



AAP Co-Organizes 7th ASEAN
Automobile Safety Forum

Proposed Manila Road Safety Center
Highlighted at AAP's 86th GMM

AAP ERS Drivers Rescue Victims
in Expressway Crash

car

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PHILIPPINES



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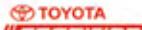
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Gus Lagman
AAP PRESIDENT

Worse Than Drunk Driving

The current road crash statistics made available by the World Health Organization (WHO) and being widely circularized by the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) are clear and truly very alarming:

- 1.3 million people are killed every year; that's 1 person every 30 seconds
- 50 million are injured every year
- 500 kids are killed on roads each day
- ½ of all deaths involve pedestrians
- 100% of road crashes are preventable

We don't know for sure what the figures are in the Philippines because the government does not have an agency that officially collects statistics on fatalities due to road crashes. However, the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) estimated a few years ago that around 12,500 people die every year on the country's roads. That translates to 34 people dying on our roads each day.

In the United States, road crashes result in nearly 35,000 deaths every year. Following is a list of the leading causes of road mishaps in the US (they could very well be the leading causes everywhere):

1. **Speeding and reckless driving** – failing to follow the speed limit is the most common cause of road crashes in the US.
 2. **Use of mobile phones** – texting while driving has resulted in an increased level of danger on our roads. In the US, national and state legislatures have passed strict anti-texting laws, while the judicial system has begun to charge individuals who were texting while driving that resulted in deaths, with manslaughter.
 3. **Other forms of distracted driving** – such as eating, smoking, listening to loud music or changing the dial, reaching for objects in the vehicle, and looking at or talking to other passengers in the vehicle.
 4. **Driver fatigue** – according to recently published data, driver fatigue is the cause of 2.5-3.0% of all roadway related fatalities.
 5. **Drunk driving** – and driving under the influence of a narcotic substance. Studies show that this results in a 900% increase in the probability of a car accident.
- There are two notable facts in the above – first, that texting while driving is the second leading cause of road crashes; and second, texting while driving is even far more dangerous than drunk driving.
- Completing the top ten causes of road crashes are:
6. **Rubber-necking**
 7. **Defective car and car parts**

“ When the vehicle is moving, the driver should not hold his mobile phone. ”

8. Defects on roadway construction

9. Poor weather conditions

10. Improper coning off of construction zones

Learning about these leading causes, it is therefore not surprising that our Congress would pass the Anti-Distracted Driving Act, R. A. 10913, often referred to as ADDA. The most relevant parts of the law are contained in Sections 4 and 5:

“Section 4. *Distracted Driving* – Subject to the qualifications in Sections 5 and 6 of this Act, distracted driving refers to the performance by a motorist of any of the following acts in a motor vehicle in motion or temporarily stopped at a red light, whether diplomatic, public or private, which are hereby declared unlawful:

- a) Using a mobile communications device to write, send, or read a text-based communication or to make or receive calls, and other similar acts; and
- b) Using an electronic entertainment or computing device to play games, watch movies, surf the internet, compose messages, read e-books, perform calculations, and other similar acts.

Section 5. *Extent of Coverage*. – (a) The operation of a mobile communication device is not considered to be distracted driving if done using the aid of a hands-free function or similar device such as, but not limited to, a speaker phone, earphones and microphones or other similar devices which allow a person to send and receive calls without having to hold the mobile communication device: *Provided*, That the placement of the mobile communications device or the hands-free device does not interfere with the line of sight of the driver.”

The intent of the law seems to be quite straight forward and many of us initially thought that there would be very few questions about its provisions. But alas! we could not have been more wrong. In fact, it trended in social media for several days!

Comments like “How do we handle Waze?”, “Wouldn’t Uber and Grab find difficulty in locating the requesting party?”, “Isn’t the dashboard the best place to put one’s mobile phone when using Waze, or similar navigational tools?” “How will the LTO enforce the law when many cars have heavily-tinted windows?” And dozens of other questions.

I think social media only stopped when the Department of Transportation (DOTr) announced that the Technical Working Group (TWG) would be reconvened to review and, possibly, amend its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). That review was recently held and the agreements are currently being crafted.

Without pre-empting the final version of the IRR, let me just mention at this time, one statement, since there was unanimity on it, anyway... that *when the vehicle is moving, the driver should not hold his mobile phone.* 

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Aida Sevilla Mendoza
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Sobering Road Crash Statistics

AT the 7th ASEAN Automobile Safety Forum (ASSF) held in Makati last month, a presentation on road safety trends in the Philippines was made by Department of Transportation (DOTr) Assistant Secretary for Road Transport and Infrastructure Mark de Leon.

Co-organized by the Automobile Association Philippines with the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research, the ASEAN New Car Assessment Program (NCAP) and Global NCAP, the 7th ASSF aimed to promote vehicle safety awareness among Philippine consumers and push for safer vehicles in the market.

De Leon's presentation highlighted the 7th ASSF's objective by revealing, with sobering statistics, how badly we need to stem the surge in road crashes as they increasingly take a socio-economic toll on our people.

PHP2.25B LOST IN 6 MONTHS

In the past six months alone, De Leon said, road crashes cost our country 109 million pesos in lives lost, 795 million pesos in property damage and 1.35 billion pesos in injuries for a total of 2.25 billion pesos lost.

In 2016, according to the Philippine National Police (PNP) Traffic Management Group and the Metro Manila Accident Reporting and Analysis System (MMARAS), there were 32,369 road crash incidents, 2,144 of which were fatal, 15,747 of which were non-fatal and 27,630 of which caused damage to property.

Even worse, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) recorded 10,012 fatal road crashes in 2016.

262 ROAD CRASHES PER DAY

The MMARAS states that in 2015 in Metro Manila alone, there was an average of 262 road crashes per day, or about 11 per hour.

The top three casualties in road crash fatalities, according to the 2013 Department of Public Works and Highways Traffic Accident Reporting and

Analysis (TARAS) are motorcyclists 53%, pedestrians 19%, drivers of four-wheel vehicles 14%, passengers 11%, bicyclists 2% and others, 1%.

Data from the PNP Traffic Management Group indicate that 63.9% of road crash incidents in 2015 were caused by driver error, broken down as follows:

1. bad turning 26.38%;
2. bad overtaking 24.45%;
3. overspeeding 13.87%;
4. mechanical defect 6.94%;
5. road condition 6.78%;
6. hit and run 5.36%;
7. self-accident (?) 4.60%;
8. drunk driving 3.63%;
9. using mobile phone while driving 3.19% and
10. overloading 2.83%.

Bottom line, De Leon's presentation underscores the alarming fact that road safety trends in our country are getting worse instead of improving.

2017-2022 ACTION PLAN

The statistics serve as a wake-up call to fast-track our road safety campaign. To their credit, government and the private sector have teamed up to complete updating the Philippine Road Safety Action Plan 2017-2022 by July 2017.

In this action plan, the five pillars of road safety will be:

1. road safety management;
2. safer roads and mobility;
3. safer vehicles (precisely the ASEAN NCAP's advocacy);
4. safer road users;
5. post-crash response.

The organizations participating in this mega effort are the DOTr, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Health, PNP-Highway Patrol Group, World Bank, Ateneo School of Government, Imagined Law, Safe Kids Philippines and AAP.

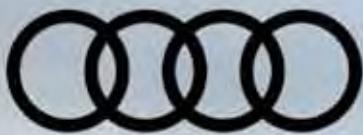
Their vision: A Philippine society with zero deaths on the road.

If their vision is an impossible dream, their interim target looks more attainable: Reduce the road crash death rate by at least 20 percent by 2022, with 2015 PSA data as the reference base year. **aq**

“The statistics serve as a wake-up call to fast-track our road safety campaign.”

“The statistics serve as a wake-up call to fast-track our road safety campaign.”

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AAP board member/treasurer Joe Ferreria welcomed the participants on behalf of the National Auto Club.

OVER 80 representatives from the government, media, transport and automotive industries and private sector gathered for the 7th ASEAN Automobile Safety Forum co-organized by the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) with the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS), the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations New Car Assessment Program (ASEAN NCAP) and Global NCAP.

AAP is an ASEAN NCAP steering committee member and one of its key partners in road safety.

With the theme "Safer Car Consumerism," the whole-day forum was held on May 15, 2017 at the Berjaya Hotel in Makati City.

"The objective of this forum and what the ASEAN NCAP does serve as a catalyst for road safety as we push for safer cars in the region," His Highness Tunku Mudzaffar Tunku Mustapha, Automobile Association Malaysia (AAM) chairman, ASEAN NCAP steering committee and MIROS board member, said in his welcome address.

Welcoming the participants on behalf of Global NCAP, Program Director and Asia Pacific Coordinator Jessica Truong revealed that after landing in Manila, they witnessed two road crashes within the span of a 15-minute taxi ride. "It is in similar road crashes like what we saw last night that 1.2 million lives are lost each year in middle-to-low income countries in Southeast Asia," the Global NCAP Program Director said.

Advocating a market for safer cars, Truong pointed out that "Consumers can't demand for technologies and safety information if they don't know about it and that's why we need everyone's help to amplify the message of Global NCAP, ASEAN NCAP and Stop the Crash."

AAP board member/treasurer Augustus

Ferreria, welcoming the forum participants in lieu of AAP president Gus Lagman who was out of the country, said: "We need to educate and engage consumers so that they would evaluate a new car's safety features before buying it. Through the ASEAN NCAP, we can and will encourage – if not challenge – car manufacturers to build motor vehicles for the ASEAN market that meet world-class safety standards, not only minimal safety standards."

MULTISECTORAL PRESENTATIONS

At the 7th ASSF, ASEAN NCAP and AAP invited not only vehicle manufacturers like Toyota and Hyundai and suppliers like Bosch to present their latest safety technologies, but also the Department of Transportation, the Philippine National Police Highway Patrol Group, academicians and researchers on car safety, members of the motoring media and a lawyer.

Topics such as the state of road safety in the country, current land transportation laws and how to improve them, vehicle safety innovations and shifting consumer behavior in the automotive market were tackled during the forum.

In his closing remarks, ASEAN NCAP Secretary General Khairil Anwar Abu Kassim thanked those present for attending and the speakers for sharing their expertise.

"I believe that if customers want safer cars, then engineers will produce safer cars,"

Before the forum (left to right) ASEAN NCAP Inspector Mohd HafziMd Isa, ASEAN NCAP Operationalization Unit Communications Officer Salina Mustaffa, AAP Advocacies Manager Cynthia Reyes, Global NCAP Programme Director & Asia Pacific Coordinator Jessica Truong, ASEAN NCAP Secretary General Dr. Khairil Anwar Abu Kassim, King Mongkut's University of Technology, TGGS Assoc. Prof. Dr. Saiprasit Koetniyom and ASEAN NCAP Research Assistant Hisham Ali.

AAP Co-Organizes 7th ASEAN Automobile Safety Forum



AA Malaysia Chairman Tunku Datuk Mudzaffar bin Tunku Mustapha (left) with AAP board members Aida Sevilla-Mendoza and Ricardo Guevara.



AA Malaysia Chairman Y.M. Tunku Mudzaffar Tunku Mustapha with Department of Transportation Assistant Secretary Mark De Leon during the tea break.

said Khairil. "We have the technology and the role of NCAP now is to guide manufacturers in determining which technology can help save lives."

He added that "from 2011 to 2016, we focused on passenger safety. Before, we would only consider the crash worthiness of a vehicle. If the car had electronic stability control (ESC), it was enough to give it five stars. But starting this year, the calculations would be different. We will allot 50% for crash worthiness while 25% would go to active safety and 25% to child occupant protection."

Moving forward, Kassim said that ASEAN NCAP tests will consider effective braking and crash avoidance, blind spot technology and advanced safety assist technologies before giving vehicles a 5-star rating. **aq**

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Batch 1 AAP ERS drivers with Desales (at left) and Isada (at right) holding #3500lives campaign pledges.



AAP ERS drivers reading their copies of RA 4136 (Land Transportation and Traffic Code) that Isada and Desales insisted they should know and understand well.

AAP Conducts 2nd ERS Drivers Training Program

To continuously develop the professional growth of its drivers and foster road safety education within the organization, the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) Emergency Roadside Service (ERS) department held the second module of its drivers training program on May 16 to 18 and May 23 to 27 at the AAP Tower in Quezon City.

AAP's ERS personnel were grouped into seven batches assigned to the north, south and central operations were grouped into four batches. Each day, a different batch attended the whole-day training session.

Motor Sport Development Program lead instructor Vip Isada returned to conduct the drivers training. "In order to succeed at anything that we do, we need to keep studying, keep learning," he stressed.

Isada first talked about AAP and its objectives. By understanding the organization, the drivers would learn to appreciate their role and love the tasks they perform in AAP.

"This time around we focused on road signs, traffic rules and proper customer service," said AAP ERS Operations Manager Mark Desales.

Isada explained the three classifications of road signs: mandatory, warning and informative. He also demonstrated the



Motor Sport Development Program lead instructor Vip Isada cautioned the AAP ERS drivers to always be prepared for the unexpected on the road.

proper hand signals and when should the driver use them.

Additionally, Isada went through different traffic scenarios and what the drivers should do when they encountered them.

On the subject of towing, Isada reminded the drivers that they should show proficiency in their roles by knowing the different types of vehicle parts, as well as maintenance and repair.

"You must know how to use your tools such as wheel straps, safety chains and J

hooks," he said. "Know how to properly secure the vehicle you are towing so that it doesn't get damaged while in transit."

Isada added that "You should regularly maintain your trucks and equipment in good condition because it is the very source of your livelihood."

He also talked to the drivers about what it means, as service providers, to deliver quality service. "You should know the types of tasks employers and customers expect you to be able to complete. Show empathy when you see that customers are upset."

During the training, Desales also enlisted the assistance of AAP Membership Supervisor Melvin Pingal who explained the concept of AAP on-the-spot membership and how the drivers could get more people to join the National Auto Club.

"It's part of good customer service when they understand how to explain the benefits of AAP membership," Pingal said.

