increased to 300Nm by means of an overboost function. As a result, acceleration from 0 to 100 km/h takes just 7.1 seconds, while the top speed is 228 km/h. The average fuel consumption of the MINI Cooper S Convertible is 5.8 litres per 100 km, with CO₂ emissions of 135 g/100km (per average EU test cycle figures).

There are numerous innovative Driver Assistance Systems available for the new MINI Convertible. Park Distance Control with sensors at the rear of the car comes as standard. The range of options developed for the new MINI generation includes the MINI Head-Up Display, the Driving Assistant system including camera-based collision and pedestrian warning with initial brake function, high beam assistant, road sign detection, as well as the Parking Assistant and Rear View Camera.

The MINI Cooper S Convertible and MINI John Cooper Works Convertible are both retailing at the MINI Global City and MINI Roadshow Greenhills showrooms for P3,150,000 and P3,950,000, respectively. 

NISSAN Philippines Inc. (NPI), the sole national sales company of Nissan in the Philippines, once again raises the bar for the Philippine pick-up market with its introduction of the New Nissan Navara Sport Edition.

NISSAN BRINGS POWERFUL SPORTINESS WITH THE NEW NISSAN NAVARA SPORT EDITION

Unveiled on May 12, 2016 at its dealership launch at Nissan North EDSA, the new Nissan Navara Sport Edition is the latest model to join the Nissan vehicle lineup, upgrading the trademark features of the 2015 Truck of the Year, the Nissan Navara.

"We are proud and very excited to unveil the latest variant of our award-winning pickup" said Ramesh Narasimhan, President and Managing Director of Nissan Philippines Inc. "Continuing the legacy of Nissan's long pickup history, the brand once again exhibits innovation that excites with the new Nissan Navara Sport Edition, answering to the call of the consumers who are looking for a pickup that offers riding comfort, first-in-class features, and sportier look."

Stylish, Sporty Exteriors

Building on the Nissan Navara's already tough exterior styling, the Nissan Navara Sport Edition features upgraded design elements that create a tougher, sportier look.

At first glance, the Nissan Navara Sport Edition's unique honeycomb front grille immediately

delivers a striking appearance. Adding to this are the new front skirt and fog lamps wrapped in a new dark chrome finish, which give the vehicle an even bolder design.

The Nissan Navara Sport Edition's side step and rear bumper are also finished with a new dark chrome, while a durable under rail bed liner and new sport roll bar with LED lamp emphasize the vehicle's sportiness. Rounding up the Nissan Navara Sport Edition's tough, sporty appearance are new 18-inch alloy wheels that are capable of taking on any terrain.

Premium, comfortable interiors

Inside, the Nissan Navara Sport Edition showcases a new, premium leather-wrapped steering wheel, as well as shift knob, armrest and door trims. Comfort inside the Nissan Navara Sport Edition is further enhanced by Nissan's iconic air-cooling system with rear vents, premium sound system and

ergonomically designed seats.

Taking its cue from the standard Nissan Navara, the vehicle still carries the Zero-Gravity inspired seats for both passenger and driver. These offer superior spinal support that greatly helps reduce fatigue during long drives.

Tough, smart performance

The Nissan Navara Sport Edition also features the first-in-class multilink suspension system that delivers car-like riding and driving comfort. Its powerful drive comes from a DOHC inline 4-cylinder, 16-valve engine with Variable Turbocharger (VGS) and Intercooler, with a number of variants to meet each driver's specific needs.

The New Nissan Navara Sport Edition is available in Riptide Blue and Aspen White and in the following variants in all Nissan Dealerships nationwide: 2.5L 4x4 VL 7AT priced at Php 1,656,000 and 2.5L 4x2 EL 7AT Calibre at Php 1,275,000.

For more information on the New Nissan Navara Sport Edition, log on to www.nissan.ph or visit the nearest Nissan showroom. 



