

Mitsubishi Motors Philippines officially launches the all-new Xpander



Nissan introduces the NISMO brand in PH



EXPERIENCE THE UNEXPLORED



Make footprints on the roads less traveled

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PHILIPPINES

UNDISCOVERED Experiences

Taking the
2018 Honda CR-V
around historic Bataan



Evolution
of AAP's Logo
Reflects
Its History

AAP and DOT
to Host
2018 FIA Sport
Conference
in Manila

FIRST LOOK:

Isuzu D-Max • Isuzu mu-X • Mitsubishi Xpander • Toyota Hilux •
Mercedes-Benz Sprinter • Lexus UX • Mazda SkyActiv • Kia Picanto



RAV4

A NEW DIMENSION OF ACTION



Exciting design / Exciting features / An exciting experience

REVAMPED FRONT DESIGN

REDESIGNED REAR

DYNAMIC WHEEL DESIGN

SPORTY METER GAUGES

UPGRADED DASHBOARD

COMFORTABLE INTERIOR

VEHICLE ACQUISITION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



*Financing is subject to TFS approval.
**TFS is regulated by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
(consumeraffairs@bsip.gov.ph)
TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES (02) 757-6500



FULL-SERVICE COVERAGE



USED VEHICLES

TOYOTA CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE CENTER
HOTLINE (CAC): (02) 819-2912

VISIT US ONLINE:

OFFICIAL WEBSITE: www.toyota.com.ph

FACEBOOK [ToyotaMotorPhilippines](#)

INSTAGRAM @[ToyotaMotorPhilippines](#)



Ask your Toyota dealer about it.





Gus Lagman
AAP PRESIDENT

The FIA's Impressive Conference-Hosting Tradition

EVER since I became president of AAP in 2005, I have represented the Club in many conferences and annual meetings of the FIA (Federation Internationale de l'Automobile). Each time, I was very much impressed with the relationship that FIA has kept with the culture-related institutions of European governments. The FIA holds special events like awarding ceremonies and gala dinners at historical venues and popular tourist spots.

LET ME CITE SOME EXAMPLES:

Last November, the FIA Prize-Giving ceremony awarding trophies to the 2017 world champion drivers was held at the Palace of Versailles, not far from Paris. The palace was all lit up – interior and exterior - giving it a brilliant, majestic effect. Ushers and usherettes dressed in traditional 16th century costumes contributed to the glittering ambience. Dining in that star-studded gala atmosphere was awesome – just like living a dream!

When the annual FIA Mobility Conference was held in Lake Como, near Milan, Italy, the venue was Villa d'Este, the historical but modernized super luxury hotel overlooking the lake and gardens. During a break in the meetings, we were treated to a

boat ride on the lake. Among the lakeside mansions pointed out to us by the guide were the vacation houses of the Hollywood actor, George Clooney, and the British billionaire founder of the Virgin Group, Sir Richard Branson.

On the 100th anniversary of the FIA, the gala dinner was held at the Louvre, right below the glass pyramid designed by world-famous architect, I. M. Pei.

Just a few years ago, when the Italian club hosted the FIA Annual General Assembly, the venue of the gala dinner was one of the halls in the Vatican Museum. Since the Vatican Museum closes at 6:00 p.m., we were allowed entry only at 7:00 p.m. Before entering the museum, we were divided into groups of approximately twenty people. Each group was allowed to stay about 10-20 minutes to view and appreciate the Sistine Chapel, easily the most famous site in the museum. The dinner was served in one of the halls, which was cleared of the art pieces.

This coming December, the annual general assembly will be held in St. Petersburg, Russia. I will not be surprised if they convert one of the halls of the Hermitage, Russia's most popular museum, into a dining area for the prize-giving ceremony and gala dinner.

In June this year, AAP with the support of the Department of Tourism will be hosting the 2018 FIA Sport Conference. Having experienced and been truly impressed by so many grandiose FIA meetings and conferences in Europe, I hope that we can equal – never mind surpass –the successful hosting of this prestigious international conference of the FIA. 

“ Having been impressed by so many grandiose FIA conferences in Europe, I hope that in June this year we can equal -- never mind surpass-- the successful hosting of the FIA Sport Conference. ”

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 1** Making Motoring Fun Gus Lagman
4 Road Savvy Aida Sevilla Mendoza

6 AAP Club News



16

- AAP and DOT to Host 2018 FIA Sport Conference in Manila
Notice of AAP General Membership Meeting and Elections
Evolution of AAP's Logo Reflects Its History
AAP Member Offers Traffic Solutions
AAP to Award the Best Race Car Drivers of 2017 in April

24 Features

- 26** Nissan introduces the NISMO brand in PH
Performance and Comfort in the
Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Van

28 Motoring News



22

Moss Park: A hidden gem in Orlando



20

Experience the unexplored
Make footprints on the roads less traveled



18

COVER STORY
Taking the 2018 Honda CR-V
around historic Bataan



EDITORIAL

AAP PRESIDENT
Gus Lagman

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Armin A. Amio

WRITERS
Angelo Perez
Joyce Reyes-Aguila

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Danny Hernando

AAP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Augusto C. Lagman
President

David L. Arcenas
Trustee
Chairperson, Membership & Admin Committee

Juan B. Angeles
Vice-President
Chairperson, Advocates & Gov't Liaison Committee

Armando L. Eduque
Trustee
Chairperson, Motor Sport Committee

Augustus V. Ferreria
Treasurer
Chairperson, Finance Committee

Guillermina T. Gabor
Trustee
Chairperson, Travel & Tourism Committee

Ricardo Guevara
Trustee
Chairperson, Marketing Committee

Augusto M. Cosio
Trustee,
Chairperson, Governance & Audit Committee

Aida Sevilla Mendoza
Trustee
Chairperson, Publications & Public Relations Committee

Email: info@aap.org.ph • Website: www.aap.org.ph

ADVERTISING

BEZAM MARKETING CONSULTANCY
Bess Zamora

Email: AAPQuarterly@gmail.com

dq is published every quarter by the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP), a non-profit, non-tax, non-governmental organization dedicated to serving and promoting the interests of the motoring public.

MONTERO SPORT GT

"The more you move on,
the more ready you are
to achieve success again."

Tim Cone
Champion Coach



There is a road that leads you beyond your achievements. With top-notch safety and other class-leading features, take it with confidence in the 2017 Montero Sport GT.

No matter what road you're faced with, you can take it on in full confidence with the Montero Sport's top-of-the-line safety features that wrap you and your family in a cocoon of safety. And with its luxurious and spacious interior, unrivaled ride comfort and more, you've got a ride that lets you go beyond success.

TOP-NOTCH SAFETY FEATURES:



Ultrasonic Misacceleration Mitigation System (UMS)

To help prevent parking collisions, the UMS controls engine output if you suddenly accelerate forward or reverse by accident.



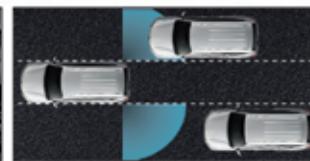
Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC)

The ACC maintains your desired distance with the car ahead of you via radar to lend driving assistance and enhance driving comfort during highway cruising with traffic.



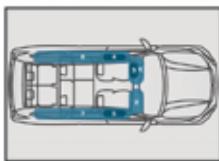
Forward Collision Mitigation System (FCM)

The FCM system is a radar-based automatic emergency braking system.



Blind Spot Warning System (BSW)

The BSW uses ultrasonic sensors to detect vehicles near the side and rear quarters of the Montero Sport.



7 SRS Airbags

Dual front, side, curtain, and knee airbags protect you all around.

STANDARD FEATURES:



2.4L Clean Diesel Engine with MIVEC - 181 Ps • 430 N•m
Variable valve timing allows the engine to achieve an impressive combination of optimum power, high fuel efficiency and low emissions.



8-Speed Automatic Transmission
The first in its class transmission is designed to maximize fuel efficiency and engine power.



Luxurious and Spacious Interior



Car Awards Group, Inc.
2017 Best 4WD SUV

Visit your nearest Mitsubishi Motors dealer now!

Engineered Excitement

MITSUBISHI
MOTORS
Drive your Ambition

Vehicle color may vary from actual unit - The Montero Sport is available in the following variants: GT 4WD 8-speed A/T • GLS 4WD 6-speed M/T • GLS Premium 2WD 8-speed A/T • GLS 2WD 8-speed A/T • GLX 2WD 6-speed M/T

Like us on Mitsubishi.Motors.Philippines.Corp

@mitsubishimotorsph

www.mitsubishi-motors.com.ph



Aida Sevilla Mendoza
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

AAP Has Always Been Travel-Oriented

ONG before the Philippine Motor Association (PMA) changed its name to Automobile Association Philippines and organized AAP Travel, it was conducting local tours for its members.

LI remember joining a two-day tour of Ilocos Norte with my youngest daughter in 1987, the year after EDSA 1 ousted President Ferdinand Marcos from power.

Some PMA members drove their own cars, but I chose to ride the tour bus that the club provided. What impressed me most about the Ilocos region, a Marcos bailiwick, were the well-maintained paved roads and the “Marcos pa rin” (“We’re still for Marcos”) graffiti seen all over. We enjoyed the trip thoroughly because it was efficiently organized.

Since 2010, AAP Travel has been providing the best travel experience for its members and friends through Drive Caravans, a highly specialized tour that enables participants to discover and explore local destinations in the convenience of their own cars while traveling with a guided convoy.

Each caravan has a theme and is co-organized with the Department of Tourism (DOT) regional office, the local government officials of the stopover and final destinations, and the local tourism office, resorts, hotels, and restaurants. Every caravan has a fuel partner such as Petron or Caltex and AAP’s official ambulance partner, Aeromed.

The arrangements are facilitated by former Tourism Secretary Mina Gabor, who heads AAP Travel as an AAP board member and still maintains many contacts in the DOT. The local government officials assign motorcycle police escorts to guide the caravan and guarantee security for the participants.

The provincial governors and mayors along the route or at the final destination usually host lunch, dinner or snacks for the caravan participants, who get to taste the native delicacies and fruits of

the region aside from shop for its special products.

For instance, when we motored to Laoag, Ilocos Norte Governor Imee Marcos hosted dinner for the caravan participants at the Malacanang Palace of the North. The foreign ambassadors who had joined the caravan were thrilled.

By the end of December 2015, AAP had successfully organized eleven caravans to a variety of destinations such as a Fly-Drive to Bacolod and Iloilo, a Cruise-Drive to Mindoro and road trips to the Ilocos region, Subic-Clark, Banawe, Laguna, Cavite and Batangas.

AAP president Gus Lagman and his wife Tessie often join the caravans to show their support. I myself joined the caravans to Ilocos region, Subic-Clark, Laguna, Cavite and Batangas.

In 2016, AAP Travel conducted two caravans: a Fly-Drive to Batanes, and a Fly-Drive to Bohol. This year, a caravan to Dumaguete and a Fly-Drive to Iloilo are planned.

All this time, AAP Travel head Mina Gabor has been actively promoting farm tourism. In 2011, she founded the International School for Sustainable Tourism in Subic with some AAP support where eco-tourism and farm tourism courses are part of the curriculum.

Thanks partly to Mina Gabor’s advocacy of farm tourism, last October the DOT launched its “It’s More Fun in the Philippine Farms” program. DOT Secretary Wanda Teo said: “The country teems with rich agricultural destinations nurtured by our hardworking farmers, who we now recognize as major stockholders in an inclusive and sustainable tourism industry.”

Farm tourism can be an unexplored experience for people who live in cities since some farm tours include participation in interactive on-farm activities such as tending to farm animals, planting, harvesting and processing of farm products.

Aside from an unexplored experience, farm tourism generates an appreciation of the local culture, heritage and traditions through personal contact with the local people. **AQ**

**“ Since 2010,
AAP Travel has
been providing
the best travel
experience for
its members
and friends
through Drive
Caravans ”**



Way of Life!

The All-New

VITARA

It Lives.

20.57

Km/L

Full Economy Rating
2DOE Fuel Economy Run 2017
Highway driving only / Vitara GLX

2017 Best Subcompact Crossover

Car Awards Group, Inc.