"The training program aims to teach the drivers the proper mindset when on duty," Desales said at the end of the program. "I think we succeeded in teaching them that." **AQ**

ABOUT AAP'S EMERGENCY ROADSIDE SERVICE (ERS)

EMERGENCY roadside assistance was among the first services introduced to members back in 1973 when AAP was still known as the Philippine Motor Association.

Since then, AAP has strengthened and expanded this service through the acquisition of state-of-the-art tow trucks and staff training programs and workshops.

AAP members are entitled to free 24/7 ERS within areas serviced by AAP. Corresponding charges apply if a member exceeds the allowed number of ERS interventions.

The areas serviced by AAP ERS include all of Metro Manila, the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), South Metro Manila Skyway and ground-level expressway from Magallanes to Alabang (SOMCO) and Alabang-Calamba-Sto.

Tomas Expressway (ACTEX).

Outside the above areas, AAP provides 24/7 ERS within 25 kilometers from AAP offices in Alabang, Lipa City, San Fernando, Pampanga, Cebu City, and Davao City.

AAP also extends 24/7 ERS to non-members who will be charged a fee according to preset service rates.

Simple mechanical repairs, fuel provision, (flat) tire change, battery boosting and car towing are mainly the emergency services AAP provides.

AAP 24/7 ERS hotlines are 723 0808, 0917 812 6000, 0918 812 6000, and 0922 860 1603.

For more information you may visit the 24/7 Emergency Roadside Service page at <http://www.aaphilippines.org> **AQ**

FOR PROVIDING GOOD SERVICE

In January, the owner of a Camry that had stalled in the middle of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport entrance expressed his gratitude to the AAP ERS drivers who provided him with prompt and excellent service.

In December 2016, AAP ERS drivers were awarded by the manpower agency they belonged to for their outstanding performance and dedicated service.

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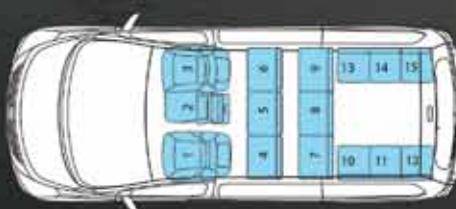
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Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Officer-in-Charge Thomas Orbos was the guest of honor and speaker at the the Automobile Association Philippines's 86th General Membership Meeting.



MMDA Deputy Chairman Frisco San Juan Jr. (2nd from left seated) and AAP Assistant Corporate Secretary Elaine Toledo (leftmost, standing) with several members of the AAP 2017-2018 Board of Trustees. Left to right, seated: AAP vice president Johnny Angeles, AAP president Gus Lagman, Publications and Public Relations Committee Chair Aida Sevilla-Mendoza. Left to right, standing: Atty. Elaine Toledo, Marketing Committee Chair Ricardo Guevara, Governance & Audit Committee Chair David Arcenas, Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair Joe Ferreria.

Proposed Manila Road Safety Center Highlighted at AAP's 86th GMM

A plan to build a road safety center came up during 86th General Membership Meeting (GMM) of the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) and became the highlight of the afternoon when Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Officer-in-Charge, now MMDA General Manager Tim Orbos spontaneously proposed the project that would be done in cooperation with car companies and AAP.

"We can form a technical working group with the car manufacturers that AAP can lead, and I can bring in the Land Transportation Office and Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board," Orbos, who was the guest of honor and guest speaker, said. "The MMDA has two hectares of undeveloped land near the Mall of Asia that is currently being used as a parking lot, and we can develop it into a road safety center."

With assistance from AAP, vehicle manufacturers are willing to sponsor a program to train new car owners on traffic regulations and road safety, according to Orbos who was able to talk to the car companies that participated in the Manila International Auto Show (MIAS) last March.



Loyal AAP member and former University of the Philippines School of Economics Dean Amado Castro (left) shares his insights on traffic with AAP Motor Sport Operations Manager Mark Desales, MMDA OIC Thomas Orbos and AAP president Gus Lagman.

With AAP currently developing a children's traffic safety park in Subic Bay Freeport Zone together with the Departments of Tourism, Public Works and Highways and the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, AAP President Gus Lagman expressed enthusiasm for the proposed road safety park in Manila. Lagman said he hopes that coordination with the MMDA and car manufacturers can make the project a reality soon.

PUSHING FOR ROAD SAFETY THROUGH PUBLIC POLICY

With this year's theme of "Coordinating with Legislators for Safer Motoring," AAP intends to intensify its road safety campaign by working on public policies

on top of its continuous collaboration with the government's land transportation agencies.

AAP had already begun by joining the technical working group drafting the implementing rules and regulations of the Anti-Distracted Driving Act, Speed Limiters Act of 2016 and new Anti-Carnapping Law.



AAP president Gus Lagman enumerates the National Auto Club's achievements in 2016.

The National Auto Club drafted the Child Passenger Restraint Bill last year and brought it to the Senate. During his privilege speech last May 10, Senator JV Ejercito expressed his intent to endorse the bill.

"We are becoming more proactive with our efforts in ensuring road safety in the Philippines and we hope that you continue to support us in this endeavor," Lagman told the AAP members present.

Following the AAP president's report on the club's accomplishments in 2016, the canvassing of the ballots was completed with the incumbent trustees being proclaimed as AAP's 2017-2018 board members. A new trustee, Augusto M. Cosio, was elected to replace Jacinto Mantaring Jr., who passed away earlier this year.

AAP thanked Smart Driving Corporation, FPG Insurance Co., Inc., Camelion Graphics Ent. Corp., Allcard Plastics Philippines Inc. and Agua Vida for supporting this year's GMM. **AQ**



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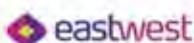
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Per DTI-FTEB Permit No. 5910 Series of 2017



Drivers take on the challenge and pledge to become better road users in accordance with FIA's Golden Rules of Road Safety as they join the #3500 lives campaign.

THE Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) invited the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) on May 18 to host the Road Safety Olympics during their celebration of Road Safety Month which highlighted the theme "Speed Down, Save Lives."

Over 100 drivers of public utility vehicles (PUV), public utility jeepneys (PUJ), taxis and school buses attended the event at the Occupational Safety and Health Center along Agham Road, Quezon City.



Philippine Global Road Safety Partnership Secretary General, and former LTFRB chief, Alberto Suansing talked about how road crashes are not accidents.

"Speed Down, Save Lives"

Is Focus of Road Safety Month Celebration



Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) National Capital Region (NCR) Regional Director Atty. Zona Russet Tamayo welcoming the drivers to the event.



In one of the Road Safety contests, a driver tries to write the definition of the acronym BLOWBAG correctly to get a score for his team.

LTFRB National Capital Region (NCR) Director Zona Russet Tamayo told the drivers: "Speeding has been a recurring violation among PUV, PUJ or taxi drivers especially because you are trying to meet the boundary and get more passengers to increase your daily income. Then casualties happen and often, you get blamed. We are here today to learn and understand road safety and traffic discipline better."

Philippine Global Road Safety Partnership (PGRSP) Secretary General Alberto Suansing was invited to talk about road safety in the Philippine setting.

"Road crashes are not accidents," the former LTFRB chief declared. "The dictionary defines accidents as anything that happens unexpectedly, undesignedly or without known cause. That's not what happens with road crashes. As drivers, we should always be aware and accountable for our actions on the road."

He then proceeded to show videos of vehicles crashing because of speeding; one footage showed a jeepney hitting an ambulance at an intersection—both driving beyond the speed limit indicated on the road sign posted beside the street.

Proper overtaking was another subject that Suansing highlighted during his lecture since this, according to him, seems to be another rule that drivers often neglect. He showed the drivers various situations and asked them which of the drivers in those incidents should give way.

"Republic Act 4136, better known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code, should be your bible," Suansing said. "It contains the rules on the road that you need to know. We all need to learn discipline and etiquette on the road."

Stressing that drivers should always give way to pedestrians, Suansing warned: "You never play the guessing game with pedestrians. Don't confuse them on whether they should or should not cross."

He concluded his talk by advising the drivers "*Masarap matulog sa kama, hindi sa likod ng manibela.* ("It's nice to sleep in bed, but not behind the steering wheel.") Your full attention and presence of mind are necessary when driving."

Talks about "PWD Experiences and Insights on Riding PUV," "First Aid" and "Role of Passenger Insurance Companies in Road Safety" followed.

In the afternoon, AAP conducted a round of Road Safety Olympics for the drivers. They were made to identify road signs; classify whether road signs were warning, mandatory or informative; guess road safety terms and define each letter in BLOWBAG.

During the closing ceremony, the drivers pledged to become better road users by following the 10 Golden Rules of Road Safety set by the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) and endorsed by AAP. **aq**



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The first and second AAP ERS teams that responded to the emergency call were (left to right) Rhoderick Yumul, Cresencio Mahinay, Ericson Dumayag and Florencio Villegas



Castor Antang III, Dante Pasibe and Ronald Cerebo are members of another AAP ERS team that rushed to the crash site to help in the rescue effort.

AAP ERS Drivers Rescue Victims in Expressway Crash

BEFORE daybreak on May 19, in a shallow ditch alongside the South Luzon Expressway, a small hand was wiggling through a mountain of construction sand right beside where two trailer trucks had overturned. A little boy was buried underneath the heavy sand, struggling to get out.

The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) South Emergency Roadside Service (ERS) team received a report at around 4 a.m. about a dump truck carrying construction sand whose driver had fallen asleep at the wheel.

The sleepy driver had swerved the dump truck abruptly to the right, dragging a trailer truck running beside it into a shallow ditch beside the southbound lane of the South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) near Splash Island, Binan, Laguna.

When the dump truck crashed onto the ditch together with the trailer its windshield shattered and the driver's wife and small son were thrown out of the vehicle and thankfully landed on piles of sand.

"As we neared the scene of the crash, we realized that two trailer trucks had overturned—one carrying sand, the other carrying vehicle parts," narrates Ericson Dumayag and Rhoderick Yumul, the AAP South ERS drivers who first responded to the emergency call.

The drivers went around the overturned trucks and saw a woman trying to climb out of sand that had poured out of the dump truck. When she saw the AAP ERS drivers, she immediately gestured toward another pile of sand where the hand of her little son could be seen sticking out and wiggling.

"We immediately started digging for the boy," Dumayag says. "Thankfully, he was unharmed. He was covered all over with sand and had a few scratches, but the medic said that he and his mother did not sustain any major injuries."

The mother and the child, who was about four or five years old, were the wife and son of the dump truck driver. He had taken his family along with him on the drive.

But the danger was not over for all those involved. The father, driver of the dump truck, was trapped in his seat, pinned down by the steering wheel.

"The emergency medical technicians tried pulling the driver out, but everytime they pulled, the front part of the truck where the driver was stuck kept sinking," recounts AAP ERS driver Florencio Villegas who went to the scene with his partner Cresencio Mahinay to help in the rescue effort.

Aside from Villegas and Mahinay, the AAP South ERS team that rushed to the crash site consisted of Castor Antang III, Dante Pasibe, Ronald Cerebo, Ariel Barbonio, Wilfredo Borromeo, Jefferson Estipular, Ansley Lumbag, Romeo Encina Jr., Cenel Taborada and Numeriano Lomeda Jr.

Finally, Villegas suggested that he and his



AAP's Mega Fuso recovery truck on standby with the overturned dump truck in the background



The trailer truck (front) was dragged by the swerving dump truck (in background) into a shallow ditch along the southbound South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) near Splash Island.



The AAP ERS team used a chain block to lift the front part of the cab where the driver was trapped, creating enough space for the emergency medical technicians to pull him out safely.



The dump truck driver's wife and small son who were rescued at dawn wait for the AAP emergency medical technicians to arrive.

fellow drivers form a chainblock. They wrapped the chain around a post and attached the other end of the chain to the front part of the cab, then pulled hard to create enough space under the steering wheel for the trapped driver to be freed by the emergency medical technicians.

AAP recovered the dump truck after the crash victims had been rushed to the hospital and everything was cleared on site. The driver and crew of the trailer truck were unharmed and AAP ERS removed the truck the next day.

AAP ERS operations manager Mark Desales commended the drivers for their presence of mind, teamwork and dedication—going above and beyond what was expected of them in the line of duty.

"I am truly proud of our ERS drivers," Desales says. "They did a great job in that situation. Our drivers understand their responsibilities and are committed to providing safety for everyone on the road including saving lives." **aq**



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AAP PARTNERS OFFER MORE DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

THE Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) is now offering new and exciting discounts to members after forming new partnerships with various establishments providing food and beverage, autocare, hotel accommodations and dental services.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

The Flight Restaurant Bar at Scout Borromeo in Quezon City and Wee Nam Kee in Alabang Town Center are the newest AAP Partner Establishments in the food and beverage category.

Take your friends to Flight Restaurant and Bar for some fun and get 10% discount on food. AAP members can contact 441-80-06 and look for Melvin Jacinto for inquiries.

If you're at Alabang Town Center, dine at Wee Nam Kee for a taste of their delectable Hainanese menu. They offer up to 10% discount for every food and beverage transaction. Reservations can be made through 478.9103 and for inquiries, look for Federico P. Basa Jr.

AUTO CARE SERVICES

Meanwhile, AAP has also partnered with more auto care establishments including Mein Auto Inc. in Makati as well as DCG Auto Repair, GAC New Gammad Auto Center and GAC Atatrak Towing Services in Lipa, Batangas.

Mein Auto Inc. is offering 10% discount on mechanical repair (labor) and 15% discount on detailing services. Their shop is a flagship Sonax Detailing Center as well as a model site for Bosch Car Service Philippines. For more details, AAP members can phone 729-977-73 and look for Emi Senga.

If you happen to be in Lipa City and are in need of auto care service, you can avail of up to 15% discount at DCG Auto Repair. Members can call Donardo Gammad at 0916-7030-792 for inquiries.

GAC New Gammad Auto Center also offers 10% to 15% discount on all automobile repair and services. For information, AAP members can contact Maria Fatima Acuña Gammad at 0917-8402-089.

A 10% discount on towing and related services is offered to AAP members by GAC Atatrak Towing Services in Lipa City. Robert Kennedy Gammad will be happy to entertain inquiries phoned through 043-774-86-85.

HOTELS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Under hotels and accommodations, Berjaya Hotel Makati, Hotel Celeste and Boracay Tropics are AAP's latest discount partners.