AAP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL INFORMATION					
<input type="checkbox"/> MR. <input type="checkbox"/> MRS. <input type="checkbox"/> MRS.	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME		
BIRTHDATE		BIRTHPLACE			
SEX <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	CIVIL STATUS		AGE		
CITIZENSHIP		OCCUPATION			
CONTACT INFORMATION					
HOME ADDRESS					
COMPANY NAME					
ADDRESS					
HOME PHONE	COMPANY PHONE	FAX NO.			
CELL PHONE		EMAIL ADDRESS			
REGISTERED CARS					
CAR	MAKE/MODEL	YEAR	COLOR	PLATE NO. CONDUCTION STICKER NO.	FUEL TYPE
1 st					<input type="checkbox"/> GAS <input type="checkbox"/> DIESEL
2 nd					<input type="checkbox"/> GAS <input type="checkbox"/> DIESEL
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES					
<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> ASSOCIATE INDIVIDUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> ASSOCIATE GROUP	MOTORSPORTS		
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-YEAR REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-YEAR ASSOCIATE INDIVIDUAL	NO. OF CARS	GOLF AUTOCROSS STREET AUTOCROSS RALLY AUTOCROSS DRAG RACING DRIFTING		
MEMBERSHIP FEES					
ANNUAL FEE	P2,000	P2,500	P4,500	P1,200	P6,000 (for 3 yrs)
3-YEAR FEE	P5,000	P6,000	P3,750	N/A	P9,000 (International)
PAYMENT MODE					
Paid in PHP <input type="checkbox"/> Cash Payment <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> BPI's check free payments Visit www.bpicexpressonline.com or call 89-100 <input type="checkbox"/> Pay through Banco de Oro (Institution code #0136) Upon teller's validation, BDO payment slip serves as your official receipt <input type="checkbox"/> Check Payment (payable to Automobile Association Philippines) Date _____ Bank _____ Account No. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Bancnet Online Payment (for online Applications only)					

DATE		APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE	
FOR AAP USE ONLY			
SOURCE: <input type="checkbox"/> REG <input type="checkbox"/> JRS <input type="checkbox"/> RDL <input type="checkbox"/> PDP <input type="checkbox"/> SALCE	BRANCH: _____	OTHERS: _____	AMOUNT PAID: _____
API ID: NO. _____	INSURANCE NO. _____	DR. NO. _____	DR. NO. _____



The National Auto Club

The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) is the country's premier auto club representing and serving the motoring public. AAP promotes road safety, motorsports, green mobility, and champions the interests of its members.

AAP is affiliated with the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), the world's largest auto club federation.

AAP offers its members the following exclusive benefits:

- 24/7 Emergency Roadside Service
- LTO Vehicle Registration Assistance
- Free Personal Accident Insurance
- Free Glass Etching*
- 24/7 Ambulance Service**
- FIA Clubs International Reciprocity
- Partner Establishment Discounts
- 24/7 Road Safety Call Center
- Travel Assistance
- Club Activities and Discounts

Additional Products and Services:

- Philippine International Driving Permit
- Competition License for Motor Sports*
- Comprehensive Motor Car Insurance and Other Non-life Insurance Coverage
- AAP Autocare Service Center
- Member Service Vehicle Program*

* Not available in some offices

** Outsourced

EDSA Office

28 EDSA, Greenhills, San Juan City 1500 Philippines
 Tel: (632) 655 5889 Fax: (632) 655 1878
 Email: info@aap.org.ph
 Website: www.aap.org.ph