Panoramic Sunroof (GLX)

10 inch Android Infotainment Audio with Navigation System (GLX)

6 Speed Automatic Transmission with Paddle Shifter

6 Point Airbag System (GLX)

Spacious Luggage Space with 60:40-Split Rear Seats

For inquiries, call or visit your nearest Suzuki Automobile dealership:

Metro Manila

Suzuki Auto Alabang: (02) 659-2954
 (02) 659-2955 / (02) 659-3047 / (02) 698-7822
 Suzuki Auto Commonwealth: (02) 952-4466 / (02) 914-1115
 Suzuki Auto E. Rodriguez St. Ave.: (02) 726-2709 / (02) 419-2813 / (02) 570-4072
 Suzuki Auto East Ave.: (02) 294-3568
 (02) 931-4081 / (0917) 801-8855 / (0943) 411-8258
 Suzuki Auto Kalookan: (02) 365-3011
 (02) 364-9093 / (02) 366-6469 / (02) 366-6547
 Suzuki Auto Makati: (02) 844-3954 local 10 to 11
 (0906) 569-2190
 Suzuki Auto Manila Bay: (02) 810-4139
 Suzuki Auto Pasig: (02) 696-6258 / (02) 708-4092
 (02) 886-7893 loc. 105 / (0928) 830-3421 / (0905) 913-4408
 Suzuki Auto Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong: (02) 531-3180
 (02) 531-3181
 Suzuki Auto Sucat: (02) 623-5049 / (0917) 566-0547
 Suzuki Auto U.N. Ave. Manila: (02) 256-7574
 (0917) 527-3668

Luzon

Suzuki Auto Angeles: (02) 519-4507
 (045) 888-4792 / (0918) 449-3320
 Suzuki Auto Batangas: (0905) 709-2692
 Suzuki Auto Calamba: (0905) 513-8270
 Suzuki Auto Isabela: (0917) 577-8646
 Suzuki Auto Lipa: (043) 702-2225 / (0921) 352-3019
 Suzuki Auto Miga: (048) 434-2246 / (0917) 316-3756
 Suzuki Auto Nueva Ecija: (044) 329-0637
 (0923) 547-3971 / (0928) 209-6368
 Suzuki Auto Palawan: (048) 434-1775
 (0917) 632-4577 / (0926) 657-6734
 Suzuki Auto Pangasinan: (045) 606-8248
 (0906) 510-3973 - c/o Terica dealer
 Suzuki Auto Pampanga: (044) 913-1977 / (02) 519-4457
 Suzuki Auto Pateros: (044) 804-7000 / (0917) 854-2119
 Suzuki Auto San Fernando: (045) 961-3573 / (0906) 854-2119
 Suzuki Auto Sta. Rosa: (0422) 209-4872 / (0927) 590-4777
 Suzuki Auto Tarlac: (045) 606-8248
 (0906) 166-8802 / (0929) 142-3446
 Suzuki Auto Teytay: (02) 727-1261 loc. 109
 (093) 724-9155 / (0927) 782-6882

Visayas and Mindanao

Suzuki Auto Bacolod: (034) 435-0268
 (034) 434-8051 / (0946) 466-8044
 Suzuki Auto Bohol: (050) 501-7874
 Suzuki Auto Dumaguete: (035) 419-8255
 (0917) 771-8087
 Suzuki Auto Iloilo: (033) 509-5921 / (033) 321-0935
 Suzuki Auto North Cebu: (032) 345-8892
 (032) 345-8893 / (032) 345-8898 / (0917) 831-8995
 Suzuki Auto South Cebu: (032) 234-0648
 (0917) 943-8044 / (0925) 578-8854
 Suzuki Auto Ormoc: (033) 561-2005
 (0917) 566-1014 / (0925) 502-7419
 Suzuki Auto Roxas: (036) 6515-106 / (0917) 728-7136
 Suzuki Auto Tacloban: (053) 523-0133 / (0906) 859-0641
 Suzuki Auto Cagayan de Oro: (088) 880-0543
 (0917) 512-6792 / (0922) 504-7618
 Suzuki Auto Davao: (082) 296-3140 / (0906) 856-0443
 Suzuki Auto Gen. Santos: (083) 552-1787
 (0933) 580-0538 / (0915) 752-0440
 Suzuki Auto Zamboanga: (062) 926-3247
 (062) 955-1138 / (062) 955-7065 / (0927) 671-5380
 Suzuki Auto Ozamiz: (088) 545-3146
 (0912) 545-3134 / (0916) 910-5204

Satellite Branches

Anaeta Center Cubao: (02) 282-7431
 Baguio City: (074) 620-4013
 Butuan: (085) 815-2135
 Chinatown Binondo Manila: (02) 254-7573
 Dasmarinas Cavite: (02) 552-5903 / (046) 458-8255
 (0933) 736-1490 (Service) / (0655) 803-9161 (Sales)
 JP Roxas: (02) 801-7309
 Legazpi City: (054) 480-2888
 (052) 480-2888 / (0917) 566-0540
 Mactan: (032) 484-0051
 Malibcon Bulacan: (044) 787-8620
 Pasong Tamo: (02) 817-2007
 Quezon Ave.: (02) 523-8654
 San Juan Manila: (02) 624-1913 / (02) 997-7841
 San Pablo Laguna: (049) 563-1809
 Sto. Tomas Batangas: (096) 729-9430
 (0975) 498-2520
 Kalibo: (036) 500-8474 / (0917) 700-0409
 BGC: (02) 810-5504 / (0916) 548-5631
 (0948) 142-9597 / (0815) 838-8210
 Tagum: (0933) 187-2069

Suzuki Customer Care Hotline: (02) 462-5000

Like Us @ facebook.com/SuzukiAutoPh | www.suzuki.com.ph/auto

ASC Reference Code S005P012318SW



At the turnover ceremony, seated left to right: FIA SC 2018 National Organizing Council Committee Government Sector Chair/ DOT Assistant Secretary Frederick Alegre, FIA Sport Conference Project Director Frederique Trouve, AAP President Gus Lagman, DOT Undersecretary Allan Canizal. Standing: National Organizing Council Committee Private Sector Co-Chair/AAP Trustee and Motor sport Chair Mandy Eduque, National Organizing Council Committee Private Sector Chair/AAP Trustee and Tourism and Travel Committee Chair Mina T. Gabor, FIA Events Manager Martin Lalande and DOT National Capital Region Director Cynthia Lazo. Not in photo: FIA Head of Travel Pierre-Yves Val.

AAP and DOT to Host 2018 FIA Sport Conference in Manila

OVER 400 delegates from 245 FIA member organizations in 143 countries are arriving in Manila for the June 4-6, 2018 FIA Sport Conference (FIA SC).

The Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) is the governing body of all four-wheel motor sport worldwide. The FIA SC is the annual gathering of representatives of the FIA's National Sporting Authorities (NSAs) and mobility clubs.

The Automobile Association Philippines, the only FIA-affiliated NSA and mobility club in the country, will host the Conference with the support of the Department of Tourism (DOT) and corporate sponsors including Petron as the official fuel partner, SMC Asia Car Distributors Corporation (BMW Philippines) and Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. as logistics partners.

"We look forward to welcoming this June the FIA delegates from all over the world who are involved not only in motor sport but also in mobility since safety and sustainable tourism are key components of FIA activities," AAP president Gus

Lagman said at a press conference on February 14. "This truly marks a significant milestone in Philippine tourism, as well as in Philippine motor sport."

"We are very happy with this news and the Department of Tourism is in full support of this event since we want to bring awareness to motoring tourism in the Philippines," said DOT Assistant Secretary Ricky Alegre. "We all know that this is something that has long been delayed and thanks to the efforts of our friends in the AAP, this is now becoming a reality."

Before the press conference, the FIA formally turned over to AAP the official hosting duties of the sport conference, which will be the sixth and the first in Asia. The annual FIA SC was previously held in London, Munich, Mexico City, Turin and Geneva.

"AAP has been very active in participating in FIA conferences and we have seen their loyalty and motivation in promoting motor sport among the youth through efforts such as the Motor Sport Development Program," FIA SC Project Director Frederique Trouve said. "They have also organized many activities in terms of training in road safety."

Trouve said that at this year's sport conference, the FIA plans to integrate road safety with motor sport. "We need to educate the new generation about motor sport. "One of the most difficult things to do is to attract the youth to this sport and we aim to do this through road safety."

FIA Events Manager Martin Lalande revealed that the FIA plans to invite schoolchildren to the extrication demo and motor sport demonstrations aside from opening some parts of



Trouve emphasized the need to attract the youth to motor sport by integrating it with road safety.



DOT Undersecretary Canizal said that aside from DOT, the PNP, AFP, MMDA and pertinent LGUs have also pledged their support for the FIA SC.



DOT Assistant Secretary Alegre said that the FIA SC fits the DOT's goal to boost tourism through sports and adventure.

the three-day conference to the general public.

The motor sport activities planned are drifting, gymkhana, slalom, e-karting and the FIA-certified online Gran Turismo Asian Regional Finals Championship.

Lalande added that a seminar for senior officials in the Asia-Pacific region may take place before the conference.

An important component of the FIA SC is the MotorEx, an industry-themed showcase and platform for the analysis of future trends and opportunities in motor sport. It will feature key decision-makers, event promoters and leading figures from racing and rallying.

It is also during the FIA SC that the World Motor Sport Council meeting is held, where decisions are made on rules, regulations, safety and the development of motor sport at every level from karting to Formula One. **QQ**



Trouve hands over to AAP president Lagman the letter from FIA president Todt formally turning over the hosting of the 2018 FIA Sport Conference to AAP.



Car Awards Group, Inc.

2017 BEST MINIBUS

FEELS “LIKE A CAR”, MOVES LIKE A WINNER

We're deeply honored for the H350's victory.



"Despite its size, it still handled like a car," says Ronald De Los Reyes, President of the Car Awards Group Inc. (CAGI) about CAGI's choice for

the Best Minibus of 2017, the Hyundai H350. This milestone, following the H350's role in the ASEAN 50 simply means one thing:

It's just business as usual for the luxury powerhouse that lets you carry your business with pleasure.





NOTICE OF AAP GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND ELECTIONS

THE 87th AAP Annual General Membership Meeting and Elections will be held on April 26, 2018, Thursday, at the Ang Bahay ng Alumni, Ramon Magsaysay Avenue, University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City. Registration starts at 2:00 pm.

NOMINATIONS TO THE AAP BOARD

In preparation for this year's general membership and annual elections, the AAP Nominations Committee is accepting nominations for the 2018 - 2019 Board of Trustees. Regular AAP members in good standing (with no unpaid obligations) may submit nominations to the Nominations Committee. The deadline for the submission of nominations is on April 12, 2018.

NOMINEES SHOULD MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Must be a regular AAP member for at least one year
- Must be able and willing to devote time and energy to attend meetings and activities of the AAP as a member of the Board of Trustees.
- Must send a brief resume to the Nominations Committee, c/o AAP Executive Office, 10/F, AAP Tower, 683 Aurora Blvd., Quezon City 1112.
- Must be present at the AAP General Membership Meeting on April 26, 2018.
- Must pass the evaluation of the Nominations Committee. The evaluation will focus on the willingness of the nominee to volunteer his/her time and energy to the association.

AAP Offers New Discounts to Members Nationwide

THE Automobile Association Philippines' (AAP) list of partners just keeps growing with the addition of Dentissimo Dental Clinic, DLS Travel & Tours Corporation, Skin Benefits, and Clean Nature Emission Testing Center offering discounts to AAP members across the country.

In Davao, AAP members can avail of P500 flat rate for prophylaxis at Dentissimo Dental Clinic. Book your next appointment with Mr. Marvin Danuco at 0933 341 3508. Get your pearly whites thoroughly cleaned at their dental clinic at Quimpo Blvd, Brgy 39-D in Davao City.

Aside from dental care, Davao AAP members can also enjoy up to 15% off on agency transactions, except for airfare, when you book with DLS Travel & Tours Corporation. Drop by their office at Sandawa Rd. Matina, Brgy. Bucara, Davao City or phone Mr. Dave Louie Siega at (082) 298 0021 or 296 9583 to plan your next summer adventure.

Additionally, get your skin ready for summer with Skin Benefits. Their aesthetics center is offering 5% discount on cosmetic surgery and free doctor's consultation on dermatologic and aesthetic concerns except for pathologic skin diseases. For first time visits, AAP members can get up to 50% on any of these skin care services:

- Clean Crystal facial with Diamond Peel
- Whitening facial with Iontophoresis
- Anti-Aging Facial
- Non-surgical Facelift Facial
- Gluta Drip
- LIPOFIRM
- LIPOSHAPE
- FSD Facial Laser
- IPL Laser Hair Removal
- IPL Laser Hair Removal Underarm
- Electrocautery Warts (Face & Neck)
- Body Mega Peel
- Neck Whitening C-Cote Treatment
- Underarm Whitening C-Cote Treatment
- Microdermabrasion

Come visit Skin Benefits at 2D JNM Building, cor. Don Matias St., Holy Spirit Drive, Don Antonio Heights, Quezon City. Inquiries and appointment bookings can be coursred through Dr. Caroline Castro at (02) 401 55 25, (02) 288 1976 or (+63) 9235 282 772.