Berjaya Makati Hotel is a favored accommodation either for business or leisure. It is located along Makati Avenue, a major commercial thorough fare filled with bars, restaurants and various shops. AAP members are offered discounted rates depending on room type availed which includes complimentary breakfast. Reservations and inquiries can be coursred through Francis Tulay at 750-75-68.

Hotel Celeste in San Lorenzo Village, Makati offers up to 45% off on room accommodations inclusive of welcome drink, breakfast buffet for two and complimentary foot and leg massage. You can contact Cheanne Lopez at 887-80-80 to book a room in this quaint boutique hotel.

AAP members who are soaking up the sun in Boracay can get up to 30% discount on room accommodations inclusive of welcome drink, breakfast buffet for two and complimentary foot and leg massage at Boracay Tropics in Station 2. Dine at its



Tropics Café and get 10% discount on your total bill of at least P1,500.

Since Boracay Tropics is a sister company of Hotel Celeste, AAP members can also contact 887-80-80 and look for Cheanne Lopez for reservations and inquiries.

DENTAL SERVICE

Smile Domain Clinic is offering AAP members up to 10% off on all its dental procedures. Inquiries and dental appointments can be coursred through Ariel Zulueta at 634-20-21 or 0906-428-6005 or you can drop by their clinic on the 3rd floor of the AAP Tower at 683 Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City between Gilmore and Broadway Avenues.

For other available discounts, please call AAP Membership at 705-3333 during office hours. 



Road Safety Training Park Fund – Raising Campaign

THE Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) has launched a fund-raising campaign for the construction and development of the Subic Children's Road Safety Training Park which is set to be opened in January 2018. The fund-raising campaign aims to solicit Php4 million to purchase 100 helmets, 50 bikes, 25 karts and to fence approximately 1.3 hectares of land that was provided by the Subic Bay Metropolitan

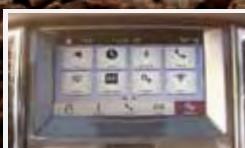
Authority (SBMA). Donors can contribute P500, P1,000, P2,500 or P5,000. Those who will contribute P5,000 will be given a personalized car plate which will be displayed at the park. Sponsorship packages are also available for corporations that wish to support the project. For more information, visit www.subicchildrensroadsafetypark.com. Interested donors may pay in cash or credit card through generosity.com. 

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Mercedes-Benz V-Class: Redefining the Standard in MPVs



A commercial van turned into a luxury trucks – that is the best way anyone can easily describe the V-Class, a successor to Viano. Mercedes-Benz has made sure the vehicle would live up to the 'V-Class' suffix by putting impressive specifications into the multi-purpose vehicle (MPV).

To begin with, the rear-drive V-Class comes with 7G-TRONIC with high-torque 4-cylinder diesel engine. Thus, the MPV impresses with superior handling, efficient fuel consumption, and extraordinary riding comfort.

Thanks to its adaptive dampers, the vehicle experience is always comfortable with the necessary adjustments to befit the road you are on. Its steering is light and quite quick to react, making the MPV ideal for urban driving. The suspension is generally effective at absorbing bumps, a feature that facilitates comfortable drive around town.

With the Agility Select system, the driver can choose from a number of modes: Eco, Comfort, Manual, and Sport. This selection can make adjustments on throttle response and steering, depending on your preference.

The van-derived people carrier inherits the boxy commercial shape of most vans. But because it carries the Mercedes-Benz name, the MPV is an instant standout, making all the other vans in the market pale in comparison.

This MPV's interior is the real showcase of Mercedes-Benz masterpiece. The V-Class can easily be a superior business van, as the middle passenger seats can immediately be converted into a

working mini-conference space.

In terms of flexibility, the V-Class has a cockpit that is obviously practical. There are a few tricks that should be known to get the most of the van's seating. First, its second row can turn 180 degrees to give way to a meeting room style space. There are seats that can be removed, although doing so can be a two-person job. You can even store the seats when they are out.

There's also a decent cargo hold with standard-fitting shelving system that can load in about half-dozen suitcases. If you would need to quickly access the luggage, you can easily lift the rear glass as well. **QQ**



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Ciaz: Perfect for the road warrior

DETERMINED to help young professionals keep up with their fast-paced lifestyle, pioneer compact car manufacturer Suzuki Philippines has rolled out the Ciaz, a subcompact sedan that delivers fuel efficiency and a smooth driving experience for today's road warriors.

The worsening traffic congestion in Metro Manila is making driving a daily challenge. With more vehicles plying the streets every day and road constructions and floodings adding to the equation, getting to one's destination on time is no mean feat.

Ciaz, powered by best-in-class fuel efficiency and advanced features, is most suitable for city driving, braving the traffic and moving around cramped areas. With its superior engine performance that does not compromise the environment, millennials will sure look forward to riding this chic sedan!

A JOY TO DRIVE

Reflecting elegance with a sporty touch, the multi-awarded car model is designed with redefined interiors tailored to today's younger generation. The Ciaz boasts a roomy comfortable cabin and advanced features, including an integrated multimedia unit with an Android touchscreen. The GLX variant has audio and hands free connectivity in the steering wheel and keyless push start system. **AQ**

Available in three variants –the GL Manual Transmission, GL Automatic Transmission and the premium GLX – the Ciaz has grabbed considerable market share since its release in the first quarter of 2016. It won **Best in Fuel Rating** under the Sedan-Gasoline Category at the Department of Energy's Euro Fuel Eco Run, **Best Subcompact Car** for the Car of the Year Awards by the Car Awards Group Inc. and **Best in Value for Money** at the Auto Focus Media's Choice Awards under the Compact Sedan category.

For more information on the Suzuki Ciaz, visit <http://suzuki.com.ph/auto/>, like it on <https://twitter.com/SuzukiAutoPH> and follow on Instagram at @suzukiautoph.



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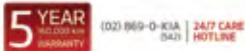
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GO EASY WITH THE NEW TOYOTA WIGO

FIRST launched in 2014, the Wigo has since become immensely popular in the Philippines due to its easy to own, easy to drive and easy to enjoy features. Having sold over 40,000 units since its introduction, the numbers only display how much Filipinos have grown to love this fun and young vehicle. This summer, the No. 1 automotive brand in the country brings an epic change to its most affordable Toyota yet.

Toyota's mini hatchback is now powered with a VVT-I engine for a more fuel-efficient drive. On top of that, the latest generation retains its stable and comfortable ride through an optimized suspension geometry calibration for a smooth and relaxing drive.

One can immediately conclude that compared with the previous model, the New Wigo parades a sporty and fun silhouette that speaks volumes of the fun car. A re-energized look to its front bumper, grille and alloy wheels embodies a more dynamic image. The latest version also now possesses sleek projector-type headlamps with line guide and LED rear combination lamps for an edgier look. Moreover, the 2017 Wigo is furnished with rear reflectors and outside mirror integrated signal lamps for a more premium feel.

Inside, the latest Toyota model shows off a redesigned interior with new seat patterns and door trims. Additionally, a more refreshing appearance has been granted on its multi-function and navigation-ready audio system. Moreover, with advanced features such as the new steering switch, this specific trait provides effortless access to one's music. The popular vehicle still has one of the easiest ingress/egress in its category both from the front and rear seats. It now also possesses a rear center head rest for extra comfort.

Lastly, there is no compromise in safety here as all grades are still equipped with standard SRS airbags for both the driver and passenger and now, all options for the Wigo are armed with Anti-Lock Brake System. Additional safety features such as the seat belt warning and light remind warning have been granted here as well.

The new Wigo's exterior comes in six un colors. Its newest shade, Orange Metallic, definitely shows the energetic personality of the said model. The mini hatchback also still carries the Silver Mica Metallic, Gray Metallic, White, Black and Red color options. **AQ**



Variant	SRP (Php)
Wigo 1.0G AT	599,000
Wigo 1.0 G MT	564,000
Wigo 1.0E MT	526,000



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Hyundai Unleashes 'The Next Level Of Luxury'

A true person of substance has a sharp eye for the best things in life. He has the wisdom to know when to work hard and play hard, when to flaunt his achievements, and when to go low key. In a world full of clutter, he can make an underrated beauty stand out and become a force to reckon with.

Get ready for a game-changer in the Philippines' luxury vehicle segment – a car born with raw talent, bred to be graceful and poised under any circumstance, and trained to perform with smoothness and silence that can only be defined as "athletic elegance." Hyundai Asia Resources Inc., the Philippines' official distributor of Hyundai passenger and commercial vehicles, captivates the 2017 MIAS with a showstopper, the Genesis G90.

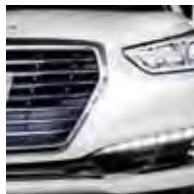
The Genesis G90 is the flagship model of Genesis Motors, the luxury vehicle division of the Hyundai Motor Company of South Korea.

When Genesis designers set out to make the G90, they diligently studied that moment when an archer draws back the bow and prepares to unleash the perfectly balanced tension that propels an arrow to its target -- a perfect fusion of power and poise.

SUAVE

The imposing front design of sleek headlamps and wide grille crowned by a magnificent winged-emblem make a sleek side silhouette that defines G90's unique stance.

Beyond beauty, the G90 is gracefully muscular sculpture. Every millimeter of its body has been refined with tunnels for



aerodynamics that allow a smooth drive as it cuts through the wind like a true star arriving with a grand entrance.

POWERFUL AND SMART

The G90 comes with a 5.0L GDI 32 Valve V8 from Hyundai's award-winning Tau family of engines that delivers 425 horsepower and robust 52.9kg-m of torque. Its advanced 8-speed automatic transmission with SHIFTRONIC employs a new Smart Shift technology to ensure you are always in perfect gear depending on your driving preference – Smart, Eco, Sport and Individual driver-bespoke.



sharp, swift and silent, which is evident in its interiors. One can bask in the double soundproof glass and triple seal weather strips which make privacy and peace of mind easy to attain. It is like being in a world that is yours alone.

What's more -- the luxurious cabin space of the G90 sport a human-centered design using premium Nappa leather and rare hardwoods as its elements. This Genesis-exclusive craftsmanship truly brings forth a total sensory experience.

A FEAST TO THE SENSES

Every drive is a welcome awakening of the senses. From the advanced multimedia and navigation system (easily accessible with a 12.3" touch screen display for the front seats, two

9.2" monitors for rear seats and two integrated control dials), multi-view camera, the three-zone air conditioning system (to maximize the comfort of the driver, front passenger and back passengers), Lexicon 17-speaker Quantum Logic Surround Sound System (that makes you feel like you're in a concert hall), to the wireless smartphone charging, you will feel like you are at the top of your game with the G90.

The Genesis G90 embodies a smarter, more progressive approach to luxury with innovation and styling seamlessly integrated into your life. It passes not the standards of automotive luxury, but the standards of becoming a valuable lifetime partner. Suggested retail price is P7.528 million (final price upon arrival of the unit in the Philippines). **QQ**

SECURE AND SAFE

Even in the oldest of myths, the contender who is the most secure about himself always wins. The G90 raises the bar on security and safety with a body made with 51.7% Advanced High Strength Steel (AHSS) that is designed to withstand collisions from any direction. Aside from having adaptive suspension control (a marriage of integrated chassis control and electronic suspension control), the G90 has a brake system that offers smooth and stable deceleration and quicker responsiveness. It is also equipped with intelligent features that deliver a safe drive: Lane Departure Assist, Blind Spot Detection, Front & Rear Sensors, and the nine-Airbag System.

SUPERBLY SUBTLE

True luxury is never loud. The G90 was crafted after the beauty of a flying arrow –



PETRON TRI ACTIONTM ADVANTAGE

Get the best driving experience with the TriAction Advantage of Petron fuels

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

Petron fuels deliver TriAction 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, while getting the best driving performance from their vehicle.

Petron's full line up of TriAction fuels include Petron Blaze 100 Euro 6 (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 more than 2,200 Petron service stations nationwide.

Petron made headlines when it became the first oil company to locally produce a full line-up of gasoline variants that meet Euro-4 standards in June 2015 and Euro-4 diesel fuels in October 2015, ahead of the government mandate to make available Euro-4 fuels by January 2016.

More recently, in March of this year, Petron once again made its mark as the industry leader in fuel innovation when it introduced Petron Blaze 100 Euro 6, which has been rigorously tested and certified by leading global laboratories and engine rating experts to have passed the "Euro 6b" emission standard, currently the most stringent in the world.

An Intake Valve Deposit (IVD) test conducted at a UK automotive testing center also showed that Petron Blaze 100 Euro 6 cleaned over 70 percent of engine deposits in 60 hours.

With these stellar results from its flagship product, motorists can be assured that all Petron TriAction 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 older engines can benefit from the TriAction advantage offered by Petron fuels with their advanced detergent, combustion improver, and friction modifier additives. With Petron TriAction fuels, all vehicle types can contribute to a cleaner environment. At the same time, vehicle owners will definitely appreciate the 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 world class fuel variants that meet the unique needs of motorists.

COVER STORY

DODGE CHALLENGER SRT "HELLCAT"

The Challenger may be well known as a powerful and fast car. But for the American manufacturer, this muscle car is "built for protection just as much as for performance." The reinforced frame has specifically designed front and rear crumple zones that can absorb impact energies and deflect these away from passengers to reduce injury. This beast is also equipped with Electronic Stability Control that can automatically sense if the vehicle is veering away from its path. It intelligently utilizes the car's anti-lock braking, brake assist, and the all-speed traction systems to rein in directional control. Even the programmed cruising speed gets automatically adjusted to maintain a safe distance from vehicles ahead. A Blind Spot Monitoring system, meanwhile, makes lane changing safer as it alerts the driver whenever a vehicle is in the vicinity of the car's blind spot. **AQ**



DODGE Challenger SRT

Text and photos by Randy S. Peregrino

MIAS 2017

NEW CARS, REVOLUTIONARY SAFETY FEATURES

Additional photo credits:
Dodge PH, Mazda PH,
Chevrolet PH
and Hyundai PH

It is pretty obvious that the elements of aesthetics, performance, and perhaps overall grandeur, come into play when it comes to vehicles. But there are car enthusiasts that look beyond these marvelous looks and consider what are called as "imperceptible essentials." This year's Manila International Auto Show (MIAS) showcased exciting new cars with cutting-edge safety features worthy of their respective price tags.