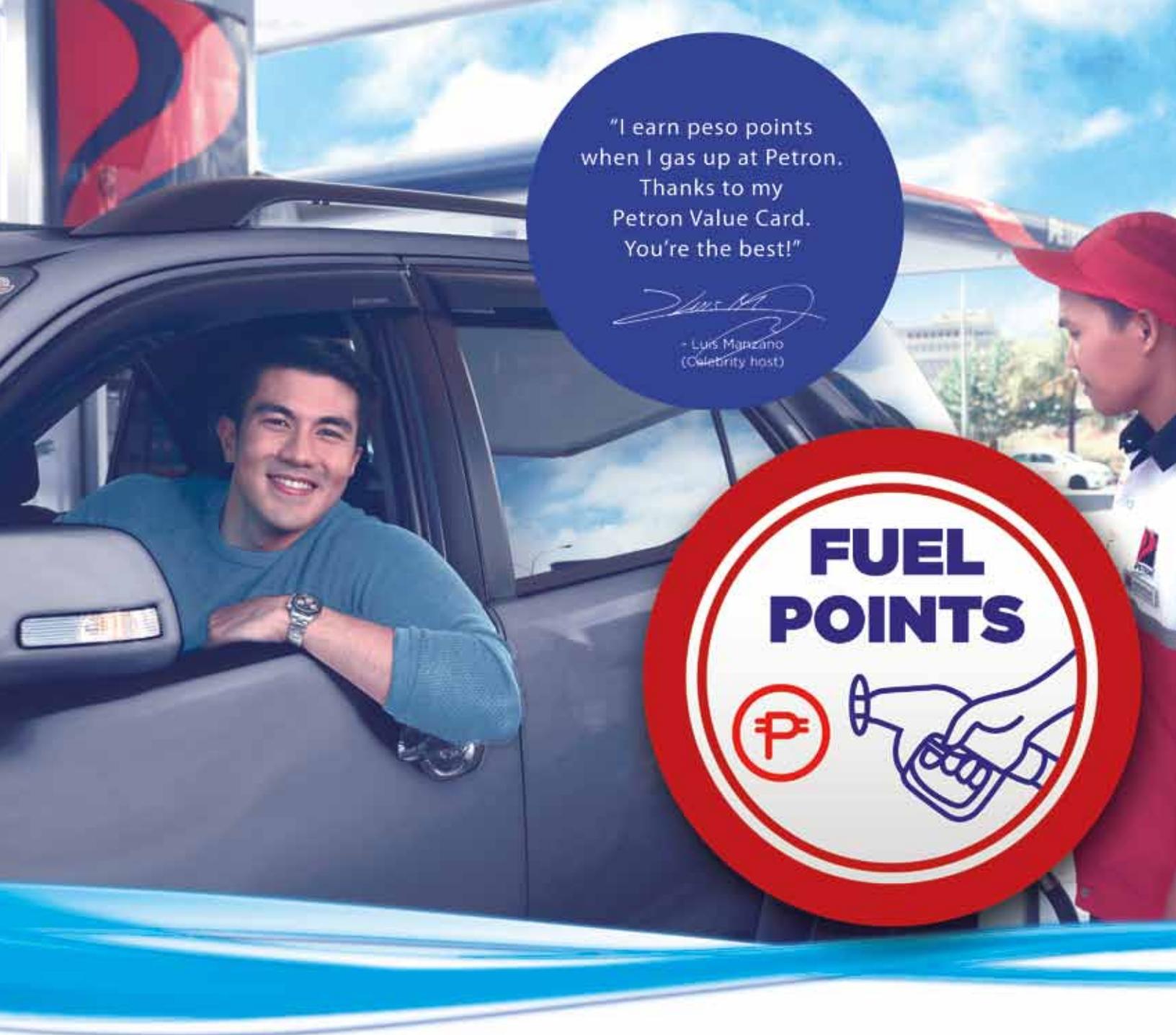
Emergency Roadside Service Hotline: (632) 723 0808

GOLDEN RULES FOR SAFE DRIVING



- BELT UP – all passengers are my responsibility.
- RESPECT THE TRAFFIC CODE – rules are there to protect us all.
- OBEY THE SPEED LIMIT – my car is made of metal, pedestrians and children are not.
- CHECK MY TIRES – both for wear and for correct inflation, including the spare.
- DRIVE SOBER – when I am drunk or on drugs, I am a danger on the road
- PROTECT MY CHILDREN – keep them safe in car seats.
- PAY ATTENTION – calling and texting make me dangerous
- STOP WHEN I'M TIRED – getting there late is better than not at all.
- WEAR A HELMET – motorbikes and bicycles don't protect my head.
- BE COURTEOUS AND CONSIDERATE – respect other drivers.

(Source: FIA)



"I earn peso points
when I gas up at Petron.
Thanks to my
Petron Value Card.
You're the best!"



- Luis Manzano
(Celebrity host)

FUEL POINTS



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New 2.0L Nu MPi Engine

152ps / 6200rpm

19.6kg·m / 4000rpm

Mated to a 6-speed A/T for high-performance on any road

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Power attracts. And speed excites. Capture it all with the bold power and cheetah-like acceleration of the all-new Elantra. Tenacious in performance and wild in speed, the Elantra is engineered for your extreme desires.



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