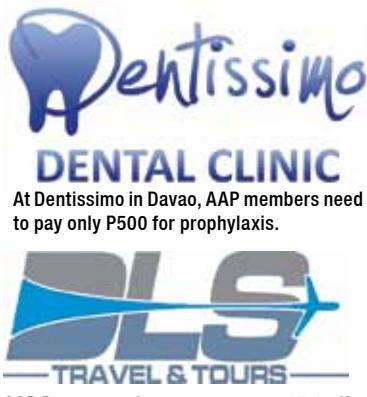


Clean Nature Emission Testing Center has two Quezon City locations where club members can get P50 off on emission testing fees.

In addition to taking care of our motorists, AAP has partnered with Clean Nature Emission Testing Center to take care of the motorist's vehicle as well.

Club members can visit any of the Clean Nature Emission Testing Centers and get P50 off on emission testing for each vehicle tested. Call Mr. Nelson Sy at 516 61 90 or 4119646 for any inquiries or schedule your next emission test at either of their two Quezon City centers: one at 80 R. Magsaysay Blvd. Ext Brgy. Dona Melda and the other at 56 Kanlaon St., Brgy. Sta. Teresita.

For the complete list of AAP Partners and details on service and product discounts, please call 723 0808 or visit our website at www.aap.org.ph. You can also follow @aaphilippines in Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for the latest updates on AAP membership benefits.



Skin Benefits offers free consultation, 5% discount on cosmetic surgery and 50% off on selected services for your first visit.

Caltex Diesel with **TECHRON[®]**

More power to lighten every load

Compared to unadditized diesel



Visit www.caltex.com/ph for more information.

CaltexPhilippines CaltexPH

ENJOY THE JOURNEY



CALTEX



1931: Big blue wings attached to a red car radiator bearing the association's name was the very first symbol of the Philippine Motor Association (PMA).



1964: The PMA's acronym on the radiator was surrounded by a bamboo and rope circle containing the association's full name, place and founding year.



1977: The PMA logo took on a more patriotic look with the association's name written in Maharlika font. The bamboo circle was replaced by a red circle, the wings turned from blue to red, and the founding year was inscribed under the acronym.

Evolution of AAP's Logo Reflects Its History



The National Auto Club
www.aap.org.ph

2018: Three years before its 90th anniversary, AAP added its website address, indicating its online presence and continuous evolution in the digital age.

THE Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) is turning 87 this year. Throughout its history, the club's logo has become a visual testament to its evolution. Now, as the club strengthens its online presence, the symbol of AAP is getting a digital revamp.

OUR PICKUP HAS NEVER LOOKED THIS GOOD

ISUZU
D-MAX
X-SERIES
BLUE POWER EURO 4



Drive up in a real head-turner. Get the Isuzu D-MAX X-Series. With a muscular but sleek look that's hard to ignore.



REAR CARGO SPOILER



ALLOY WHEELS



RADIATOR GRILLE



FRONT SKIRT BUMPER



FOG LAMP GARNISH



ROOF RAIL

METRO MANILA

ALABANG (02) 8071768
COMMONWEALTH (02) 9522760 to 66
EDSA (02) 4104836
GREENHILLS (02) 7221289
MAKATI (02) 8432173
MANILA (02) 5624601 TO 06
PASIG (02) 6713434
QUEZON AVENUE (02) 92671111

Luzon

BATANGAS (043) 7782213
BATANGAS CITY (0917) 2080280
BULACAN (044) 7600004
CABANATUAN (044) 4638215
CAVITE (046) 4722145
DAGUPAN (075) 5220358
ISABELA (078) 6522030
LEGASPI (049) 4291593
MEYCAUAYAN (044) 9131035

VISAYAS

NAGA (054) 4778886
PAMPANGA (045) 4353062
PANGASINAN (075) 5684861
RIZAL (02) 6455558
SAN PABLO (049) 5629996
STA. ROSA (049) 5393269
TARLAC (045) 6066252
TUGUEGARAO (078) 8442920

MINDANAO

BACOLOD (034) 4412050
BOHOL (038) 4120098
CEBU (032) 2340471
DUMAGUETE (035) 4226040
ILOILLO (033) 3366433
LEYTE (035) 3232777
MANDAUE (032) 4222288
TALISAY (032) 2362211

Distributed by: Isuzu Philippines Corporation Trunk Line (02) 7576070; (049) 5410224
Tel. No. (02) 5844801 to 06 • Fax No. (02) 8420202; (049) 5410333

Before this digital revamp, big yellow wings outlined in the same dark blue that emphasizes the bold letters A-A-P is encircled at the background with the words "Automobile Association Philippines;" under the acronym, the founding year 1931 is inscribed; then below "The National Auto Club" is printed in red. This is the organization's identity, a visual cue that when seen as a sticker on the rear windshield of a motor vehicle, it tells other road users that the owner is an AAP member.

But back in 1931 when the auto club was founded, the organization's logo was not etched with the letters A-A-P. It did not even have AAP's name spelled out. Instead, it carried a different moniker—the Philippine Motor Association (PMA).

The original logo design had a vintage-type radiator with wings. PMA was printed in the middle of the radiator and the organization's name was written underneath. It symbolized the very nature of the organization, a club for car enthusiasts.



1986: The PMA logo was redesigned using only the color blue, sleeker wings and a larger, more readable font for the association's name.



2004: The logo was reshaped in oblong and AAP's acronym was inscribed completely in the middle.



2001: When the PMA celebrated its 70th anniversary, its name was changed to Automobile Association Philippines in accordance with the FIA member automobile associations in other countries. Consequently, the logo was altered to reflect the name change with the color yellow added as the background of the "AA" initials at the center.



The National Auto Club

2010: The wings were enlarged and took on a yellow color with the acronym AAP made more prominent on the wings. The founding year was encircled at the bottom and the wording "The National Auto Club" was added below in red letters.

Executive Secretary Jorge Vargas, General Carlos P. Romulo, Albino Sycip and several American expats were among the incorporators.

At a time when there were hardly any cars plying the roads of Manila, this elite group of motoring advocates formed the PMA to promote:

- the enactment of laws on the use of motor vehicles;
- the construction of good and safe roads;
- the practice of road courtesy and safety;
- the development and promotion of tourism; and
- the rights and privileges of all motorists for better and safer motoring.

Housed in one of the rooms at the ground floor of the Manila Hotel, the non-stock and non-profit organization soon opened

its doors to the public. Those who were 18 years old and above and who owned or are interested in motor vehicles were eligible to join the PMA.

Then, under the leadership of prominent businessman Benito Legarda, the PMA was designated as the National Auto Club by President Elpidio Quirino in 1953. Later, the PMA logo was redesigned with the "Philippine Motor Association" placed in the background surrounding the vintage-type radiator with PMA lettering in the middle. The logo was also encircled in bamboo and rope.

At this time, the PMA offered membership benefits and privileges including free limited towing assistance, bail bonds for apprehended members due to traffic violations, personal accident insurance, etc. The club was also given the authority to issue Carnet de Passages en Douane or international customs passes for vehicles and international driving permits as mandated in the 1949 United Nations Convention on Road Traffic.

After Legarda, Dr. Manuel Lim was elected president in 1973. Four years later, the PMA emblem was changed adopting a more patriotic style with the use of the Mahalika font.

By 1982, the National Auto Club's longest-serving trustee was elected president. With lawyer Conrado Ayuyao at the helm, PMA improved greatly as a service organization. It suited the sleek and very clean new style of the club's logo having just one color and readable font.

During this period, the PMA acquired properties at Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City, Makati and Cebu. The auto club acquired state-of-the-art tow trucks and flatbed car carriers. The emergency roadside service fleet grew to accommodate the increasing number of members.

After Ayuyao's demise in 1999, architect Carlos D. Arguelles who was vice

president assumed the presidency. In the year 2000, when the PMA celebrated its 70th anniversary, its name was changed to Automobile Association Philippines in accordance with the names of the other automobile associations around the world. Its logo consequently reflected this transformation.

In 2004, when the incumbent president Augusto Lagman was elected to head AAP, the club's symbol was changed to reflect AAP and not just AA. In 2010, it was again changed to what most people recognize now as the organization's brand identity. This logo crowns the top of the 10-storey AAP Tower that was inaugurated in 2016.

Now, in 2018, as AAP aims to attract millennials as members, the club's digital identity www.aap.org.ph has been added below the logo. **qq**

Remembering the Bataan Death March: 76 Years of Filipino Heroism

THE annual commemoration of Bataan Death March on April 9, 2018 has no longer been a day of mourning for our fallen soldiers. It is now widely recognized as a day to rekindle the spirit of heroism that lies deep in the heart of every Filipino.

Mike Villa-Real, Head of Veterans Bank's Corporate and Consumer Relations Division made the statement as they revealed the line-up of activities for this year's celebration. Besides the highly-anticipated Bataan Freedom Run and Freedom Trail activities, "this year's theme highlights the heroism of both soldiers and civilians during these tumultuous times," added Villa-Real.

Ricardo T. Jose, professor of History from the University of the Philippines, expounded on the heroism and courage shown by civilians during the Death March. These include the army reservists and civilian volunteers who were accepted into the US Army Forces in Far East (USAFFE) as well as the Filipino nurses whose names never made it to the history books.

"During the Death March, Filipino civilians showed their gratitude to the defenders of Bataan by giving them food and water – particularly in the towns of Samal, Lubao, Bacolor, San Fernando and others. They sympathized with their countrymen and the Americans, and came out of their homes with prepared food. The Japanese tried to drive them away and kicked the containers of water and while seizing some of the cooked food. Some of the food was even thrown into the dusty road. The civilians wrapped food in banana leaves and threw these to the prisoners of war since the Japanese kept them away.

Some of the civilians were rudely pushed about, and some may even have been bayoneted and killed. It was a unique show of solidarity between the civilians and the defenders, American, Filipino or whoever. Some looked for relatives or people they knew, but all unselfishly gave whatever they could even though risking life and limb," Jose's essay, delivered at the commemoration of the battle of Bataan, read.

The historian also added apart from giving the prisoners of war (POW) civilian clothes to change into, some brave elderly women snuck some of these POWs by hiding them under their very long skirts.

The same spirit was seen in other areas like Hagonoy and Capas, Tarlac. Besides smuggling food and water to aid the soldiers, some of them tried to help the soldiers escape by ferrying them into bancas (boats) and driving them away to safety. The townspeople also risked their own safety and that of their families by taking in escaped POWs and sheltering them until they were well enough to return to their own families.

The infamous Bataan Death March is recognized as one of the most atrocious war crimes in history. It involved getting some 72,000 captured American and Filipino POWs from Mariveles, Bataan to Camp O'Donnell in Capas Tarlac. The march spans about 66 miles, and the starving and sickly soldiers were made to walk under the scorching heat with barely any food or water.

During the March, the soldiers carried the wounded and helped them on their feet. They tried to not leave anyone behind as best as they could. The cruelty of the Japanese soldiers left more than 10,000 dead after the grueling five-day journey. Strategic landmarks throughout the route include KM



00 in Mariveles, Bataan, the Train Station in San Fernando, Pampanga where the POWs were loaded in cramped box cars for transport, the station and National Shrine at Capas, Tarlac, and Dambana ng Kagitingan on top of Mt. Samat, Bataan.

Efforts are being made to create additional historical markers – including houses, churches, and schools which played a pivotal role in Philippine history.

Meanwhile, now on its 5th year, the Bataan Freedom Run (BFR) slated on April 8, 2018 (Sunday) invites running enthusiasts to follow the route of the historic Bataan

Death March through the province of Bataan beginning at Kilometer Zero in Mariveles. The BFR features a 42-kilometers full marathon, a 21-kilometers half-marathon, as well as 10-kilometers, 5-kilometers, and 1-kilometer courses for all types of runner from pro-runners to kids and even pets. This year's BFR aims to involve more participants from the military and police and members of the US Special Forces will also be invited to join the solo and/or team relays.