MERCEDES-AMG GT

Along with known luxurious aspects of the Mercedes-AMG GT, its designers also gave the car several forward-thinking safety essentials. This powerplant now comes with the capability to think, see, feel, and even act independently, thanks to its so-called Collision Prevention Assist Plus. In addition, an Attention Assist system recognizes typical signs of fatigue and allows it to send visual and audible warning calls to the driver. This AMG GT even has a three-stage Electronic Stability Program to match any desired driving mode. The Acceleration Skid Control (ASR) can also guide the vehicle through snow, wet roads or loose gravel, effectively reducing any chance for the vehicle to skid. **AQ**



Mercedes-AMG GT

MAZDA CX-9 AND CX-5

Today's Mazda vehicles are all about KODO: Soul of Motion, SkyActiv technologies and the Japanese manufacturer's principle of "horse and rider as one". The flagship crossover CX-9 was unveiled at the 2017 MIAS, baring its latest form while the new CX-5 got several notable updates. Both crossovers feature the SkyActiv-Body and SkyActive-Chassis that mate ultra-high-tensile steel with integrated straight load-path frame rails providing crash protection for the driver and passengers. The vehicles also feature Lane Departure and Keep Assist functions to ensure drivers stay on the correct lane. Even its predictive i-ACTIV AWD system was designed to instantly recognize various terrain conditions to avoid any wheel slip. The CX-5's G-Vectoring Control improves further the vehicle's stability and agility, especially when traversing winding roads. **QQ**



Mazda CX-9



Mazda CX-5

VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN

This German automaker fully understands the essence of integrating cutting-edge protection elements with great design. Volkswagen introduced the new Tiguan compact crossover at the auto show. Noteworthy is its Front Assist System that utilizes various controls such as Autonomous Emergency Braking and Forward Collision Warning to actively help prevent vehicular accidents. Another interesting feature is the Pedestrian Monitoring system, which is like the vehicle's watching eye that can take control of the vehicle's brake system in case the driver fails to see a pedestrian on the vehicle's path. **QQ**



Volkswagen Tiguan



Hyundai Creta

HYUNDAI CRETA

Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) is expanding its SUV lineup by introducing the subcompact Creta. It may be the smallest in the segment but its frame is fortified with Advanced High Strength Steel (AHSS) and Ultra High Strength Steel (UHSS). That means that the body structure is more durable. As for safer handling, this new SUV comes endowed with Vehicle Stability Management (VSM). In a nutshell, the VSM controls both the steering and brakes on each wheel to maintain good maneuvering. It also assists in stabilizing the vehicle when braking on non-homogenous surfaces to maintain a straight path. **QQ**



2017 Honda Civic Type R



Chevrolet Spark

CHEVROLET SPARK

This city car is now powered by a 1.4-liter petrol engine which is more than sufficient to propel the small frame. That's why it's only right to equip this mini subcompact car with reliable safety features like traction and stability control. **QQ**

The 2017 Mazda Miata Cup Season is On



THE 2017 Mazda Miata Cup takes off with another exciting season as 17 MX-5s of all four generations race in this year's first two rounds held at the 4.2-kilometer Clark International Speedway on May 12. Organized by the Miata Club Philippines and run exclusively by its members, the series showcases the club's special fascination for motor sports and serves as a venue for MX-5 owners to truly experience the true nature of their cars.



Now on its ninth year, and with the support of Mazda Philippines, the Miata Cup continues to give MCP members the opportunity to truly drive their cars and experience the MX-5's renowned handling and driving feel in the safe and controlled environment of a proper race track.

"The Miata Cup has always provided a gentleman-racing experience where members can compete with one another on the track while improving their own driving skills at the same time," says MCP president Bob Briddon. He adds, "For members who are into modifying their cars, the friendly competition in the Miata Cup drives an attitude of constant improvement via engine and suspension modifications. But most importantly, the Miata Cup races provides the club members the means to express themselves while enjoying the strong camaraderie prevailing in the club."

For Mazda Philippines, the club series not only highlights the brand's ethos but also directly communicates this with its customers. "The Miata Cup is the ideal venue to feel Mazda's *Jinba Ittai*, or the horse and rider as one, driving philosophy," shares Steven Tan, president and CEO of Bermaz Auto Philippines, the exclusive distributors of Mazda vehicles and parts in the country. He adds, "Because of the unique experience Miata Cup participants have with their cars in running this event,



Representatives from Mazda Philippines, Miata Club Philippines and Aggressive Line Events Management sign the contract to run the 2017 Mazda Miata Cup at the Clubman Racing Series events this season. Seated from left to right: Mikko David, PR and Customer Relations Manager, Bermaz Auto Philippines; Bob Briddon, President, Miata Club Philippines; E.Z. Ligaya, President, Aggressive Line Events.

their affinity with their MX-5s is further strengthened. This emotional bond is the driving force behind the brand and is the reason why Mazda makes cars that drive the way they do."

For the past three years, the Mazda Miata Cup has run five different classes based on the participants' actual lap times around the track. This ensures minimal cost for competing in the event while at the same time leveling the playing field by grouping racers together according to their actual timed performance on the track.

The Mazda Miata Cup is run in conjunction with the Clubman Racing Series event. Succeeding rounds this year will be held on July 16th and October 15th at the Batangas Racing Circuit, then back again at the Clark International Speedway on November 19. **qq**



GG The Miata Cup is the ideal venue to feel Mazda's Jinba Ittai, or the horse and rider as one, driving philosophy ZZ





BMW's xDrive on full display. Even with three, two or one wheel on terra firma, BMW's SUV models promise poise and safety.



The author disembarks from an X6 after a satisfying run on the sand.

ADMIT it. Spoiled as we are with a bewildering gamut of features in our modern-day automobiles, we seldom think of the technological acronyms and terms they offer. Most of them fly above our heads, anyway. But really, the only way we can feel the full effect of, and appreciation for, our car's abilities is to be in situations which actually need, say, ABS (anti-lock braking), four-wheel drive, or lane-keeping assistance.

X marks the spot:

Discovering the virtues and prowess of BMW's X-line

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY KAP MACEDA AGUILA

With this as the obvious premise, Munich-headquartered BMW recently staged the "BMW Destination X: Bromo Driving Experience" to highlight its all-wheel drive system, xDrive, across its sumptuous line of SUVs. This permanent all-wheel drive works with basic torque split 40 to 60 percent between its front and rear axles. The company says that this "torque bias between the axles is adjusted according to different road friction coefficient or driving situation," which basically means you need not worry even on difficult terrain.

This we found out in Indonesia which, like the Philippines, is situated in the so-called Ring of Fire (or circum-Pacific belt), a horseshoe-shaped area of "oceanic trenches, volcanic arcs, and volcanic belts and/or plate movements" in the Pacific Ocean where a lot of earthquakes and eruptions happen. It is said to host more than 75 percent of the world's active and dormant volcanos.

Now if you've seen a fair amount of documentaries, you know that volcanos

are both awesome and awful things. These are integral to life, and can take it away as well. They also help to sculpt landscape into inspiring dioramas – such as the one we saw from our perch at Seruni Point at the heart of the Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park in East Java.

We felt blessed to witness sunrise gradually illuminate a fiery foursome of Indonesian volcanoes that are Mts. Bromo, Semeru, Kursi, and Batok. Motoring media from the Philippines, Singapore, Japan, and Indonesia found their way here in style aboard BMW's X3, X4, X5, and X6 sport utes – setting off from the picturesque Jiwa Jawa Resort 30 minutes away.

Through difficult and steep terrain, the BMWs had proven poised and unperturbed just as they had been at the start of our journey from the heart of Surabaya, Indonesia's second-largest city, into the conservation area where temperatures can dip into single digits. Mount Bromo is said to be one of the country's most active volcanos, and gets even more attention

owing to its location – right in the middle of a plain quite appropriately called Sea of Sand. The fine powder stretches across 5,250 hectares – this while being at an altitude of about 2,100 meters.

This unique experience is created for five batches of lucky dealers, principals, and media to provide a complete and better appreciation of the prowess and performance promised by the BMW SUV range. Of course, not all of us have these premium SUVs in our garages – let alone the inclination and willingness to put them through a gauntlet of challenges.

These are dyed-in-the-wool SUVs from the Munich carmaker, not lesser mortals assuming the shape. Alternating as driver and front-seat passenger for the journey, we appreciate the all-wheel-drive virtues of the X models. Regardless of the model, it is apparent that BMW succeeds in conveying its premium character across price points.

While driving on Indonesia's road network is singularly satisfying – if a bit unnerving, owing to the multitude of



X-line units pose for the money shot after a slew of activities and exercises.



This "X ramp" showcases the vehicle's balance

motorcycles -- the agenda in our Southeast Asian neighbor is clear.

I suspect that hardly anyone wakes up and typically says: "I feel like getting behind the wheel of a couple of BMW SUVs today and put these through the paces on the sand." But that is exactly the kind of unrealistic dream given fruition by the good folks at Bayerische Motoren Werke.

A makeshift track on the sand – marked out by nothing more than white plastic poles and tire tracks – stretches out over small

Reports is correct to say the X4 emphasizes "sport over utility."

Up next is the X5, whose 3.0-liter Twin Power Turbo sixer roars with approval despite the abuse. It proves most stable and composed among the SUVs – its 306 horses and 400Nm adequately powering its balanced frame. Cocooned within its interiors, you hardly feel the goings on outside. The heft doesn't preclude an adroitness even on the fine sand of Bromo.

The X6, essentially a crossover version

even surprised by its second-row space, and the level of its comfort over a long journey. On sand though, the X3 seemed timid to respond to throttle input – perhaps dreading the impractical demand asked of it. Still, it slices through the sand as best it could, and it is not equipped with xDrive for nothing.

Aside from this exercise, we also experienced an extreme "taxi ride" aboard an X5 with certified BMW driver trainer Gerry Nasution. He pushes the SUV through rougher sections of the 10,000-square-meter-playground reserved exclusively for us with the Sea of Sand. Through steep inclines (the Bimmers can handle up to 22 degrees of angle for both entry and exit) and uneven terrain, the X5 is a sure-footed customer – surely a source of both excitement and security.

BMW lines up more challenges – this time man-made. A balance bridge, angled climb, roller climb, angular climb (collectively called X ramps) more keenly demonstrate the xDrive ability to provide traction in extreme situations where traction is available to but three, two, or even one wheel. Even rapidly changing situations do not faze the xDrive, and one has but to mind the wheel in hand – hardly the ones touching (or not) the ground. Even the amount of torque available at relatively low rpm is very convenient – helping complete the compelling image of the BMW X models as a study in both ease of use and impressive talents.

For the German brand, it seems that the value of X creeps towards infinity. **aq**

Dawn breaks at Seruni Point



mounds and troughs. Queued up at the starting line are the X3, X4, X5, and X6. We are waved aboard in batches.

I first get on board the red X4 xDrive28i M Sport. Powered by a 2.0-liter BMW TwinPower Turbo, the four-cylinder Bimmer proves an excellent blend of ability and elegance. I coax it through the track – first at speed, then more deliberately as I rounded the deep furrows and abrupt turns of our sandy track. Even as its tires lose traction from my heavy foot on the gas, the X4 keeps its collar stiff and starched, still. Consumer

of the X5, is a beastly number that appears ready to ingest everything in its path. Though bestowed with the same power plant as the X5, the X6 assumes a sportier character, which it displays in a greater knack for fishtailing fun while staying on terra firma. If I needed tokens for the ride, I would have bought an armful just to do it all over again.

To be fair, the X3 attacks the sand as best it can, but definitely underachieves in comparison to its larger siblings as far as excitement goes. To be fair, on pavement the X3 is a precise and composed ride. I was

Chevron partners with Visa for Visa payWave

CALTEX, marketed by Chevron Philippines, Inc. (CPI), is enhancing Filipino motorists' gas-up experience with the introduction of the Visa payWave contactless payment technology. Visa cardholders can wave their cards in front of readers to pay for Caltex fuel – no swiping, signing or PIN needed.

Visa cardholders purchasing Caltex fuel worth P2,000 and below at participating Caltex stations nationwide can now enjoy the same fast and secure transactions without the need to input PINs or sign credit card receipts. They can simply wave their Visa payWave cards in front of the Visa payWave readers.

"As the global payments leader, Visa always wants to reduce friction in the payment process. We are excited to partner with Chevron Philippines once again to bring seamless customer experience to motorists. Visa payWave is much quicker, more secure and more convenient than

cash," said Stuart Tomlinson, Visa Country Manager, Philippines and Guam.

"Motorists gassing up using Visa payWave will definitely be able to experience quicker service in our forecourts. Motorists can transact securely and with ease, knowing that they remain in control of their card at all times," said CPI Country Chairman Peter Morris. "To excite consumers to try our latest innovation, we're also holding a promotion that's sure to give added value to their fuel purchase."

To kick off the partnership, Chevron, together with Visa, is holding the "Drive Away a Millionaire" promo until July 31, 2017. Visa cardholders using Visa payWave to purchase any Caltex fuel (Platinum with Techron, Silver with Techron and Diesel with Techron D) at participating stations will get the chance to win Visa card credit worth P1 million. Three lucky motorists will also receive one-year Starcash worth P100,000.



Each Caltex fuel-up using Visa payWave will entitle motorists to three raffle entries for every P500 payment increment. Meanwhile, each Visa contact transaction is equivalent to one raffle entry.

Motorists gassing up at Caltex can also get an instant prize of P50 discount to be deducted outright from their fuel purchase. **AQ**



Caltex Launches High-Performance Delo 400 MGX Engine Oil

CHEVRON, marketer of the Caltex brand, unveiled its latest premium diesel engine oil, the Caltex Delo 400 MGX SAE 15W-40, to address commercial business needs while meeting stringent Philippine emission regulations. The revolutionary formulation constitutes a higher specification and is specially designed to comply with Philippine market requirements. It will benefit both new and old diesel engines and allow customers to utilize just one heavy-duty engine oil that operates efficiently in both high- and low-sulfur diesel fuel environments.