Winners will receive cash prizes and medals, while finishers of the 42km marathon will have a finisher's medal and a Bataan Freedom Run Finisher shirt.

On the other hand, the Mariveles-San Fernando-Capas Freedom Trail (Freedom Trail) will be held from March 24 – 25, 2018 and will see participants trace the entire route of the Bataan Death March from Kilometer Zero in Mariveles, Bataan all the way to Capas, Tarlac. There will be three event categories in the Freedom Trail: a 160-kilometer competitive team relay, the Ride for Valor which will be for big bikers, and the Freedom March which will be a torch-passing relay for ROTC and youth groups. This is the second year that the Freedom Trail will be held.

Since 2014, the Philippine Veterans Bank (PVB), with PVAO and the Provincial Government of Bataan along with other partners have held the Bataan Freedom Run in honor of WWII veterans who endured the death march in 1942.

To register and find out more about the Bataan Freedom Run and the Mariveles-San Fernando-Capas Freedom Trail, visit <http://www.bataanfreedomrun.com/>

**Home Loan
100%
Cash Back**



**It's a loan. It's an investment.
It's an affordable way to finance your
dream home with a reward waiting
at the end of the 20-year term.**

CALL: (02) 8573822
MONDAYS-FRIDAYS • 9AM-4PM

You may also visit the nearest PVB Branch in your area or call the following mobile numbers during office hours: 0917.551.6782 (Globe)
0998.958.8782 (Smart)

Veteransbank
A Bank with a Heart for Every Filipino

Member: Basesco and PDC. Regulated by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. For inquiries/complaints, you may call the FCPD Financial Consumer Protection Department at (02) 708-7087 or email consumer@bsip.gov.ph

www.veteransbank.com.ph



Dr. Dizon told AAP Advocacies manager Cynthia Reyes about his ideas on how to improve the traffic situation and thereby promote road safety.

AAP Member Offers Traffic Solutions

"I used to drive all the time. I loved driving here and abroad," Dr. Luis Dizon reminisced. "Now, Manila's traffic is so bad that driving is just exhausting."

Dr. Dizon loves driving and has quite a number of vehicles in his garage. And like many car enthusiasts these days, he'd rather have his vehicles safe in his garage than be stuck in traffic on the mean streets of Metro Manila.

A member of the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) for more than 20 years, Dr. Dizon called up the AAP to offer his thoughts and ideas on traffic solutions and road safety.

First on his list is the stricter implementation of motor vehicle inspection, including emission testing, which according to him should be done annually.

"The government should think about creating or locating these inspection offices/centers at more accessible and more convenient places," he said.

"Can the government implement 'tax free' for motor vehicle spare parts?" Dizon continued, explaining that "It would be easier for vehicle owners or operators to replace worn-out parts that could endanger the lives

of their drivers and other road users."

Dizon also noted the obstructiveness of vehicles especially public utility jeepneys which often pop out of very narrow alleys to cut in front of motorists on a major road.

In addition to his ideas on road safety, Dr. Dizon suggested that the government should establish one hotline number to call in case of a road crash or a road emergency.

When it comes to the private sector helping to reduce traffic congestion, the doctor proposed encouraging owners of vacant lots to allow the property to be used as parking lots, even as pay parking, to lessen the illegal parking of vehicles.

Dr. Dizon suggested that pedestrians and commuters wear clothes with bright colors or busy prints to be more visible to motorists.

He also mentioned that retail establishments should consider having home delivery options so that customers won't have a hard time looking for parking space and then just end up illegally parking.

Lastly, Dr. Dizon urged AAP members to become vigilant and report traffic violators.

Like Dr. Dizon, AAP encourages its members to become role models in following traffic rules and regulations as indicated in the Republic Act 4136 otherwise known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code of the Philippines.

To promote road safety, AAP is actively involved in land transportation issues

 Like Dr. Dizon, AAP encourages its members to become role models in following traffic regulations. 

and was tapped by the government to help draft the implementing rules and regulations of new motoring-related laws, namely the Speed Limiters Act (RA 10916), the new Anti-Carnapping Law (10883) and the Anti-Distracted Driving Act (10913).

If you are an AAP member and would like to share your thoughts and concerns on road safety, traffic, motor sport or green mobility, email us at info@aap.org.ph. You can also call us at 705 3333 loc 207 or message us on our Facebook and Twitter accounts @aaphilippines. 



WE'RE BACK! The AAP Autocare Service Center has re-opened and is here to make sure you'll keep driving without worries! Drop by **682 Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City** now or call **705 14 02** to schedule your next visit.





Petron announces comprehensive Lakbay Alalay program for 2018

PETRON LAKBAY ALALAY, the country's longest running motorist roadside assistance program has evolved over the past three decades from a small group of Petron employees volunteering to spend their Holy Week break to provide emergency aid for car problems like overheating, flat tires, and the like, into a comprehensive year-round program to ensure that with Petron, "the best ang biyahe."

Petron Lakbay Alalay has expanded its focus from ensuring a roadworthy vehicle to taking care of the wellbeing of the motorist and passengers. Now, the Petron Lakbay Alalay program is part of your journey, starting before the trip and extending even after you have returned home from your holiday travels.



Ana M. Neri, Asst. Vice President for Marketing, Petron Corp.

Very much in keeping with the Filipinos' prayerful nature, Petron is encouraging everyone to say the Driver's Prayer every time they get behind the wheel. To ensure that vehicles are roadworthy and properly maintained, participating Petron Car Care Centers and service stations offer free safety checks. If needed, you can then enjoy the convenience of having a preventive maintenance service using Petron's range of world-class engine oils. Part of the public information materials for Petron Lakbay Alalay are safety reminders through banners like "Seatbelts save lives" and "Helmets on, headlights on" along the major thoroughfares.

The Petron Lakbay Alalay road safety component—tagged as the Best Biyahe Caravan—will now be going to seven schools, three communities, and 3 malls, in addition to the usual station activations during long holiday weekends. And, whether you're going off on a road trip or spending staycation time at home, Petron has its Bisita Gasulista campaign to ensure the safety of your family by checking your Petron Gasul LPG tanks for leaks and other dangers.



Bong Pagua, Ana M. Neri, and Cheska Garcia, Petron Corporation

To serve Holy Week motorists, there will be Petron Lakbay Alalay activations on Wednesday, March 28, from 7AM to 4PM, and on Thursday, March 29, from 4AM to 5PM at the following Petron service stations:

- **North Luzon:** PECI NLEX, Marilao Bulacan; Lakeshore NLEX, Mexico, Pampanga; Parkville Km 42 Plaridel, Bulacan; and TPLEX Km 134 Northbound, Pura, Tarlac.
- **South Luzon:** PEC 3 SLEX, San Pedro, Laguna; PNCC Km 44 SLEX, Silang, Cavite; and Star Tollways, Malvar, Batangas.
- **Visayas:** West Diversion Road, Mandurria, Iloilo City; Cebu North Road, Tabok, Mandaue City, Cebu; and Law-An, Talisay, Cebu.
- **Mindanao:** National Highway, Bo. Bulua, Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental; Bgy. Kauswagan, Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental; Diversion Road, Buhangin, Davao City; and National Highway, Ulas, Davao City, Davao del Sur.

On Saturday, March 31, from 7AM to 4PM, and on Sunday, April 1, from 10AM to 8PM, the Petron Lakbay Alalay teams will be at:

- **North Luzon:** PEC 2 NLEX, Bocaue, Bulacan and TPLEX Km 134 Southbound, Pura, Tarlac.
- **South Luzon:** Star Toll, Lipa City, Batangas and MATES, SLEX Km 44, Silang, Cavite.



Since it was first launched during the Holy Week of 1986, Petron Lakbay Alalay continues to be driven by the Lakbayanihan spirit of Petron employee-volunteers. This passion to serve has been nurtured for more than 30 years, continuing to promote safety through empowerment. This tradition of volunteerism is being passed on to the next generation of Petron's rising stars, who will continue to find ways to give Filipino motorists the best ang biyahe experience with Petron.

AAP to Award the Best Race Car Drivers of 2017 in April

The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) will honor the drivers who dominated the races and rallies of 2017 when it celebrates the 23rd Motor Sport Awards Night on April 5, 2018.



In coordination with the 2018 Manila International Auto Show (MIAS), AAP's prize-giving event will take place at the Philippine Trade Training Center in Pasay City.

All year-round, AAP has been continuously organizing and officiating motor sport events as it is the only motoring club authorized by the FIA to regulate and sanction all four-wheel motor sport activities in the Philippines.

Based in Paris, the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) governs all four-wheel motor sport events worldwide including Formula One, the World Rally Championship and 24 Hours at Le Mans.

AAP will award the winners of the Philippine Touring Car Championship Series (PTCC), National Karting Series, Asian Karting Open Championship (AKOC), GT Series and Vios Cup.

Additionally, the six finalists of the third batch of the Motor Sport Development Program will be announced.

The MSDP, a nationwide grassroots program funded by the FIA, has attracted more than 500 young participants in Cebu, Bacolod, Davao, Cagayan de Oro and Metro Manila over the last

three years. MSDP finalists continue with further training that prepares them to compete in motor sport.

The first MSDP batch finalists are Polo Bautista, Jero Consing, Raymond Cudala, Chenee Ang Jimenez, Paolo Santos, and Bernard Michael Santos, while the second batch finalists are Andre Delos Santos, Bien Madriaga, Armand Marcaida, Carlos Marzo, Miguel Reyes and Hazel Ramirez.

The AAP also promotes safety in motor sport by revoking the competition licenses of those who participate in illegal races and by issuing public statements discouraging the organization of and participation in such events.

"Since one of AAP's missions is to promote a sound environment for motorists and the general public as well, as much as possible we want every motor sport activity held in the country to be safe," AAP Trustee and Motor Sport Chairman Mandy Eduque says.

Eduque, a Golden Wheel Award Hall of Fame awardee, urged fellow racers, awardees and competitors alike to "share the responsibility in making sure that safety on the road is as strict as safety on the track." ☙

The poster features the AAP logo at the top center, which includes the text "AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PHILIPPINES SINCE 1931" and the website "www.aap.org.ph". Below the logo, the text "23rd Annual MOTOR SPORT AWARDS" is prominently displayed in large, bold letters, flanked by laurel wreaths. The background is dark blue with geometric patterns. At the bottom left is the logo for the Manila Auto Show, featuring a stylized car and the text "MANILA AUTO SHOW". At the bottom right is the FIA logo with the text "MEMBER OF". The text "5th of April 2018, 6:00 PM" and "Philippine Trade Training Center Pasay City" is centered at the bottom.



as of March 2018

2018 MOTOR SPORT CALENDAR

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
3 2nd Drag Racing BRC	3 4th Drag Racing BRC 7 1st FORS CIS	3 4th Drag Racing BRC 7 - 8 1st National Karting CRT 8 2nd Autocross TBA	7 2nd FORS CIS 7 - 8 1st National Karting CRT 8 2nd Autocross TBA	5 7th Drag Racing BRC 5 - 6 2nd National Karting PALAWAN 6 3rd Leg Slalom ROBINSONS NOVALICHES	3 4th Autocross TBA 9 4th FORS BRC 10 Philippine Endurance Championship BRC 9 - 10 1st AKOC MACAU
11 1st Autocross TBA	10 - 11 2nd X30 CRT 11 1st Leg Slalom ROBINSONS NOVALICHES	14 6th Drag Racing BRC 15 2nd Leg Slalom ROBINSONS STARMILLS	14 6th Drag Racing BRC 15 2nd Leg Slalom ROBINSONS STARMILLS	12 - 13 1st SPARCO CUP BRC 13 3rd Autocross TBA	16 - 17 2nd SPARCO CUP BRC
20 - 21 1st Drag Racing CIS	17 - 18 3rd Drag Racing CIS	24 - 25 5th Drag Racing CIS 25 1st Rallycross Lubao, Pampanga	22 2nd Rallycross Lubao, Pampanga	19 3rd FORS/FV1 BRC 19 - 20 8th Drag Racing CIS 20 4th Leg Slalom NFA COMP CABANATUAN	24 5th Leg Slalom ROBINSONS NOVALICHES 4th Rallycross TBA
24 - 25 1st X30 Series CRT	27 - 28 1st Vios Cup S5 CIS	25 - 27 DRIFTING CIS 27 3rd Rallycross Lubao, Pampanga	27 - 28 1st Vios Cup S5 CIS	25 - 27 DRIFTING CIS 27 3rd Rallycross Lubao, Pampanga	10 MSDP Module 2-3 Iloilo 11 MSDP Gymkhana 2 Iloilo

2018 MSDP CALENDAR

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
3 MSDP Module 1 Manila	4 MSDP Gymkhana 1 Manila	10 - 11 MSDP Module 1 Cebu 11 MSDP Gymkhana 1 Cebu	12 MSDP Module 1 Dagupan	5 MSDP Module 1 Davao 6 MSDP Gymkhana 1 Davao	10 MSDP Module 2-3 Iloilo 11 MSDP Gymkhana 2 Iloilo
17 MSDP Module 1 Dagupan	18 MSDP Gymkhana 1 Dagupan	19 MSDP Module 2-3 Cebu 20 MSDP Gymkhana 2 Cebu	19 MSDP Module 2-3 Cebu 20 MSDP Gymkhana 2 Cebu	16 MSDP Module 1 Manila 17 MSDP Gymkhana 2 Manila	23 MSDP Module 2-3 Bacolod 24 MSDP Gymkhana 2 Bacolod
24 MSDP Module 1 Iloilo 25 MSDP Gymkhana 1 Iloilo	24 MSDP Module 1 Cagayan de Oro 25 MSDP Gymkhana 1 Cagayan de Oro	28 MSDP Module 1 Tagum 29 MSDP Gymkhana 1 Tagum	26 MSDP Module 1 Bacolod 27 MSDP Gymkhana 1 Bacolod	30 MSDP Module 2-3 Davao	



Taking the 2018 Honda CR-V around historic Bataan

Story and photos by ANGELO PEREZ



1

The CR-V's real time 4WD works seamlessly on the sand...



The stiff unibody of the CR-V at work.

I get bored whenever I read history books that wax sentimental about "the good 'ol days". What I really love is traveling. It's what I've been doing for over two to three decades now. Traveling allows me to experience and see for myself how people back then "lived, laughed, loved, and left" (James Joyce).

Experiencing history, however, is an altogether different story.

Honda Philippines recently took the covers off its ever-popular compact crossover, the CR-V, which has been redesigned from top to bottom—and is now in its fifth iteration. Along with the all-new body is a new powerplant fed with diesel fuel. To highlight everything new with the CR-V, Honda organized a well thought-out route around Bataan that showcases loads of history of both the CR-V and the country.

Taking off from the Bonifacio Global City in Taguig, the group of motoring writers set off for Bataan aboard different variants of the "recreational vehicle." Driving northward along the North Luzon Expressway, then west on the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway, we were able to discover the capabilities of the 1.6-liter turbo diesel engine. Exiting at Dinalupihan, the convoy then took the narrower



national highway where we got to experience the vehicle's nimbleness and comfort while snaking through slower traffic as we drove to our first destination in the town of Pilar in Bataan.

Our first stop was at the Mount Samat National Shrine, which was built as a memorial to honor and remember the gallantry of Filipino and American soldiers who fought during World War II. At first, it was a bit awkward for a Japanese brand to

is now called Casa Jaen. The structure is the ancestral house of the Esquivels of Nueva Ecija and was transported piece by piece from Jaen town and was rebuilt to where it sits now in Bagac. Casa Jaen's zaguán (ground floor), which is used to accommodate horses and their carroza (carriages), now serves as the comedor (dining area) for the park visitors.

Following the hearty lunch, we toured the sprawling heritage park, all 400 hectares

an architect, took all the pains in restoring each structure to perfection to showcase the unique craftsmanship of Filipinos. Learned guides are on hand to give visitors the nitty-gritty information on all the structures, with some even sharing some mysterious details.

Aside from getting reacquainted with Filipino heritage, we also got a recap of the CR-V's history, which now spans two decades. After the first-generation CR-V, which became a best-seller in its category,

the all-new 5th-generation model promises to become another one with its palpably striking looks, exciting driver-assist technology, rousing powerplant, and heartening safety features—all of which, can be easily read online.

We woke up early the following morning to take shots of the gorgeous CR-V around the park premises. It



stop at the site where the lives of thousands of Filipino and American soldiers were lost because of them. But on hindsight, it seemed a very honorable thing to do as if it was acknowledging and—hopefully forgiving—whatever wrongs have been done.

For the next stop, we drove down the curvy but smooth roads of Mt. Samat towards the coastal town of Bagac, where Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar is located. This heritage park was built by architect Jerry Acuzar who started his dream project in 1999. Acuzar purchased old structures from different parts of the country, dismantled it, brought all the pieces to Bagac, and rebuilt the structure from the ground up, in the hopes of showcasing our local heritage not only to Filipinos but to the world as well.

From the well-paved roads of the national highway, we turned in to a long, dusty gravel road that led to the entryway of the sprawling heritage park. A sentry garbed in Guardia Civil uniform welcomed us and directed us toward the lobby to check in. It was almost lunch time and we were famished from the three-hour drive. We had to take a travia or electric-powered tram to get to the lunch place, which was about a kilometer away. Riding the travia was an experience. Aside from its crawling pace (same speed as brisk walking), you can feel just about every surface imperfection on the steel tracks—jarring us crazy! That experience made me appreciate how soft the CR-V's ride is and realize, at the same time, how much the suspension system has evolved and improved through time.

Traditional Filipino food was served at the house of Don Hilario Esquivel, which



“ Aside from getting reacquainted with Filipino heritage, we also got a recap of the CR-V's history which now spans two decades. **”**

of it, and were fascinated by the 27 or more bahay na bato that were meticulously reconstructed in this replica town. The site development was well planned and every angle gives a spectacular view of the heritage structures. One day is not enough to take in all the information and enjoy the detail of each structure. Some of the old structures were refurbished and turned into hotel rooms where visitors can stay a day or two—even longer—to enjoy the resort's various facilities.

Going around Las Casas Filipinas enables one to learn the rich heritage and culture of Filipinos. Each structure or casa, as they call it, comes from an elite and is backed up by a story to tell. Acuzar, being

was a perfect site to take photos as the old blended very well with the new!

Part of the day's activities included a drive to an unlikely place in Morong, Bataan, and to the Subic Freeport Zone, before heading back to Manila. The unlikely tourist attraction is the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant (BNPP), which was mothballed back in 1986.

The BNPP has since been opened to visitors wanting to know more about the facility. Tours are given by the original engineers of the power plant, who know every nook and cranny of the facility.

After the BNPP tour, all the drive participants headed back to Manila, armed with much more knowledge on grand events in the Philippines' rich history. **AQ**

By Joyce
Reyes-Aguila
Photos by
Vera Irinco

Experience the unexplored

Make footprints on the roads less traveled

E

XPLORATION is really the essence of the human spirit," retired National Aeronautics and Space Administration astronaut Frank Bowman once said. The commander of the Apollo 8 mission knew what he was talking about. After all, he did lead the first team of human beings to orbit the moon in 1968. Had Bowman and crew feared to tread the unknown, mankind would never know what we now know about circling the Earth's satellite.



Experience is key to destinations familiar and new. This is why many tourist spots around the Philippines develop activities to make a particular place appealing to visitors. Travel is no longer just about what visitors can see but also about what they can do and how they can build memories while there. If part of your summer goals is to do something new, AQ suggests you make a path to these barely explored places:

• BE PART OF THE GRAPE VINE.

We have something akin to California's Napa Valley in the northern province of La Union. The Lomboy Farms—an agri-tourism site accredited by the Department of Tourism – is a "grape and guapple producer" and prides itself on being one in a country with a tropical climate. Tourists flock to Urayong, Bauang, La Union to visit the vineyard for a farm immersion or farm tour. Established in 1972, the farm offers a

"pick and pay" activity on all available produce. Pick your own grapes, papaya, dragon fruit, and seasonal vegetables. The recommended season to visit is summer, and guests can avail of on-site bed and breakfast service.

• ENJOY HEALTHY MEALS IN A WELLNESS DESTINATION.

Spend a few days in Rapha Valley, an organic vegetable farm in Negros Occidental, that teaches guests that food can heal and improve overall wellness. The place was established by Dr. Albert Jo, a medical doctor who spends time giving talks and having conversations with visitors about how organic and natural food choices can do wonders for one's health. Rapha Valley is a place for vegetarians, as its kitchen has a "no fried and oil-sautéed" food policy, to avoid producing the carcinogen acrylamide. Guests are served dishes using 14 kinds of herbs grown there to flavor the food instead of MSG (monosodium glutamate). MSG, as you know, is a flavor enhancer that some studies find to be harmful to human health.



**• VISIT A BEACH FOR THE ROCKS,
INSTEAD OF THE SAND.**

We are all for you basking under the sun with a beautiful view of a beach. To make things different and more interesting, we suggest you take a stroll on rocks, and not just sand. The rock formations of Baler's Diguisit Beach are as famous as its surfing waves. Famous travel reference website [tripadvisor.com](#) has reviews that describe the rock formation's location as "serene" and a "must-see," along with the province's Diguisit Falls. Take extra caution though, and visit with a guide who knows the perfect time of day and safest spots to take photos as some areas in the formation have sharp outcroppings and steep spots.

**• MORE ROCKS IN THE
FORECAST.**

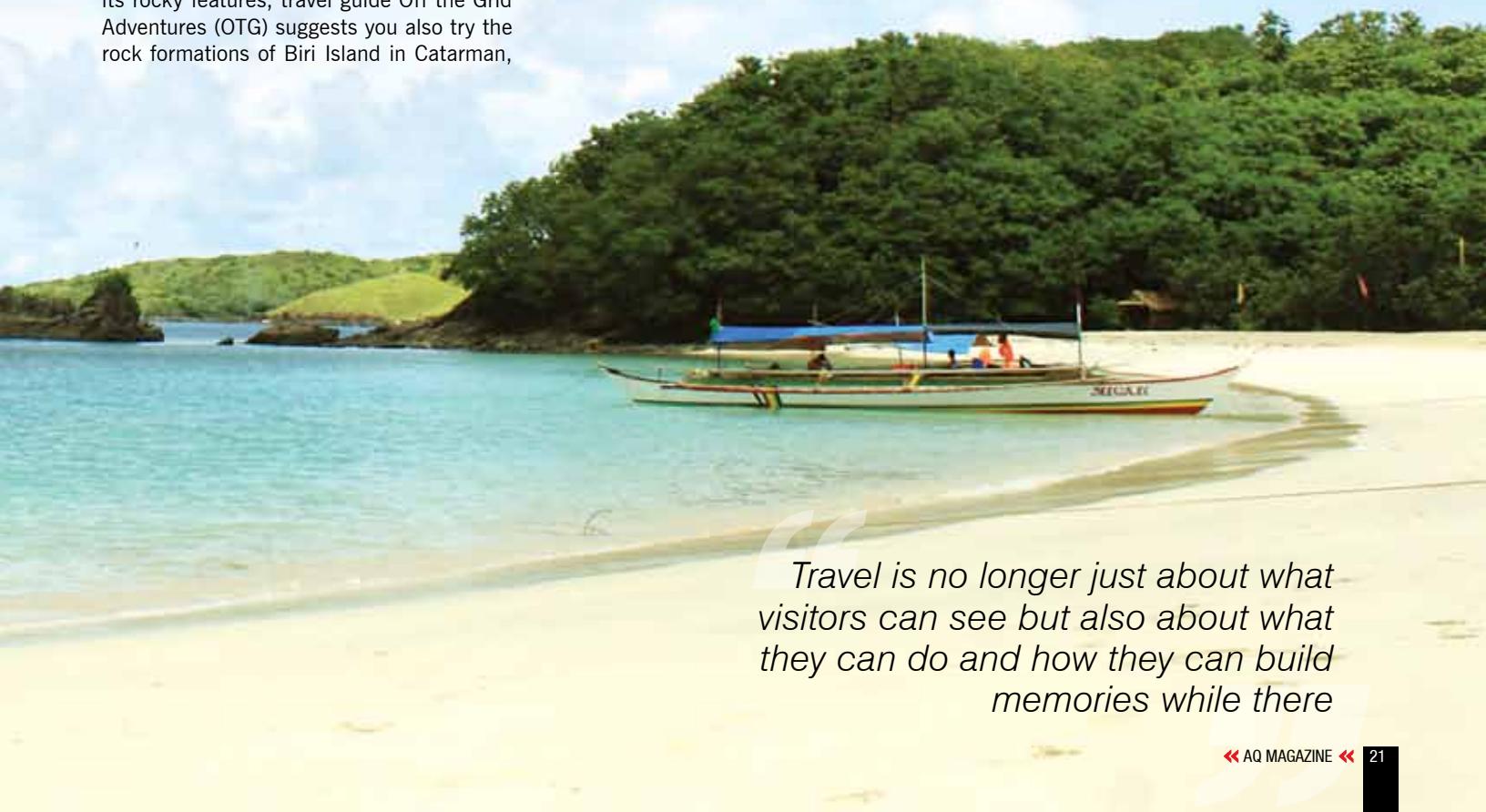
If you have visited Baler and enjoyed its rocky features, travel guide Off the Grid Adventures (OTG) suggests you also try the rock formations of Biri Island in Catarman,

Northern Samar. OTG co-founder Vera Irinco says the place can "awaken your adventurous spirit" that makes travelers "just want to examine and photograph the geological masterpieces, have a picnic or swim in the refreshingly green and natural salt-water pools. Adventure guides like OTG will take you to the four main rock formations of the island: Magasang, Magsapad, Macadloa, and Bel-at. Irinco says the place has gained a reputation for being a surfing spot during monsoon season due to its huge waves but the "off-the-beaten-path destination attracts adventurers all year-round."