"Introducing the Caltex Delo 400 MGX SAE 15W-40 to the Philippine market is proof of our commitment to provide customers with ground-breaking products that not only boost performance, but also reduce operating costs and maximize diesel engine durability," said Lennard Kwek, Asia-Pacific Marketing Manager at Chevron Lubricants.

The Caltex Delo product range includes lubricants and coolants that provide premium protection, performance and bottom-line value for on- and off-road diesel-powered equipment. These products are utilized in all major heavy industries such as commercial transportation, construction, mining, agriculture and power generation.

Delo's industry-leading lubricants have logged 2.4 million kilometers and countless hours offering superior protection to diesel engine parts for smooth vehicle and equipment operations. Thoroughly field-tested in trucks using up to 5000ppm diesel fuel sulfur levels, the Caltex Delo 400 MGX has demonstrated an exceptional performance capability in neutralizing harmful acids

and retaining alkalinity in extended-drain operations.

"Heavy industry players are grappling with challenges such as excessive occupational heat exposure and maintaining an age-diverse fleet operating in both high- and ultra-low sulphur environments. With the local launch of the Caltex Delo 400 MGX, an American Petroleum Institute and American and European Original Equipment Manufacturers' standard compliant diesel engine oil, heavy industries can finally experience synthetic-like performance at the cost of mineral products, significantly reducing premium lubrication costs," said Joseph Bronfman, Area Business Manager, Finished Lubricants Philippines and Vietnam.

Chevron uses ISOSYN Technology in top-tier Delo product formulation. ISOSYN Technology combines premium base oils, high performance additives and the company's formulation expertise to deliver excellent diesel engine part protection at a competitive value. The Caltex Delo 400 MGX SAE 15W-40's new advanced formula delivers excellent soot dispersancy, wear protection and sludge control to guard against loss of engine life and help reduce oil consumption.

The Caltex Delo 400 MGX SAE 15W-40 also has the added advantage of a single fleet oil, which reduces the need for multiple diesel engine oils. Specifically developed to meet local emission regulations, OEM requirements and local market performance specification, Delo with ISOSYN helps extend service protection and optimize engine durability and operating costs.

The newly launched Caltex Delo 400 MGX SAE 15W-40 is currently available in drum and gallon packaging. **AQ**



The Audi A4 2.0 TDI proved that it had the mettle to go around the track with the big boys.

The Audi Track Experience Delivers Excitement and Thrills

AUDI Philippines recently staged 'The Audi Track Experience' for valued clients and prospects to demonstrate the power and performance of the German luxury premium brand's latest models, as well as, allowing owners of existing Audi vehicles to take their cars out on the track.

Held at the Clark International Speedway (CIS) in Clark Freeport Zone in Angeles, Pampanga, the exclusive, by-invitation-only "Audi Track Experience" afforded participants first and foremost, a chance to savor in greater magnitude the power and performance characteristics of the R8 V10 Plus in an exclusive track test drive with a Certified Audi Driving Instructor. Aside from the flagship model from the Audi Sport sub-brand, participants also got to test drive the, A1 three-door hatchback, the compact A3 sedan, the 1.4 TFSI and 2.0 TDI variants of the A4 executive car, the TT coupe, and the 2.0 TFSI and 3.0 TD iterations of the Ingolstadt marque's full-size, seven seater luxury Q7 SUV.

"Not all Audi owners get the opportunity to realize their vehicles' excellent driving dynamics," said Audi Philippines Head Benedicto Coyuto. "Through this Track Experience, they came away with a greater appreciation and understanding of how technology and good design come together in every Audi model – resulting in a package that both docile and exciting – while keeping its occupants safe and engaged."

The obvious star of the day was the V10 Plus variant of the Audi R8 supercar, one of the last true quixotic exotics with a naturally aspirated engine. The aforementioned version of the R8 boasts a 5.2-liter heart that delivers 610hp – 70 more horses than the base model



The Track Day would not be complete without the exclusive VIP test drive of the Audi R8 V10 Plus.

– and 510Nm, powering the immensely light, Audi Space Frame-based vehicle (188 kilos lighter compared to the previous generation) from standstill to 100kph in a mere 3.2 ticks. Guided by Certified Audi Driving Instructor Christoph Klapper, participants felt the muscle and grace of the R8 V10 Plus as it blazed through the corners and straights of the world-class track.

On the other hand, the Q7 is the four-ring brand's "cornerstone". Positioned as a premium family SUV, the three-row, seven-seat SUV keenly highlights Audi's quattro (permanent all-wheel-drive) technology. "Drivers expressed surprise at the great handling of composure of the Q7 even when pushed around the track," reported Audi Philippines General Sales Manager Paolo Brambilla. "This SUV may be hefty, but it is bred on the track, is surprisingly light and agile, and exhibits performance characteristics that demonstrate the famous Audi ethos of "Vorsprung durch Technik" (Advancement through Technology)."

The Audi A4 was also a highlight at the event. Lighter than the outgoing model, the new A4 is the widest, lightest, and most efficient iteration ever in the model's history – even as it is almost two inches longer. Now also equipped with Audi's proprietary Virtual Cockpit, motorists can delight in the high-resolution instrument cluster that puts



Audi Philippines Head Benedicto Coyuto with event participants Eric Lee (left) and Jude Fernandez.

everything in direct view.

Other Audi driving instructors, guided participants in effectively extracting the performance characteristics of the other featured vehicles through track exercises. Guests who brought their own Audi motor cars were additionally given the rare chance to push them around the CIS, while receiving vital and important tips from the Driving Instructors.

"We look forward to holding more activities like this, even as we add more Audi vehicles to our portfolio. We're particularly excited to announce that the much-awarded, all-new Q2 and Q5 SUVs are set to arrive in our country soon," concluded Mr. Coyuto.

For more information, please contact Audi Philippines at 7270381 or visit its showrooms located in Greenhills, Global City, Westgate Alabang and SM Seaside City Cebu. **AQ**



Audi Track Experience





"Every year we try to make the show even more exciting and worthwhile for truck buyers to visit. The introduction of the Isuzu NHR with flexi truck 10 x 10 body and FVM with Fruehaf wing van are our latest addition to the wide array of body applications which can be done on our trucks. Hopefully, it will attract more customers to buy these models thru this display" Koso added.

Isuzu continues to show confidence in the truck market



IPC President Hajime Koso (center) leading the toast to success with Isuzu officials.

SUZU Philippines Corporation (IPC) showed confidence anew in its recent exhibition of its latest truck line-up. Held on April 20-23, 2017 at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City, IPC's truck display bares its core values of dependability, durability and reliability.

One of the country's most trusted truck brands, IPC has been a consistent segment leader specially for its light-duty N-Series trucks which holds the No. 1 position for 17 consecutive years. In the past two years, however, the trucks and buses segment also saw a significant increase in demand which is parallel to the growth of the economy, which is why IPC's medium and heavy-duty trucks sales increased by around 13% in 2016.

"The key to our success is not on the sale of our trucks, it's on the full service that comes with every purchase. With every truck purchase, we provide product orientations, driver's training and even a professional analysis on fuel consumption and actual vehicle operation" said IPC President Hajime Koso. "A truck is probably one of the most valued investments for a company, which is why aside from providing quality products, Isuzu guarantees availability of parts and



reliable service" he added.

Leading the 12-truck display line-up were the two units each Isuzu NHR with flexi truck 10x10 body and FVM with Fruehaf wing van, which are specially built by IPC's trusted body builders Kyoei Kogyo Philippines Corp. (KPC) and Centro Manufacturing Corporation, respectively.

Completing the light-duty truck line-up were the Isuzu NHR with iVAN body option, NHR jeepney prototype, NPR dropside, NPR aluminum van and NQR Garbage Compactor. For the medium to heavy-duty segment, IPC displayed the FVM with crane, CYZ51 dump truck and EXZ51 tractor head.

Adding more diversity to the show, IPC displayed its leading light-commercial vehicles, two (2) units each of the Isuzu mu-X Black Series and Isuzu D-MAX X-Series.

Along with the vehicle display, different body builders were on-site so that customers can immediately discuss their purchase requirements upon picking the right truck for their business. Present during the show were Centro, Almazora, KPC, Multilift, Transbilt, Versatemp, Red Dragon, CoolAire and JVFC Commercial.

As an additional treat, all registered customers during the show are entitled to receive free dashboard camera and P10,000 worth of fuel card for every closed transaction until June 30, 2017.

"For Isuzu, there is nothing more valuable than the trust that we get from our customers, it is for this reason, that we continue to provide excellent products and service that best suits the demands of the market" Koso said. **aq**



Ginia Domingo - President,
Columbian Autocar Corp. and
Dodie Gañac - VP for Marketing

The All-new Kia Rio: Ready to make waves

COLUMBIAN Autocar Corporation (CAC), the exclusive distributor of Kia vehicles in the Philippines, is bringing in the latest addition of the Korean marque's roster of vibrant, stylish, and dynamic vehicles.

Unveiled last September 2016 at the Paris Motor Show, the all-new, fourth-generation Kia Rio is ready to unleash your "Freedom to Be You" when it hits Philippine shores later this year.

The 2017 Rio showcases several of Kia's latest technology and design innovations, all wrapped up in a sleeker, yet sportier package-emerging as a winner for its category in the 2017 Red Dot Awards.

The updated profile of the Rio was the result of a diverse collaborative effort. Kia's designers, based in Germany and California, worked closely with the team from the company's headquarters in South Korea-and the result is a truly global aesthetic that merges a balanced stance with a confident look.

The front layout has been given a sharp makeover-putting more emphasis on the tiger-nose grille, then strikingly framed by sportier headlights. As a Kia standard, these lights automatically activate when you turn a corner, or after you start the engine and release the hand brake.

Overall dimensions have been increased, as this latest model is both 5mm wider and 15mm longer than its predecessor. The increased surface area of the vehicle's hood, matched with a more upright C-pillar, all contribute to its commanding presence on the streets.

Inside, the cabin is kept uncluttered. The driver's contact points at the seat and steering wheel are all adjustable, aiding in providing maximum comfort during the driving experience. The driver-oriented dashboard is an innovative solution to a common problem, making controls more ergonomic and easy to access.

Each seat also provides quality passenger comfort, with ample head and leg room at the back and full automatic climate control. Other convenience features include the Smart Key with push-button start, steering wheel mounted controls, and front and rear power outlets for charging your devices.

Kia fans in the Philippines will be able to avail of a Rio that is specified with a lightweight 1.4L engine paired with 4-speed Automatic transmission. The combination has been proven to be ideal



*Korean city car
winner of 2017
Red Dot Award
for Design*

for traversing city-to-city streets, making it ideal for cruising along country roads and highways, too.

The all-new Rio will be available for purchase starting at P735,000 SRP, beginning June 2017. To reserve yours now, contact your favorite Kia dealership. 



Ford PH brings 'Ford Island Conquest' to Manila auto show

FORD Philippines made the Manila International Auto Show (MIAS) held from March 30 to April 2 to showcase both its best-selling vehicles in the country, as well as its unique test-drive and brand experience, the Ford Island Conquest.

The Ford booth at MIAS showcases top-selling variants of its Big Three vehicle nameplates – the Everest mid-size SUV, EcoSport compact SUV, and segment-defining Ranger pickup.

Ford has also brought to MIAS the Ford Island Conquest, which it launched earlier this year with two successful events in Metro Manila.

The Ford Island Conquest is the ultimate test drive arena for car enthusiasts and interested buyers to experience the

Everest, Ranger, and EcoSport. An outdoor course, featuring a water-wading drive-thru, is designed to highlight key features and capabilities of the Everest and Ranger.

The Ford Island Conquest also features a mock-up Ford showroom, providing a good opportunity for both owners and interested buyers to learn more about Ford's sales and after-sales services and ownership packages.

To bring the experiential test drive activity to more Filipinos nationwide, Ford



Island Conquest is planning scheduled rollouts in Bulacan, Pampanga, Naga, Laguna, Pangasinan, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, and Davao, as well as additional events in Metro Manila to include Greenhills, Ortigas, Marikina and Quezon City, among others.

The Ford Island Conquest also offers exciting freebies and exclusive Ford merchandise that are up for grabs upon registration and participation in various activities. **AQ**

FORD PHILIPPINES, GAWAD KALINGA UNVEIL TWO NEW WATER FACILITIES IN LEYTE

OVER 120 families and households in Leyte villages will benefit from the completion of two new water facilities through a partnership between Ford Philippines and Gawad Kalinga (GK).

Ford executives led the turnover of a new communal water facility that provides access to potable water for over 100 families in GK Sto. Niño Village in Bato. Prior to the new facility being built, residents had to get water from a stream one kilometer from the village.

Ford executives also visited residents of GK Polpogan Village to unveil a concrete water tank that supplies clean water through PVC pipes directly to 26 households.

"Leyte was a unanimous choice for us to support, being one of the provinces that was

greatly affected by super typhoon Haiyan in 2013," said Josie Gonzalez, AVP for government and corporate affairs, Ford Philippines. "Ford is proud to continue initiatives that provide long-term benefits for these communities."

Building a communal water system in GK communities in Leyte was conceived when Ford Fund through Global Giving made available mini-grants for projects that will promote volunteerism during Ford's Global Month of Caring.

Ford decided on Leyte and efforts to build sustainable water supply in the community by finding a safe and clean water source, including a set-up of a water catchment facility and a common area of laundry and other household chores.



Since 2014, the project has included eight water facilities built around Leyte, helping provide over 700 families with access to clean water. The mini-grant has continued to support the communal water project, supported by Ford dealer employees, GK residents and local students all serving as volunteers. **AQ**

Mitsubishi celebrates 100 years of automobile innovations

MITSUBISHI is celebrating its centennial year of automobile manufacturing this year. The first car ever to be adorned with the three-diamond emblem was a Mitsubishi Model A developed by the Mitsubishi Shipbuilding Company (one of predecessor companies of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries) in 1917.