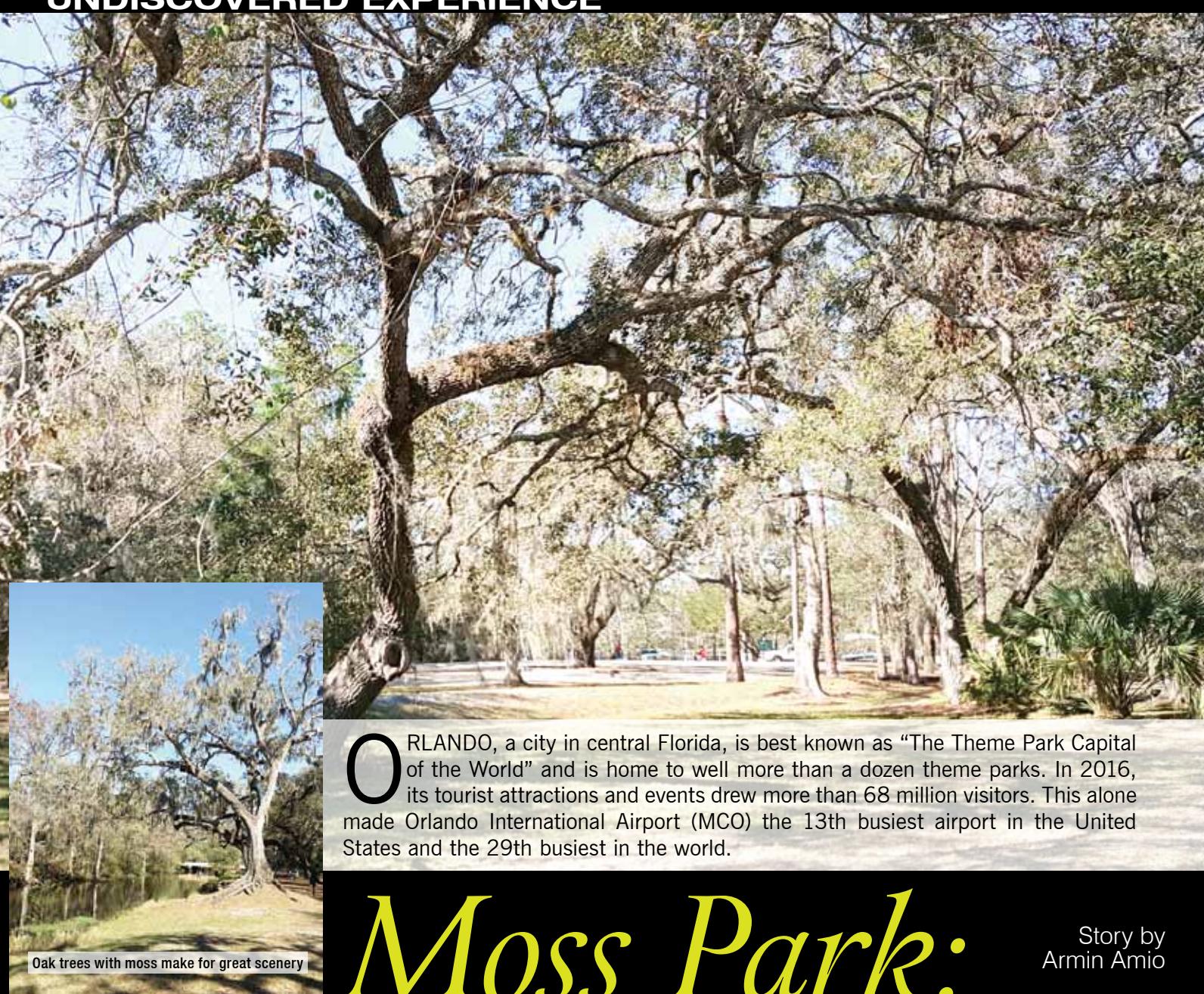
• CAMPING ON THE BEACH.

You may have experienced camping during your scouting days, but probably not on the shores of the Calaguas group of islands in Camarines Norte. OTG offers

packages to what it describes as the province's hidden gem, Mahabang Buhangin in Tinaga Island. "(It) boasts of crystal-clear waters with powdery white sand that could rival that of Boracay Island," Irinco reveals. "Adventurers who are on the constant lookout for unspoiled beaches will find this island a piece of heaven. You can camp out there and have a beach picnic, swim in the pristine waters all day long, and have a bonfire at night." After at least eight hours of land travel from Manila and a two-hour boat ride from the mainland, visitors can enjoy this unexplored destination. An eco-resort offers accommodations, and a 15-to-20-minute trek can also be taken to enjoy a breathtaking view, Irinco adds. **AQ**



Travel is no longer just about what visitors can see but also about what they can do and how they can build memories while there



Oak trees with moss make for great scenery

Moss Park: A hidden gem in Orlando

Story by
Armin Amio

Photos by
Armin Amio
and Ariel Amio





Boating and kayaking are two popular activities inside the park

“A short drive from International Drive, you can find a hidden gem of a park that provides a sweet alternative to the hectic and noisy theme parks.”



Fishing is also popular among visitors and resident. Bass are plentiful.

As one of the world's most visited tourist destinations, Orlando's famous attractions form the backbone of its tourism industry. The two most significant of these attractions are Walt Disney World, which was opened in 1971, and the Universal Orlando Resort, opened in 1999 as a major expansion of Universal Studios Florida which offers Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure, with the Wizarding World of Harry Potter straddling both.

Most of the attractions and top restaurants can be seen along the busy International Drive (which is also where you can see the enormous Orlando Eye

Inside the park, visitors can enjoy boating, camping, kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, hiking, biking, fishing, picnic areas, a swimming beach (closed for the moment), bird-watching and orienteering. There are lots of trees and a whole lot of wildlife roaming the site. Sandhill cranes are known to visit the campground, as well as herds of deer, raccoons, wild turkeys, whooping cranes, eagles, and squirrels.

If you're into camping, the campground is deep inside the 1500-acre park, separated from busy day-use areas by a grove of pine and shady oak trees, which extends into the campground. Each site has a shell-rock pad

add another layer of fun to your hike.

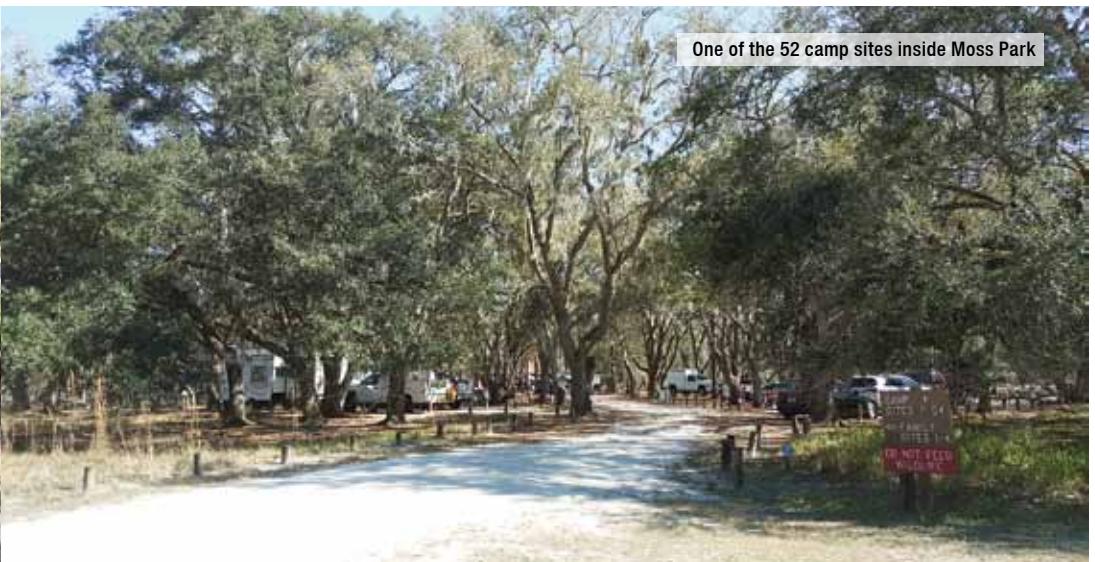
Split Oak is managed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to preserve natural habitats for plants and wildlife, especially the endangered gopher tortoise and Florida Sandhill crane.

Like many such preserves in the state, the park and forest are natural way stations and nesting areas for migrating birds. You can obtain a downloadable seasonal birding list online at the link listed below.

Bicycles are not permitted in the preserve, but there are ample park roads for cycling. Old oak trees with lots of moss make for beautiful scenery. Wonderful slash



The park was named after Florida resident Sarah-Frances Moss



One of the 52 camp sites inside Moss Park

and Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum). But a short drive of just a little less than 30 minutes from iDrive, you can find a hidden gem of a park that provides visitors and Orlando residents a sweet alternative to the hectic and noisy theme parks.

Tucked into the woods between two lakes and a wildlife preserve is Moss Park in Orange County [12901 Moss Park Road Orlando, FL 32832 Tel. +1 (407) 254-6840] which gets a high four-and-a-half star rating on TripAdvisor. This public campground has 54 camp sites available for \$18-\$24 per night and is only 20 minutes to Disney World."

and drive, and each is equipped with water and electric hookups, a picnic table and fire ring. There is a dump station located as you exit the campground. Bathrooms are clean and the showers are spacious.

Please take note that if you're planning to set up camp there, the park doesn't do online reservations, and doesn't take phone reservations on weekends. Rangers will check site availability and tell you to call back the following work day.

Moss Park is adjacent to the 2,000-acre Split Oak Preserve that offers miles and miles of trails to explore. You can pick up an orienteering guide at the ranger station and

pine trees (native to Florida) are everywhere.

This county park features the larger Lake Hart intertwined with the smaller Lake Mary Jane that makes for great boating and fishing (especially bass). The water is tea colored due to the cypress trees in the lake. There are lots of boaters here but you cannot rent a canoe or kayak. It also has a large playground, pavilions, and baseball fields. Picnic tables and grilling areas dot the site.

This park looks very much like old Florida and, by staying here, one can easily get a glimpse of what it was like to live in this state long before the days of the now-ubiquitous theme parks. **AQ**

MAKE WAY FOR THE GT-R

*Nissan introduces
the NISMO brand in PH*



Nissan Philippines, Inc. recently introduced the famed NISMO brand starting with GT-R NISMO.

As a badge that is synonymous to power, prestige, and performance, NISMO (NISSAN MOTorsport) was established in 1984 as the motorsport-specialized arm of Nissan aimed to deliver credible racing results. NISMO is the ultimate essence of Nissan's innovation and excitement as a performance and personalization brand.

"We believe that the introduction of the NISMO brand into our shores is a testament to the strength of Nissan in the Philippines, making it at par with larger global markets. We are also excited to



have the pinnacle of Nissan motorsports technology – the GT-R NISMO – as the first vehicle in the market to carry the NISMO name," said Ramesh Narasimhan, NPI President and Managing Director.

Now available in the Philippines through the Nissan High Performance Center in Quezon Avenue, the 600ps and 652 Nm GT-R NISMO joins the established GT-R Premium in the revered GT-R model range.

Extensive refinements made to the GT-R for 2017 place an emphasis on

balancing speed with the total driving experience, the new GT-R NISMO, which is based on the MY17 GT-R, places a stronger emphasis on the "R" – as in racing – of the GT-R name.

Each GT-R NISMO engine is hand-assembled from beginning to end in a special clean room by specially trained technicians, a process similar to racing powerplant construction. An aluminum plate is added to the front of each engine showing the name of the "Takumi" engine craftsman, of which

there are fewer than 10.

The engine features innovative plasma-sprayed bores (versus cast iron liners) for reduced friction, lighter weight, enhanced cooling, power output and fuel efficiency; a symmetrical independent intake and exhaust manifold system featuring twin NISMO-specific high-performance turbochargers; a secondary air management system for improved cold-start emissions performance; a thermostatically controlled oil-cooling system; an oil scavenger pump to maintain oil flowing to the turbochargers; and a lateral wet and dry sump oiling system.

As with all MY17 GT-R models, a special factory tuned Titanium exhaust system is fitted to the GT-R NISMO.

The system is made of Formula One race-car-grade titanium (Ti-1Cu), with its alloy construction generating a high strength-to-weight ratio and delivering a weight savings over the stock exhaust unit – along with a clear sound that is unique to titanium. The system offers reduced thickness, integrated fins and undercover ducts, allowing it to endure high temperatures without affecting performance under extreme driving conditions.

The VR38DETT V6 is backed by an advanced paddle-shifted sequential 6-speed dual-clutch transmission (wet clutch system, not dry), which can be driver selected to shift at race car-like speeds. The sequential-shifting transaxle features separate wet clutches for the

odd (1,3,5) and even (2,4,6) gears and pre-selects the next highest and next lowest gear for quick shifts.

It also features Hill Start Assist for easy starts on uphill inclines. High performance differential oil, used in GT-R motorsports competition, is standard.

Along with Nissan GT-R's unique Premium Midship platform, the GT-R NISMO utilizes an independent rear transaxle ATTESA E-TS (Advanced Total Traction Engineering System for all Terrain with Electronic Torque Split) all-wheel drive system, which optimizes weight distribution and handling capability. The rear-drive-biased all-wheel drive system can vary torque split depending on speed, lateral acceleration, steering angles, tire slip, road surface and yaw rate. **qq**

GG Each GT-R NISMO engine is hand-assembled from beginning to end in a special clean room by specially trained technicians, a process similar to racing powerplant construction. **JJ**





Performance and Comfort *in the* Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Van

AUTO Nation Group, Inc. recently gave members of the motoring media a preview of the Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Luxury Coach, a premium version of the popular versatile passenger van, highlighting the brand's expanding product line-up offered in the Philippine market.

With its increasing popularity all around the globe, Mercedes-Benz's Sprinter is making its solid stance as a versatile vehicle, proving reliability and performance whether as a passenger vehicle or commercial workhorse.

"The Mercedes-Benz Sprinter stands out because of its superior performance, which is second to none. And today, we are proud to unveil the luxury coach version of the Sprinter with a refined cabin that epitomizes the prestige of the brand," said Joseph Ayllón, assistant vice president for public relations, Auto Nation Group.

As a true performer and a comfortable ride, the Sprinter has all the impressive features that make it easily stand out in its class. To begin with, its low fuel

consumption complemented by its outstanding power makes the Sprinter a reliable vehicle even for long-haul land trips. The Sprinter is powered by a 2.1L, 4-cylinder, 2-stage turbocharged diesel engine that puts out 163 hp, paired with a 6-speed Manual transmission to deliver a best-in-class fuel efficiency.

Its adaptive Electronic Stability Program with Crosswind Assist takes control of critical system functions and measures load conditions to facilitate maximum stability. Brake force automatically applies to one or more wheels the instant the system detects wheelspin, understeer, or oversteer, while the engine output is immediately adjusted to stabilize the van.

The Sprinter has enough comfortable



space for up to 9 people and ample room for luggage all at the same time. With its interior standing height of about 191.8 cm, passengers can easily sit down, stand up, stretch out, and settle in.

In the luxury coach version, each passenger can sit and rest easy in his own executive chair, upholstered in luxurious leather accented with a diamond-cut pattern. Passengers will find the individual head and leg rests a welcome indulgence especially on long drives.

A central console located in the passenger cabin houses dual LCD monitors alongside audio-visual and air-conditioning control panels. The console also provides additional compartments and is accented with glossy laminates in wood grain finish to complement

“The Mercedes-Benz Sprinter is the most reliable and hard-working van in its class, with custom-built options to serve both commercial and passenger purposes **”**



the luxurious feel of the interiors.

An automatic privacy screen between the driver and cabin helps further reduce noise, while pleated curtains on all windows provide additional privacy for each passenger. Moreover, embarking and disembarking is quick and easy, thanks to its spacious side door entry (182.1 cm X 130.1 cm), which is currently the widest opening door in its class. An automatic stepboard also enables passengers to board the Sprinter with ease along with automatic sliding doors that close with the press of a button.

The Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Luxury Coach is available for Php 5.99 Million Pesos and comes in Arctic White. The current model is offered only in manual transmission. **QQ**

SKYACTIV Technology takes Mazda to the top of the list of the most fuel-efficient automotive brands on U.S. roads for the fifth straight year. This is according to the 2017 Light-Duty Automotive Technology, Carbon Dioxide Emissions, and Fuel Economy Trends report by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).



Mazda SKYACTIV model line-up still most fuel efficient—EPA report



According to the latest release of the annual report published in January, Mazda recorded the highest adjusted fuel economy performance among the 13 brands listed in the review. The average manufacturer adjusted fuel economy of Mazda models sold in the U.S. during the 2016 model year was 29.6 miles to the gallon (12.58 kilometers per liter) for the combined cycle. This is a 0.4mpg (0.17 km/l) increase from the previous year's report results which Mazda also topped. The EPA report likewise reveals that at 301g/mi (187g/km), Mazda also recorded the lowest average CO₂ emissions of any carmaker.

The U.S. EPA report states that technological innovation in Gasoline Direct Injection and transmission technology played an important role in helping the automotive industry achieve CO₂ emissions, fuel economy, and performance goals. Deployed throughout Mazda's model line-up, the SKYACTIV Technology range of lightweight engines, transmissions, chassis and car bodies has been a key factor to the company leading the EPA's list for the last five years. This achievement reflects in particular the carmaker's efforts to optimize internal combustion in the name of real-world performance and fuel economy.

Mazda bested other car manufacturers in the report despite not having hybrid, electric (EV), plug-in hybrid electric (PHEV), and fuel cell vehicles (FCV) in its current line-up. The EPA uses its adjusted figures, which are considered to closely reflect real-world values, for each vehicle sold during the model year and then averages them based on sales volumes in the U.S. market.

"Mazda has always stood for maximizing performance through efficiency," said Steven Tan, president and CEO of Bermaz Auto Philippines, the exclusive distributor of Mazda vehicles and parts in the country. "This is the fifth year that Mazda has topped the report's results. The feat is a testament to the passion Mazda engineers put into the development of its products. With the current range of SKYACTIV Technology-equipped models, Filipino customers can be sure that their Mazda vehicles have the latest engine, transmission, chassis, and suspension innovations which will provide them the best value and performance for their money." **AQ**

Michelin launches Tyreplus service center in PH

MICHELIN announced the opening of Tyreplus in the Philippines, an internationally famous car servicing center concept which is part of the Michelin global network of professionals in car maintenance.

The comprehensive car service center that offers a wide choice of major tire brands, lubricants, batteries, suspension and other services, formally opened its first Philippine outlet on February 13 at Dr. Arcadio Santos Ave., San Dionisio in Parañaque City. Among its premium brand partners are Michelin, BFGoodrich, Mobil, Total, Denso, Bendix and Hitachi.

Tyreplus aims at bringing all-inclusive car care, transparent service and inviting experience to the Philippines. Through a standardized vehicle safety check its highly skilled staff will deliver customized advice to match consumer needs at an affordable price.

Products and services in the "one-stop-



The first Tyreplus outlet was inaugurated February 13 with Tyreplus, Northtrend and Michelin officials doing the honors. L-R: Pedro Rocha, Tyreplus Managing Director, SEA; Vanessa Hans of the French Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Michael Nunag, Michelin Chief Representative in the Philippines; Michelin mascot – Bibendum; Beltran Yturriaga, Tyreplus Development & Distribution Manager; Ronald Ang, North Trend Corporate Chief Operating Officer; Emily Ang Quilacio and Jeffrey Ang, North Trend CEO.

shop" include tires, tire fitment, tire repair, wheel balancing and alignment, lubricant, filter, battery and brake servicing, for passenger cars, sedans, vans and SUVs professional car servicing.



The first Tyreplus outlet in the Philippines is located at 8153 Dr. Arcadio Santos (formerly Sucat) in Parañaque.

Michael Nunag, Michelin Philippines Chief Representative said "Tyreplus targets offering convenient, trustworthy and comprehensive car care services to local consumers – preventive car care and ensuring safety for cars and tires equates to peace of mind."

Tyreplus was established in 2002 and has over 2,000 centers in 17 countries. The first Philippine Tyreplus is operated by Trend Performance Centrum Inc., under North Trend Marketing Corporation and is open daily from 8am to 5pm. **AQ**

Mitsubishi launches the all-new Xpander

After the phenomenal release of the all-new Mitsubishi XPANDER in Indonesia just last year, Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC) is pleased to officially unveil this highly anticipated all-new cross multi-purpose, sport utility vehicle in the country. This newest addition to MMPC's extensive product line-up reflects Mitsubishi Motors' ambition to expand customer's motoring experience to make it more fulfilling and pleasurable. The Philippines is the second country to launch the all-new Mitsubishi XPANDER after its world premiere at the GAIKINDO Indonesia International Auto Show in Jakarta, Indonesia last August 2017.

Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC) has recently taken off the covers of its highly anticipated all-new cross multipurpose, sport utility vehicle (SUV). The all-new Mitsubishi is the newest addition to MMPC's extensive product line-up. The Philippines is the second country to launch this SUV after its world premiere in Jakarta in August 2017.

The all-new Mitsubishi Xpander perfectly suits the versatile lifestyle of Filipinos and will be offered in four variants—GLX Manual Transmission (MT), GLX Plus Automatic Transmission (AT), GLS AT and top of the line GLS Sport AT. This all-new model is produced at Mitsubishi Motors Corp.'s (MMC) new factory in Bekasi Prefecture, Indonesia.

The overall exterior communicates an adventurous and futuristic style. It flaunts Mitsubishi Motors' Dynamic Shield design concept with a luxurious front grille, which will be available in chrome with clear smoke coating for GLS Sport and GLS variants and gloss black for GLX Plus and GLX variants. The new model was given an advanced look as it features a LED position lamps arranged in a crystal-like blocks and a unique headlight design with a lamp layout

that improves visibility for both pedestrians and oncoming vehicles. This unique lamp layout also prevents the blinding effects of headlight glare. It also flaunts a distinctive L-shaped LED Tail Lamps with the rear combination lamps extending onto the tailgate which is a first for this class.

MMC Corporate Vice President for Design, Tsunehiro Kunimoto said the Xpander's design was a product of putting together customers' thoughts, needs and desires.

The 4,475-mm overall length blends a stylish and roomy character lines with tough and dynamic SUV looks. A class-leading interior length of 2,840mm provides a comfortable space for seven adults. Access to third-row seats is also made easier with the tumbling system for second-row seats.

The Xpander also provides excellent visibility and comfort for the driver. With its high 205mm ground clearance, the body is optimized for clear visibility with reduced blind spots. The front windshield with ample vertical and horizontal spacing also provides clearer forward visibility. The front pillars are positioned wider to provide more visibility while the side mirrors ensure a clearer rear view. It is also the only vehicle in its class that has a flat luggage floor without bumps and gaps. Its maximum cargo capacity is 1,630 liters when both the second and third row seats are folded.

For a more enjoyable drive the Xpander is equipped with a 2-DIN 7-inch capacitive touchscreen display with



GPS Navigation System, MP3 player/tuner with auxiliary-in, USB port, Bluetooth connectivity, and Easy Link features. The steering wheel is also equipped with audio remote switch and cruise control.

The all-new Xpander is equipped with a 1.5L 4A91 MIVEC (Mitsubishi Innovative Valve timing Electronic Control System) DOHC 16-Valve engine which gives a maximum output of 105PS / 6,000rpm and maximum torque of 141N·m / 4,000rpm. The 4A91 engine enables the SUV to have less vibration and less noise for smooth and quiet driving performance. Its engine capacity has good balance between performance and fuel consumption which makes it an ideal vehicle for the Philippine market.