The history of Mitsubishi automobile began with the 22-car production of Japan's very first series-produced vehicle. Then from the end of the World War II to the early 1970s, Mitsubishi automobiles ranging from commercial vehicles to unique passenger cars were launched which paved the way for the establishment of Mitsubishi Motors Corporation which has spawned from Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

From 1970s up to the end of the 20th century, Mitsubishi automobiles provided solutions to the needs for conserving energy and resources. At the same time Mitsubishi automobiles have enhanced driving pleasure for drivers with high performance vehicles like class-leading sport utility vehicles. Today, Mitsubishi automobiles are as prepared as ever to take on the new challenges and demands of owners worldwide.

In celebration of Mitsubishi's 100-year anniversary, Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC) held a grand expo from June 8 to 11, 2017 at the World Trade Center, Pasay City. Dubbed as the Mitsubishi 100 Years Anniversary Expo, this motor show gave the public a one-of-a-kind and truly memorable experience not only to Mitsubishi fans but to any car enthusiast. The expo was open to public from 12 noon to 9pm on June 8 and from 10am to 9pm on June 9 to 11.

A century of automobile innovation was showcased with a display of the iconic cars, rally cars and MMPC's current vehicle line-up. During the event MMPC gave each expo visitor a glimpse of the rich history of Mitsubishi and a chance to see actual vehicles that were on display at the Mitsubishi Auto Gallery located in Okazaki, Japan. MMPC brought in the 1937 Race (Circuit Car), 1985 Paris-Dakar Rally winner Pajero #189, WRC Lancer 2005, and the Outlander PHEV which won the 2015 Baja Rally.

The expo served as the perfect venue for those who were also planning to purchase a brand-new Mitsubishi vehicle. A display of MMPC's current vehicle line-up including the Fuso trucks and bus line-up was made available during this four-day

100th Anniversary

Mitsubishi Automobile Expo
A century of innovation.

**CELEBRATE A CENTURY OF
MOTORING HERITAGE**

Admission is FREE!

FUSO

#Mitsubishi100Years

MITSUBISHI MOTORS
Drive@earth



expo. Customers test drove the new Montero Sport, Strada, Pajero and Mirage. MMPC also included in the roster of available test units the pure electric vehicle – iMiEV and the Outlander Plug-In Hybrid Vehicle (PHEV). Those who missed the series of Montero Sport Head-to-Head test drive last year were given the chance to once again test and compare the Montero Sport with the competition to prove for themselves the class-leading features of the vehicle.

Aside from a feast of great vehicles on display, MMPC made sure that the visit at the Mitsubishi Automobile Expo was exceptionally worthwhile and enjoyable with

the array of activities lined up for the whole family.

Live performances from the country's popular bands and DJs entertained the expo goers. And to make the event even more memorable, Mirage brand ambassadors Maine Mendoza and Alden Richards, along with internet action star Ramon Bautista, dropped by in the afternoon of June 10 to greet all Mitsubishi owners and expo guests.

MMPC also treated its loyal customers and car clubs as they gathered for the first Mitsubishi Owners' Day. Kids also enjoyed the event as MMPC tapped the services of Nickelodeon to hold fun games and manage the kids' park area plus special appearances of Nickelodeon's Paw Patrol on Saturday and Sunday.

For art lovers, MMPC also asked the father of Philippine Art Workshop, Fernando Sena, to share his techniques thru an art workshop on June 11 from 1-3 pm. There was also a Safety and Driving Etiquette Seminar during the expo. **ao**

HONDA

debuts refreshed City



HONDA Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI), Honda's automobile unit in the Philippines, unveils the New City at City of Dreams, Parañaque City.

Revolving around the grand concept of "Advanced Energetic Smart Star", the New City exhibits a high-tech and sporty design, class-leading fuel efficiency and comfort, and above-class safety that provide customers with the smartest ownership experience.

Outside, the New City gets a refreshed look with its redesigned front fascia that sports a low and wide stance, and stately presence. This seamlessly complements a new front and rear design that gives the New City a sharper and more aggressive look. The New City is also now equipped with LED Daytime Running Lights (DRL), while the top variant VX+ comes with LED headlights and LED fog lights. Adding to the sporty look is a new intricate-looking front grille, and exquisite diamond cut aluminium alloy wheels (16-inch for the VX and VX+ variants and 15-inch for the E CVT variant). The VX and VX+ variant also get power folding side mirrors for added convenience.

Inside, the New City boasts a rich and sophisticated interior that flaunts a



high-tech design, decorative panel, and plush leather seats (for the VX+) that truly highlight the car's sporty feel. The new metallic trim around the air-conditioning vent and gearshift, and Gun Metallic panels also welcome the passengers with a more functional beauty. The New City's gauges and Push Start Button have also been redesigned for a more premium and elegant touch. For added convenience, the VX and VX+ variants are now equipped with Cruise Control that maintains a steady driving speed set by the driver.

The New City also features a new 7-inch touchscreen audio system for the E CVT, VX and VX+ variants that consists of Bluetooth

Hands-free Telephone and Audio Streaming, and USB Connectivity. The VX and VX+ variants are equipped with a navigation system with a multi-view reverse camera with guidelines, voice command, Miracast and Cube User Interface (UI).

The New City is powered by the same 1.5-liter i-VTEC SOHC 4-cylinder engine that produces 120PS at 6,600rpm and 14.8kg-m of torque at 4,800rpm. The engine is mated to either a 5-speed Manual Transmission (for the base E variant) or Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) developed under Earth Dreams Technology that delivers a dynamic and fuel efficient driving performance. The car also features Honda's Eco Assist System which consists of the ECON button and eco-coaching ambient meter to promote smart and fuel efficient driving habit. The VX and VX+ variants are also equipped with paddle shifters for a sportier driving experience.

All variants are equipped with a G-CON body structure, Anti-lock Brake System (ABS), Electronic Brake-force Distribution (EBD), and Dual SRS Airbags. The VX and VX+ variants are also equipped with a smart entry system, while the VX+ variant will get additional side and side curtain airbags, Vehicle Stability Assist (VSA), Hill Start Assist (HSA), and Emergency Stop Signal (ESS) for added safety.

Similar to other Honda models, HCPI is also offering genuine Modulo accessories for the New City for added style. Color options include: Lunar Silver Metallic (New Color), Gold Brown Metallic (VX, VX+ only), Ruby Red Pearl (VX, E CVT only), Taffeta White, Modern Steel, and Crystal Black Pearl (VX, E CVT, E MT only)

With all these new added features, the New City is the smartest choice retaining its predecessors' suggested retail prices: 1.5 E MT (Php 764,000); 1.5 E CVT (Php 804,000), 1.5 VX Navi CVT (Php 913,000), and 1.5 VX+ Navi CVT (Php 1,003,000). **qq**

Additional 2 Years of Warranty with Honda Protect Plus Extended Warranty



HONDA Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI), Honda's automobile unit in the Philippines, announces the launch of Honda's extended warranty program, the Honda Protect Plus Extended Warranty. It is a flexible program that gives customers an option to extend their regular 3 year warranty for another 2 years.

The Honda Protect Plus Extended Warranty program covers all models offered by Honda. Customers who purchase the Honda Protect Plus Extended Warranty will get an additional 2 years of warranty or 40,000 kilometers, whichever comes first. This takes effect after the standard warranty period of 3 years (or 100,000 kilometers whichever comes first) has lapsed.

With this program, customers need not worry about possible sudden expenses brought about by vehicle breakdowns during the fourth and fifth year of their Honda's life. Moreover, as their vehicle will be under the care of certified Honda technicians and only genuine parts will be used on their vehicles, they can command higher resale price should they decide to sell their Honda.

The Honda Protect Plus Extended Warranty comes at very affordable price starting at Php12,300 for the Honda Brio. For more information on the new Honda Protect Plus Extended Warranty program, visit your nearest Honda Cars dealership today or log on to www.hondaphil.com. **qq**



The Beauty Queens' Roadster of Choice

THE Miata Club of the Philippines once again played official escort to the candidates of the 2017 Binibining Pilipinas during its annual Parade of Beauties held recently at the Araneta Center in Quezon City.

Close to sixty MX-5s composed of all four generations of the iconic two-seat roadster were on hand as the official transports of the beauty pageant's 40 contestants and VIPs. The car owners themselves became their assigned candidates' chauffeurs for the afternoon. Not only did the parade highlight the stunning beauty of the candidates but

also the design evolution of all MX-5 models.

"Mazda Philippines has always been supportive of MCP's various activities," shares Steven Tan, president and CEO of Bermaz Auto Philippines, the exclusive distributors of Mazda vehicles and parts in the country. He adds, "Club events such as these enhance the MX-5 ownership experience and further strengthen the emotional bonds between the cars and their owners."

Among the gorgeous Miatas that took part in this year's Parade of Beauties is the first ever MX-5 RF. The retractable hard top version of the fourth generation MX-5 was

recently launched at the Manila International Auto Show. MCP members were among the first to take delivery of the latest variant of the MX-5.

The MX-5 has been the exclusive ride of the pageant candidates at the highly anticipated Parade of Beauties since 2008. MCP has never failed to produce enough cars for all the years it was commissioned to grace the event. As such, it is the only roadster club in the Philippines capable of providing the numbers to compliment the beautiful candidates as they compete for the crowd's attention and favor. **AQ**



Manila Celebrates Driving in Style with Mazda Otis

BERMAZ Auto Philippines, the exclusive distributor of Mazda vehicles and parts in the country, together with Zoomhub Inc. formally opens the first Mazda showroom in the city of Manila.

The newly built Mazda Otis dealership is nestled along the famed automotive row in the capital city. Its 389-square meter showroom can display up to six of the latest Kodo: Soul of Motion-designed, SKYACTIV technology-equipped Mazda models. It also has a dedicated releasing area for the convenience and comfort of its clientele.

The full 3S -- Sales, Service and Spare Parts -- dealership also houses a 4,500-square meter service area that is equipped with 13 work bays. It can handle Periodic Maintenance Services (PMS), general repair and body and paint jobs.

"We welcome Mazda Otis into the growing dealership network of Mazda Philippines," says Steven Tan, president and CEO of BAP. "With the addition of this dynamic facility in the very heart of Manila, Mazda customers in this bustling city now have a new home that can address the needs of their vehicles," shares Tan. He adds: "Convenience and ease for Mazda patrons are our top priorities and Mazda Otis is set to provide our customers with the same excellent service that has



elevated Mazda to the number one ranking in the J.D. Power 2016 Customer Service Index."

Willy Tee Ten, president of the Autohub Group which also manages Mazda Davao and Cagayan de Oro, is upbeat about the new dealership's prospects in the city of Manila. **AQ**

MOTORING NEWS

United with La Union



Building,
Bridging in
Bacoor

UNITED Asia Automotive Group Inc. (UAAGI), the exclusive distributor of Foton vehicles in the Philippines, reinforces the expansion of its dealership network by, for the record, achieving a total of five groundbreaking ceremonies for new dealerships in the month of April.

"The first quarter of 2017 showed how exemplary Foton's performance is in the market through achieving target sales and garnering continual interest from potential dealer partners," shared Foton Philippines and UAAGI President Rommel Sytin.

On April 5, UAAGI and its authorized dealer Absolute Advantage Inc. officially began the construction of the first Foton dealership in the Ilocos Region, Foton La Union. Located in the municipality of Bauang, the 2,000-square-meter facility will have a vehicle showroom including parts, service and sales offices. Foton La Union is expected to open on the first quarter of 2018.

UAAGI officials also flew to the beautiful province of Palawan to formally facilitate the groundbreaking ceremony of Foton Puerto Princesa together with its awarded dealer, SteeringWheel Inc.

Being affiliated to the construction firm, Foton Puerto Princesa Dealer Principal Michelle Tiotangco shared how essential earthmovers like Foton vehicles are used in the development of their industry. "Commercial vehicles -- particularly the light, heavy duty trucks and heavy equipment -- have literally and figuratively helped our business ease all types of load," noted Tiotangco.

FotonPH Expands with Five New Dealerships



Opening Doors in Cordon



Creating
Connections
in Cainta

Adding to Foton's powerhouse pack is Cavite-based Alphamile Automotive Dealers Inc. (AADI) which also sealed the deal with UAAGI. Groundbreaking ceremony for the new dealership in Molino, Bacoor was held on April 21. It is expected to open in the first quarter of 2018.

"We decided to explore the world of automotive because we see its capacity here in our province. We are located in the center of processing zones and logistics companies, that's why we are assured that Foton products will incessantly reach various business types," shared Tionson.

Foton Philippines once again went up to Northern Luzon to establish a new home in the second-largest province in the country, Isabela. Located in the municipality of Cordon, UAAGI broke the grounds of Foton Cordon together with its authorized dealer Manindra Auto Corporation on April 28, 2017.

Dealer Principal Leo San Juan shared why they chose to open another car dealership under the brand. "The products are attractive. And when I say attractive, it's a total package: the style and design, the quality and safety features, capped off with the competitive price," he said. Foton Cordon is set to open on December 2017.

Finally, as the month of April ended, UAAGI officially started the construction of its first dealership in the province of Rizal. Headed by its authorized dealer Lica Auto Group, the groundbreaking ceremony of Foton Cainta was held on April 28, 2017.

"With Foton offering the widest product lineup -- from passenger vans, SUVs, pick-up trucks, light duty trucks, heavy duty trucks to earth movers - our dealership will surely be a one-stop-shop to those looking for vehicles for their families and businesses in Cainta's automotive row," said Foton Cainta General Manager Vergel Gopez. 

BFGoodrich brings back excitement and passion to driving

BFGoodrich is poised to make a strong on-road statement, as it brings exciting and pleasurable driving experience with the new on-road BFGoodrich Advantage T/A Drive and T/A SUV tires and the already available off-road BFGoodrich All-Terrain T/A KO2.

"BFGoodrich is once again demonstrating the innovative cutting edge that makes the company a well-recognised brand in the tire industry with the launch of the new BFGoodrich Advantage T/A Drive and T/A SUV tires and the already available off-road BFGoodrich All-Terrain T/A KO2. These tires are dedicated to make your daily commute and weekend getaways an unconditional pleasure," said Michael Nunag, chief representative of Michelin Philippines.

Offering an upgraded grip and a smooth, long lasting ride, the new on-road BFGoodrich Advantage T/A range delivers a pleasant everyday ride at an equally reasonable price. The tires respond to drivers' every command, thanks to the enhanced symmetric tread design with rigid tread blocks and shoulder, as well as "jagged" grooves for excellent handling and control, leading to an exciting and pleasurable drive.

Drivers will also get a great drive in any weather condition, as the BFGoodrich Advantage T/A Drive & SUV's large tread block with deep

wide longitudinal, latitudinal grooves and sipes ensure great braking in both wet and dry surfaces.

Built with a strong structure of multiple plies and reinforced at shoulder as well as bead area, the BFGoodrich Advantage T/A Drive & SUV are "tough" and are for drivers who love to make their way through challenging road conditions.

The BFGoodrich All-Terrain T/A KO2, meanwhile, is designed as a tire that will pose no boundaries for drivers taking on a new world of adventures.

Engineered from BFGoodrich's incomparable championship off-road motorsports racing technology, the KO2 delivers exceptional toughness, tread life and traction for traversing the harshest conditions.

The rugged KO2 is also durable, lasting twice as long on gravel roads and 15-percent longer on asphalt, allowing off-road enthusiasts to extend their adventures. It also improves its already legendary tradition of all-terrain performance with 10 percent greater traction in the mud compared to the previous-generation KO tire. 





Brand reinforces global commitment to road safety for local clientele

BMW technical upgrade campaign underway

REFFECTING BMW's commitment to quality and safety, Asian Carmakers Corporation (ACC), the official importer and distributor of BMW in the Philippines, is undertaking a technical upgrade campaign on specific BMW models.

The two-part complimentary upgrade covers the airbag and ISOFIX systems of certain models. The airbag concern includes the 4th-generation BMW 3 Series (1999 to 2004), 4th-generation BMW 5 Series (2002 to 2003), and 1st-generation BMW X5 (2003 to 2004) with inflators that may possibly have gas generators that propel metal fragments out when the front airbags are deployed. The ISOFIX issue includes the 2nd-generation BMW X3 (2010 to 2016) and BMW X4 (2014 to 2016) that are possibly equipped with rear-seat fixing brackets that may not have the required strength to sustain against bending load or dynamic stress.

Owners of the models under this special campaign may avail of exclusive service, free of charge, in any

of the eight accredited BMW dealerships nationwide. To verify if a vehicle is affected, BMW customers simply have to call their preferred accredited BMW dealership.

"Taking these preventive measures on the airbag and ISOFIX systems will enable older BMW models to be in-step with today's premium automobile standards. Through this public announcement, we urge all owners of the possibly affected models to have certified BMW technicians inspect and expertly service their vehicles. With this quality measure, we aim to ensure our customers' peace of mind in their continued experience of sheer driving pleasure," said ACC President Maricar Parco. **aq**



PIONEER compact car distributor Suzuki Philippines joined the Lucbanons in celebrating the most colorful Pahiyas festival last May 15 in Lucban, Quezon, which was attended by at least three million people. Suzuki's participation and presence is geared toward complementing the booming agricultural business and local micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the province.

By creating a booth that showcases the different variants of Suzuki's first entry into the light commercial vehicle (LCV) segment, the Lucbanons and festival-goers were able to witness the several ways the Euro 4-certified DDiS Turbo Diesel-engine equipped Super Carry can support the load required for different business needs such as cargo and people transport with the Super Carry Cargo Carrier,



Suzuki PH showcases all-new Super Carry at Pahiyas Festival



Cargo Van (CV), Utility Van (UV) and Jeepney Body (JB) variants.

A "Libreng Sakay" initiative enabled festival-goers to experience first-hand the features and functions of the Suzuki Super Carry. At the Super Carry booth, games and other fun activities greeted visitors and locals alike. Former AFFI President and Ink-All-You-Can CEO and Leapreneur Mr. Jerry Iiao conducted a free business seminar about entrepreneurship.

Suzuki Philippines helps local MSMEs expand their business with the Super Carry. Designed to deliver enhanced operational productivity, uncompromised performance and fuel efficiency, the LCV meets the logistic demands of Philippine MSMEs.

Recognized as the 2016 Best Commercial Utility Vehicle by the Car Awards Group, Inc., the Super Carry is functional, pro-environment and ergonomically designed. It combines superior loading capacity with durability to ensure effortless driving despite heavy cargo loads.

The Suzuki Super Carry comes in different body types perfect for diverse business logistics needs at the following price points:

The Super Carry Cargo Carrier Php 479,000
The Super Carry Cargo Van (CV) Php 529,000
The Super Carry Jeepney Body (JB); and Php 550,000
The Super Carry Utility Van (UV) Php 565,000 **qq**



Petron Foundation General Manager and Petron Corporation AVP for Corporate Affairs Charmaine Canillas and PDG Ronald Dela Rosa together with his wife Nancy Dela Rosa led the ribbon cutting at the inauguration of the PNP-Petron Children's Road Safety Park in Camp Crame.

PETRON Corporation has partnered with the Philippine National Police (PNP) in establishing one of the nation's first interactive road safety parks to provide children and their parents an interesting venue to learn about road safety.

Located inside Camp Crame in Quezon City, the PNP-Petron Children's Road Safety Park is an open space featuring a driving lane that winds across multiple traffic markers and other instructional signages. Here, children can have hands-on experience and learn various rules on how to be safe on the road and extend courtesy to motorists and pedestrians.

Petron, PNP Open Road Safety Park For Kids In Camp Crame



General Ronald de la Rosa at a simulated Petron station to give the park a 'real-world' feel.

As an added feature, it will have its own Petron station to give the park a 'real-world' feel. Also seen throughout the park are bigger-than-life sculptures of popular action figures such as Iron Man and Spider Man to create a 'theme park' vibe.

"Petron has always been a strong advocate of road safety. We have been sustaining programs that ensure safer journeys for all for over 30 years. Through this park, we can start them young and share safety awareness while teaching the values of responsibility, respect, and regard for rules," Petron Foundation General Manager Charmaine V. Canillas said.

The PNP-Petron Children's Road Safety Park builds on the strategic partnership between Petron and the PNP under the Lakbay Ligtas program which utilizes Petron service stations to

increase police visibility nationwide. There are now 300 Petron stations under the project and is expected to expand to 1,000 by year-end.

Petron also runs the Lakbay Alalay program which is the longest running motorist assistance project in the country.

The company is also looking to engage the Department of Education in promoting road safety among the millions of primary school children in the country, with the PNP-Petron Children's Road Safety Park as a principal learning venue.

Admission to the park is free of charge but is subject to the existing regulations at Camp Crame. Before entering the park, visitors will be briefed by the PNP-Police Community Relations Group (PCRG) on road safety rules and practices. A PNP Museum Tour is also be included in the itinerary for those who are on tour in the camp, or are merely there to visit.

The opening of the PNP-Petron Children's Road Safety Park supports the Decade of Action (2011-2020) for Road Safety by the United Nations which calls on member nations to craft and implement their own road safety action plans to reduce fatalities by 2020. It is also in time for the U.N.'s Global Road Safety Week on May 10. **qq**



2016 Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk: The Capable Compact SUV

THE Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk delivers legendary Jeep 4x4 capability, fuel ratings of up to 31 miles per gallon (tested on US highways), superior on-road ride and handling, nine-speed automatic transmission, world-class craftsmanship, class-exclusive technology, and more than 70 available advanced safety and security features.

In time for the Jeep brand's 75th anniversary, new in 2016 are Rhino Clear Coat and Light Brownstone exterior colors and driver comfort enhancements to the steering column tilt, instrument cluster, and front seats.

The 2016 Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk comes with an innovative 4x4 system for best-in-class 4x4 capability in all weather conditions. It is the first compact SUV to feature rear-axle disconnect, resulting in reduced energy loss when 4x4 capability isn't needed – improving fuel efficiency. The rear-axle disconnect seamlessly switches between two- and four-wheel drive for full-time torque management and does not require input from the driver.

The Jeep Active Drive Lock includes a two-speed PTU with torque management and low range. The 4-Low mode locks the front and rear drive shafts for low-speed power or towing. Low range provides a 2.92:1 gear reduction. The gear reduction allows for enhanced climbing ability as well as outstanding crawl ratios for severe off-road conditions. All 4x4 systems feature the Jeep brand's renowned Selec-Terrain traction control system, which allows the driver to choose the on- and off-road setting for optimum performance. Up to five customized settings are offered: Auto, Snow, Sport, Sand/Mud, and Rock.

The 2016 Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk model exemplifies Jeep's 4x4 capability



with a distinctive, aggressive look, backed up by Jeep Trail Rated hardware, for the most capable compact SUV in the segment. It includes, as standard equipment, aggressive approach and departure angles, complements of the unique front and rear fascias, one-inch factory lift, Jeep Active Drive Lock with locking rear differential, skid plates and signature red tow hooks. The locking rear differential is selectable in any low range terrain mode, but will lock automatically when in certain mode to maximize tractive effort at the tire patch that can support it.

The SUV boasts an approach angle of 28.5 degrees, a departure angle of 32.2 degrees, and breakover angle of 22.8 degrees. Running ground clearance is 8.7 inches.

The 2016 model with the standard off-road package is trail rated. The "Trail Rated" badge indicates that the vehicle is designed to perform in a variety of challenging off-road conditions identified by five key consumer-oriented performance categories: traction, ground clearance, maneuverability, articulation, and water fording.

The 2016 Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk premium on-road manners and fuel efficiency are a result of a number of efforts

by Jeep engineers. Powered by a 2.4-liter MultiAir2 Tigershark I-4 engine mated to a segment-first nine-speed automatic transmission, the Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk delivers the power drivers appreciate on the road without sacrificing fuel efficiency.

The Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk was engineered with more than 70 available safety and security features. It starts with a strong foundation, constructed with 65 percent high-strength steel. Engineers then added both active and passive safety and security features, including ParkSense Parallel and Perpendicular Park Assist; Adaptive Cruise Control-Plus; Forward Collision Warning-Plus; LaneSense Departure Warning-Plus; electronic stability control (ESC); electronic roll mitigation; Blind-spot Monitoring; Rear Cross Path detection; ParkView rear backup camera with dynamic grid lines, seven standard air bags and much more.

The 2016 Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk boasts numbers that make the difference for the SUV customer who cares about fuel economy and capability in all weather conditions: fuel economy of up to 31 mpg, more than 70 safety and security features, numerous industry and segment firsts, a nine-speed automatic transmission, 2.4-liter MultiAir2 Tigershark I-4 engine delivers up to 184 horsepower and 171 lb.-ft. of torque.

The Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk compact SUV will offer consumers nine different exterior colors from which to choose: Bright White Clear Coat, Brilliant Black Crystal Metallic Clear Coat, Billet Silver Metallic Clear Coat, Deep Cherry Red Crystal Pearl Coat, Light Brownstone Clear Coat, Mango Tango Pearl Coat, Granite Crystal Metallic Clear Coat, True Blue Pearl Coat, and Rhino Clear Coat. **QQ**



UNDER INFLATION



OVER INFLATION



PROPER INFLATION



Best Tread Wear

The Importance of Proper Tire Inflation

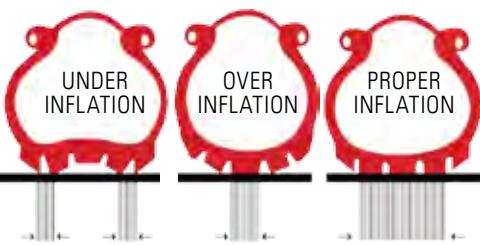
WHEN driving, the main concern of every motorist, passenger or commuter begins with the Letter S : Safety.

Of all the variables that determine road safety, the easiest factor to control is the part of the vehicle that is in direct contact with the road: Tires.

According to Michelin, a tire company that always has safety in mind, the tire has to provide sufficient grip when turning and braking on both dry and wet roads. Grip is ensured by the contact area between the tire and the road – a tiny patch no bigger than one's hand.

It is essential to have tires inflated at just the right, prescribed pressure because too little air will result in an over-sized contact area that can create unwanted behavior from the tires or the vehicle itself. Too much air, in turn, can reduce that contact area and make the vehicle "teeter" on the road.

Alas, not many drivers take tire pressure seriously. But safety and proper tire care cannot be achieved without proper tire inflation. It is key to keeping tires in their optimal and safest state.



UNDER INFLATION

What happens when your tires are underinflated?

- Too little air in your tire can cause tire deflection, a condition where the radius of the tire changes when a heavy load is placed on it.

• Because it causes heat, deflection leads to irreversible deterioration of internal components of the tire. This can result in the destruction of the tires' air-tight integrity and cause rapid air loss.

- Low tire pressure also generates abnormal wear similar to the rim being too wide.
- Because of the uneven wear in the tire, tire longevity is affected.

OVER INFLATION

On the other hand, over-inflated tires can be dangerous as well.

- Too much air causes the tire to run hard and be more vulnerable to impacts.
- It also generates abnormal wear similar to the rim being too narrow.
- The ride is hard and uncomfortable and the tire has less grip.
- Tire longevity also decreases due to uneven wear.
- When a tire is over-inflated, it causes excessive cable stretching and oxidation which can lead to rupture of the casing.

PROPER INFLATION

But when a tire has the correct tire pressure, there is good traction, braking capability, durability and safety.

Car performance is optimized and car safety is increased because the car is balanced and its contact with the road is neither too flat nor too "sharp". 

Here's what to do to ensure that your tires are properly inflated.

- Check tire pressure regularly, ideally once a week or at least once a month and before long trips.
- Always inflate tires based on the recommendation of the vehicle manufacturer and not the pressure on the tire's sidewall. (You can find the manufacturers recommendation in the manual, on the edge of the driver's door, on a door post or on the inside of the glove box door.)
- Some pickups and SUVs have light-truck tires marked as "LT" on the sidewalls. The recommended inflation pressure for light-truck tires varies based on load.
- Use an accurate air-pressure gauge to check pressure and maintain it at the recommended level.
- Never, ever take tire pressure for granted, says Michelin, and make sure you always have a spare tire available.



MPTC lines up P153-B infrastructure projects

THE Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC) has lined up a number of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Projects and expansion projects worth Php153 billion, in a bid to boost infrastructure and development programs and help traffic decongestion initiatives of the government.

Among the PPP Projects in the pipeline are the Php23.3-B NLEX-SLEX Connector Road, the P55.9-B Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX) and the Php11.7-B Cavitex C5 South Link to link expressways in the North and the South. In the Visayas, the Php27.9 Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway has also started construction.

These projects are envisioned to support the government's "Build Build Build" infrastructure program aimed at moving the country forward by improving the economy of new growth corridors in Luzon and VisMin with infrastructures that facilitate faster and efficient transport of people and goods.

Aside from the PPP Projects, MPTC is also increasing the capacity of NLEX by constructing additional lanes and exits, and expanding toll plazas and interchanges. SCTEX pavement and traffic management and safety enhancements are also being upgraded. A total cost of Php1.8-B has been invested in these upgrades along the NLEX and the SCTEX.

The expansion projects, along with MPTC's yearly motorist assistance program, are meant to give more convenience to motorists, particularly during Holy Week where there is a 15% increase in traffic in MPTC's expressways.

"The expansion projects will hopefully ease up travel time, while the SMSK will enhance all services along the NLEX, SCTEX and CAVITEX for a safe and comfortable journey," says Rodrigo Franco, MPTC president.

"With these projects in the pipeline, we will see a great improvement in traffic decongestion in Metro Manila as we embark



on more infrastructure projects to connect the North and the South," Franco added.

"These investments, along with the enhanced services of the SMSK during Holy Week and other holidays, will hopefully shorten the time spent by motorists on the road, so that they can have more time for productive work and more quality time for their loved ones," Franco said. **aq**

In a country where poorly maintained roads, and epic traffic jams in sweltering heat are the norm rather than the exception, a reasonable annual fee for 24/7 nationwide Emergency Roadside Assistance and towing is an investment worth considering.

Getting emergency roadside assistance free is even better, especially if it comes from a company of unquestionable reliability. This is exactly what Goodyear is now offering to Filipino motorists as it rolls out the new and improved Worry Free Assurance, the first, latest, and most comprehensive warranty coverage from this tire maker.

Goodyear's Worry-Free Assurance is attached not to a car that will last 10-15 years but to a set or even just a pair of tires that can last even up to three years, depending on mileage and vehicle



Kenneth Sambajon, Market Director - Goodyear Philippines

Unbeatable Worry-Free Driving with Goodyear



condition. There is no tire company in the Philippines more reputable than Goodyear that offers this kind of service. Goodyear is a household name in the Philippines, it is one of the biggest and oldest tire companies in the world. If any company has the stability, the knowhow, and the resources to confidently offer a 24/7 Emergency Roadside Assistance nationwide in the Philippines, it is Goodyear.

The Goodyear Worry-Free Assurance is now the standard warranty coverage that comes with select models of Goodyear tires. Fulfilled in partnership with MAA Assurance as the insurance and emergency roadside assistance partner, the Worry-Free Assurance guarantees 24/7 Emergency Roadside assistance not just for tire-related incidents, but for any vehicle breakdown as well as a Personal Accident Insurance of up to P50,000 for the driver of the enrolled vehicle. Also included in the coverage are Goodyear's 5 year limited warranty (from

date of purchase) against manufacturer defects, one year Road Hazard Warranty (for select tire patterns) and an easy 0% interest payment scheme for up to 6 months.

Getting a Goodyear Worry-Free Assurance card is FREE with the purchase at least two eligible Goodyear tires of the same pattern and size. This is exclusively offered in Goodyear Autocare and Servitek outlets. The vehicle the tires are used on then becomes eligible for Worry Free Assurance and all of its benefits.

"Goodyear is committed to being the most trusted brand in tires and automotive services in the country. Recognizing that high quality services are extremely important to our customers in the maintenance of their vehicles, customers of our Goodyear Autocare outlets will be served by an expert team, who are provided with the latest equipment in auto servicing. And with the new Goodyear Worry Free Assurance warranty program, we are stepping up

and setting the bar high for unparalleled warranty offerings," shared Kenneth Sambajon, Market Director of Goodyear Philippines.

Goodyear believes that the tire business is primarily a business of providing safety, which is why Goodyear scientists and engineers have tirelessly worked to improve Goodyear products for over a hundred years. Goodyear also believes that the commitment to the safety and well-being of customers goes beyond manufacturing superior products. It is ultimately about providing superior service, particularly in times of need. The many Goodyear Autocare and Servitek outlets Goodyear has operated over the years are a testament to that commitment, the rollout of Worry Free Assurance takes that commitment to the next level.

For more information on the Goodyear Worry Free Assurance, please visit: www.goodyear.com.ph

KIA OJT PROGRAM GRADUATES



KIA honors the 2nd batch of graduates of their OJT Program. Present for the ceremony is Mr. Jose Lugtu – NSD Manager (far left), Roberto Garzon Jr. – Technical Trainer (2nd from left), Mr. Lorimer Angeles – Crossroads Training Institute, Inc. (far right), Mr. Arnel Salonga – Business Development OIC (second

from right), Ms. Ginia Domingo – CAC President (third from right) and Mr. Apollo Rosal – Aftersales Director (center back). KIA's OJT program is part of its Dealer Development initiative. Eligible graduates will be referred to KIA dealership for possible employment. **AQ**



New MINI Countryman now on PH shores

MINI Asia and MINI Philippines just launched the new MINI Countryman, the biggest and most versatile model in the brand's 58-year history. Having been completely newly developed, it now reflects considerable advancements in the areas of space, functionality, athletic flair and premium characteristics.

Peter Medalla, Head of MINI Asia, said: "The second-generation MINI Countryman advances the brand within the premium compact segment. MINI fans in the Philippines will be excited to know that their new daily companion is just as nimble on the streets as well as off-roads. We are confident that the new MINI Countryman will deliver fun and excitement every time you get behind the wheel."

Willy Q. Tee Ten, President of MINI Philippines, added: "We are thrilled to offer the new MINI Countryman in the Philippines. It has a powerful expressive design, efficiently shaped bodywork and unmatched driving agility. MINI has a strong following in the Philippines and we believe the new MINI Countryman is the car they have longed to drive every day, everywhere, for every occasion."

The new MINI Countryman is 20 centimetres longer than its predecessor and approximately 3 centimeters wider. Its wheelbase has been extended by 7.5 centimetres. This growth results in significantly increased space on five fully fledged seats as well as a definite increase in storage volume and luggage transport versatility. The raised seating position ensures an excellent view and hallmark driving fun. The rear seats can be shifted longitudinally by up to 13 centimetres. The folding rear backrest offers a 40:20:40 split. It also provides a variable tilt angle so as to be able to either increase seating comfort or gain additional storage space at the rear. The luggage compartment volume is 450 litres and can be extended as required to a total of 1,390 litres. This constitutes a maximum increase of 220

litres as compared to the predecessor model.

The new MINI Countryman features design elements that are typical of the brand, including the clear three-way structure of the side view – broken down into roof, glass section and main corpus – as well as the short overhangs, large wheel arches and downward increase in width. The selection of body finishes includes the variants Island Blue metallic and Chestnut, which are now available for a MINI for the first time. Numerous model-specific design elements such as the striking helmet roof, the upright rear lights, the hexagonal radiator grille and the large headlamps have undergone evolutionary development. The side turn indicator surrounds known as side scuttles exhibit a new arrow-like shape. The roof rails in satin finished aluminium are combined with silver-coloured side sill tops, thereby lending greater visual emphasis to the car's height. Horizontal lines dominate at the rear, with the vertically arranged light units providing an appealing contrast.

LED headlamps with peripheral daytime driving light ring for the first time. The striking profile of the headlamp units deviates from the circular shape that is otherwise typical of the brand.

In the interior of the new MINI Countryman, a clear increase in space, refined premium ambience and a modern display and operating concept reflect the progress achieved through the change of generation. Both driver and front passenger benefit from extended head and shoulder space, while the adjustment range of the seats has also been enlarged. Electrical adjustment of the driver and front passenger seats is optionally available, including a

memory function on the driver's side. The narrow body columns and the high seating position make for optimum visibility when manoeuvring.

With a clear horizontal structure, stretched lines and generously sized surfaces, the distinctively

designed cockpit emphasises the solid character of the new MINI Countryman. The hallmark central instrument is integrated in the instrument panel and is surrounded by an LED ring that provides a lighting display in response to driving situations by way of control feedback.

The high-quality suspension of the new MINI Countryman combines the tried-and-tested principle of a single-joint spring strut axle at the front and a multilink rear axle with a design that is optimised for weight and rigidity as well as a model-specific set up. This lays the foundation for precise handling properties and maximum agility. In addition to this there is an electromechanical steering with Servotronic function, powerful brakes and Dynamic Stability Control DSC.

Driving fun in the new MINI Countryman is based not just on versatility but also on safety and comfort. The standard and optional driver assistance systems are a key factor here. The standard collision warning with city braking function can be extended to include the Driving Assistant system with camera-based active cruise control, pedestrian warning with initial brake function, high beam assistant and road sign detection. In addition to this, Park Distance Control (PDC rear – standard on all variants); (PDC front and rear – optional), rear view camera, Parking Assistant and Head-Up-Display are also optionally available. **QQ**



AAP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL INFORMATION				
<input type="checkbox"/> MR. <input type="checkbox"/> MS. <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. <input type="checkbox"/> CONDUCTION STICKER NO.
1 st				<input type="checkbox"/> GAS <input type="checkbox"/> DIESEL
2 nd				<input type="checkbox"/> GAS <input type="checkbox"/> DIESEL
NOTE: Private, light and non-commercial vehicles only				
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES				
<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> ASSOCIATE INDIVIDUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> MOTORSPORTS		
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-YEAR REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-YEAR ASSOCIATE INDIVIDUAL			
<input type="checkbox"/> PDP	<input type="checkbox"/> ASSOCIATE GROUP	NO. OF CARS _____	Please checkmark if you are applying for PDP and/or GDS	
PAYMENT MODE				
Paid PhP _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash Payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card		
<input type="checkbox"/> BPI's check free payments Visit www.bplexpressonline.com or call 89-100				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pay through Banco de Oro (institution code J0136) 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"/> TERS <input type="checkbox"/> RDL <input type="checkbox"/> PUP <input type="checkbox"/> SALES		
BRANCH: _____	COTIERS _____	
AAP I.D. NO. _____	AMOUNT PAID _____	O.R. 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:

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- Free Personal Accident Insurance
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Website: www.aap.org.ph

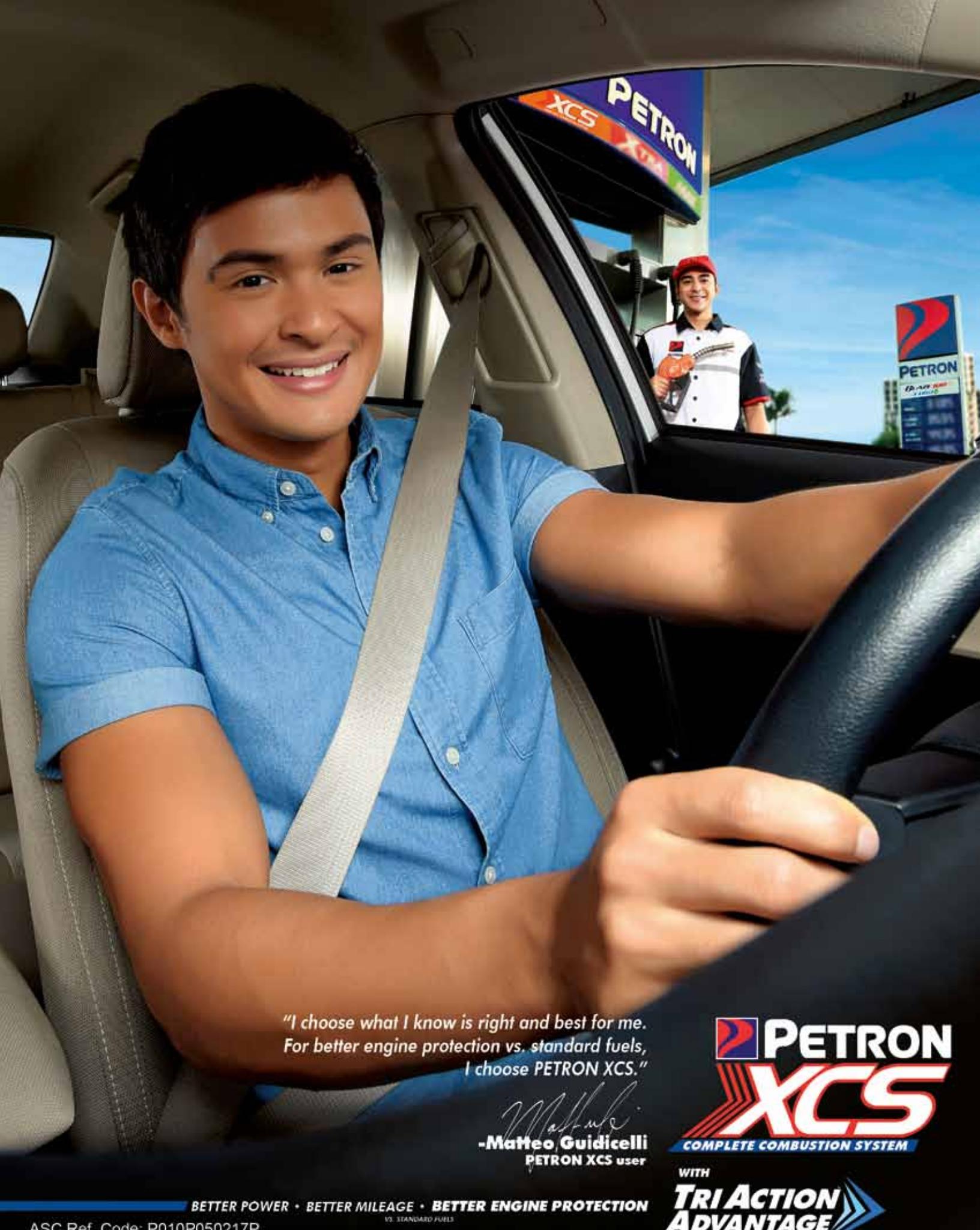
Emergency Roadside Service Hotline: (632) 723 0808

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)



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