Safety will never be compromised as the Xpander features Mitsubishi Motors' proprietary RISE (Reinforced Impact Safety Evolution) body which is reinforced to absorb the impact of a collision. It is also equipped with ABS (Anti-Lock Brake System) to help keep the driver in control of the vehicle when braking on slippery surfaces. When the driver brakes hard or activates ABS, the ESS (the Emergency Stop Signal System) activates and automatically flashes the hazard lamps to warn the drivers behind to help prevent rear end collision.

The top-of-the-line GLS Sport variant is also equipped with Hill Start Assist and Active Stability Control. The Hill Start Assist feature automatically maintains the brakes to prevent the vehicle from rolling backwards when driving on a steep slope while the Active Stability Control automatically apply brakes and suppress the engine output to stabilize the vehicle during sudden maneuver on slippery surface conditions. **QQ**

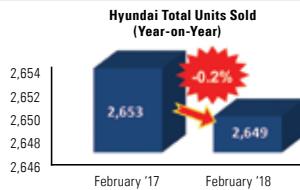


Year-to-Date Sales			
Segment (in units)	2017	2018	Growth (%)
January - February			
Passenger Cars			
Eon	1,266	1,289	
Accent	2,704	2,363	
Elantra	184	346	
Sonata	0	1	
Others	3	3	
Total PC Sales	4,157	4,002	-4%
Light Commercial Vehicles			
Grand Starex	386	512	
Tucson	323	412	
Santa Fe	56	73	
H-100	548	553	
Total PC Sales	1,313	1,550	18%
Grand Total	5,470	5,552	1.5%

Hyundai Total Units Sold (Year-to-Date)



Year-to-Year Sales			
Segment (in units)	2017	2018	Growth (%)
February			
Passenger Cars			
Eon	567	761	
Accent	1,286	1,074	
Elantra	81	127	
Sonata	0	1	
Others	0	3	
Total PC Sales	1,934	1,966	2%
Light Commercial Vehicles			
Grand Starex	270	183	
Tucson	184	129	
Santa Fe	42	20	
H-100	223	351	
Total PC Sales	719	683	-5%
Grand Total	2,653	2,649	-0.2%



Hyundai Asia's 2-month sales up 1.5%

HYUNDAI Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI), the official distributor of Hyundai vehicles in the Philippines, has registered 2,649 unit sales for the month of February 2018. This leaves the total 2018 year-to-date Hyundai unit sales at 5,552, or a 1.5% increase compared to the 5,470 units sold during the same period of 2017.

"February gives us a consistent start in 2018. This only shows the trust and commitment our customers have to our high-quality, best-in-class, and customer-focused products and services," said Ma. Fe Perez-Agudo, HARI President and CEO.

The Passenger Car (PC) segment maintains its position as the main volume driver of sales by accounting to almost three-fourths of the total units sold, or 4,002 units year-to-date. Accent accounted for 2,363 units during this period. However, it was the Eon and Elantra that were the main growth drivers for this segment with a year-to-date growth of 1.8% and 88.0%, respectively.

Although the Light Commercial Vehicles

(LCV) segment recorded only one-fourth of the brand's total sales, the segment was at the spotlight with all its models registering positive growth. This was led by the Grand Starex which posted a January-to-February unit sales growth of 32.6%, or 512 units in 2018 compared with the 386 units sold in 2017. This pushed the segment's year-to-date sales to 1,550 units, an 18.1% growth from last year's 1,313.

The current administration's "Build, Build, Build" program is showing signs of accelerating as government spending acted as the main economic growth driver. Analysts expect this rising trend would continue until the end of the year, along with buoyant business and consumer sentiments.

"HARI has also shown positive growth in the face of a weakening currency and increasing prices. It just goes to show the brand's capacity in seizing opportunities to generate good numbers in the coming months," said the Hyundai distributor, in its statement. **aq**

Petron offers exclusive perks for Grab drivers

PETRON Corporation recently signed a partnership with ride-sharing platform Grab to offer exclusive benefits to its drivers and employees through the Grab-branded Petron Value Card.

Forming part of the benefits that drivers enjoy when they sign up with Grab, the PVC cards will be given free to all Grab vehicles, except Grab Taxi. With their Petron Value Card, Grab drivers earn peso-points every time they fill up with Petron fuels—Petron Blaze 100, XCS, Xtra Advance, Turbo Diesel, and Diesel Max. Peso points earned can be redeemed for Petron products at over 2,000 Petron stations nationwide. These can also be converted to cellphone load, air miles, groceries, movies, and other options.

Other ways to earn more points are through the Frequent Visit promo where the PVC cardholder gets additional points on every 5th visit to a Petron station, and the Birthday Promo that awards bonus points when the Grab driver gasses up within five days of his birthday.

Petron takes care of its loyal customers, and Grab drivers can enjoy the following benefits—subject to terms and conditions—through their Petron Value Card: free 24/7 towing and roadside assistance, free personal accident insurance coverage of P10,000 for accidental death and P1,000 medical reimbursement, and privileges at partner establishments.

The Petron Value Card mobile app, available for iOS and Android smartphones, provides the transaction history and points summary, as well as access to the various promos, rewards and benefits.

Beyond the perks and privileges they will enjoy as PVC cardholders, Grab drivers have the assurance that Petron fuels and engine oils are of world-class quality, thus offering savings not just through fuel efficiency, but by reducing maintenance



costs through better engine protection.

According to Grab Philippines country head Brian Cu: "Our goal has always been to take care of our peers and drivers, and we want to stretch their income in any way we can. We are positive that this partnership with Petron will give our drivers more flexibility in their expenses." He points out that the tie-up will not only expand the drivers' income but also benefit their families.

Grab will handle distribution of the co-branded Grab-Petron Value Card, which can be claimed at the following locations: Libis, Araneta-Cubao, Fisher Mall, Manila, Imus, and Metro East. For more information visit Grab Philippines' Facebook page or visit their website www.grab.com **aq**



Empowered artists proudly display their winning artworks with HARI President and CEO Ma. Fe Perez-Agudo (center) and HARI Senior Vice President Rene G. Pizarro (extreme right) and Team Manila Creative Director Jowee Alviar (extreme left).

Hyundai Philippines' digital art competition empowers local artists

HYUNDAI Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) extends its innovative ways beyond motoring by building its first community of creatives via the recently concluded Hyundai Digital Art Competition.

"We see the competition as a way of supporting Filipino art, of Hyundai as a brand that empowers people to get more out of life. By empowering the 'Gusto' of this group of creatives, Hyundai begins its journey of creating diverse communities of empowered dreamers inspired by their passion to realize their dreams for themselves, their loved ones, and the nation," explained HARI President and CEO

Fe Perez-Agudo, who also cited the creative industry's huge export potential for driving economic growth.

Bearing the theme "Vision of Future Self" for Round 1 and Hyundai PH's marketing slogan, Gusto Ko. Kaya Ko. Sama Tayo for Round 2, the digital art competition was open to student and professional artists alike. Over 250 entries were sent in, out of which the field was narrowed down to a dozen preliminary winners.

The 12 short-listed winners each received a certificate, P15,000 cash prize and included in various exhibits and print/online features. They were also given

the opportunity to attend a workshop on graphic design and storytelling with Team Manila Creative Director, Jowee Alviar, and Graphic Designer and Ateneo de Manila University instructor, Meneer Marcelo. Of the 12 finalists, Lariz Santos, Keith Magnaye, and Harrison Espina, respectively, bagged the Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards. All the finalists were feted at the Grand Finals Awards on December 6, 2017 at the Marriot Hotel Grand Ballroom.

To know more about the winning artworks, the inspiration and the empowered artists behind them, visit <https://digitalart.hyundai.ph>. **AQ**

Hyundai empowers industries in Batangas City

Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) President and CEO Ma. Fe Perez-Agudo and Shaw Automotive Resources, Inc. (SARI) President Felix Limcaoco III, along with other top executives, led the groundbreaking ceremony of Hyundai Trucks and Buses Batangas City located along Diversion Road in Balagtas, Batangas City.

Limcaoco expressed the team's strong commitment to serve businesses in the provincial city, when he said: "We are ready to address Batangas City's growing mobility needs, especially those of its logistics and transport sectors."

For HARI's part, Ms. Agudo pointed out that "Batangas is in the heart of CALABARZON, and the Batangas port serves as the international gateway for industrial and commercial trade with the rest of the world, requiring vast potential for moving international cargo, local produce and people. With the valuable addition of Hyundai Trucks and Buses Batangas to our Hyundai CV dealer network, we are empowered to move the economy further. Ang GUSTO nila, KAYA nating ibigay. KASAMA nila tayo sa pag-sulong ng maunlad na negosyo at kalakal sa Batangas City at CALABARZON."

2017 was a banner year for Hyundai trucks and buses. On its first full year of operations, HARI's CV business grew by 883% from 2016, eclipsing the previous distributor's all-time-high sales, and is poised to account for 10% of total vehicle sales in the next five years, aiming to double in scale by 2025. Moving into 2018, HARI aims to continue broadening its



At the groundbreaking of Hyundai Trucks and Buses Batangas were: (L-R) from Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) VP – Commercial Trade Jimmy Trazo, SVP – Trade Operations and Development Cluster Numeriano Cortez, Jr., EVP and CFO Ladislao Avila, Jr., and President and CEO Ma. Fe Perez-Agudo; from Shaw Automotive Resources, Inc. (SARI), President Felix Limcaoco III, SVP & COO Doroteo Sornet, and VP for Operations Maria Antonietta Alonso.

corporate horizon by addressing the freight, payload, and mass mobility needs of enterprises in Metro Manila and the emerging growth centers in the regions. **AQ**

Isuzu Philippines inks partnership with GMA foundation

As part of its corporate social responsibility program, Isuzu Philippines Corporation (IPC) has formally signed a memorandum of agreement with GMA Kapuso Foundation (GMAKF)—the socio-civic arm of GMA Network—in response to provide vehicle assistance and emergency relief operations to communities across the country.

The partnership aims to help over 600,000 individuals who are affected with calamity-stricken and underserved communities. Most of these beneficiaries are recipients of Operation Bayanihan Project—a series of relief operations and medical missions; and “Unang Hakbang sa Kinabukasan” project, which focuses on the importance of education by providing complete set of school supplies to underprivileged students.

Isuzu Philippines Corporation President Hajime Koso said: “Our support to GMA Kapuso Foundation demonstrate our true commitment in helping out the lives of communities everywhere. It’s an honor and privilege to reach out and extend our hands to communities that need us the most.”

Under the agreement, Isuzu Philippines Corporation will donate one unit of Isuzu D-MAX 4x4 pickup truck to GMA Kapuso

Foundation (GMAKF).

“Our company (Isuzu) is not only known in creating vehicles across the world, but also in building hope and compassion towards other people. This partnership is our way of helping out and sharing our commitment and passion in public service”, said Koso. “We are happy to partner with GMA Kapuso Foundation to become a responsible steward of our society through their

“Our support to GMA Kapuso Foundation demonstrate our true commitment in helping out the lives of communities everywhere”

Serbisyon Totoo philosophy,” he added.

For the last 20 years, GMA Kapuso Foundation (GMAKF) has become the most accomplished, most trusted and reliable non-government organization in the country today. The foundation continues to serve Filipinos through programs that are anchored with health, education,



values formation, disaster response and reconstruction.

“With this partnership, we will able to bridge and change the life of every communities in every city. More than just giving, what a great reward to see families that has been transformed,” added Koso. **AQ**

IPC marks highest annual, monthly sales record in 2017

ISUZU Philippines Corporation (IPC) ended 2017 on a very high note as the company achieved its highest annual record sales to date.

Based on the sales report from the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI) and Truck Manufacturers Association, Inc. (TMA), IPC recorded an impressive 30,086 units of sales in the full year, which reflected a 10-percent increase from the previous year's 27,361 units.

IPC also achieved its highest monthly sales record when December sales reached 3,809 units—surpassing a 7.4-percent difference over its November 2017 sales record.

The strong sales figures were spearheaded by the stellar sales numbers brought in by their well-loved models, the Isuzu mu-X, D-MAX and the outgoing vehicle, Crosswind.

For the whole year, a total of 13,157 Isuzu mu-X SUVs were sold, increasing the vehicle's sales by 4 percent versus the 12,657 units that rolled out in 2016. In December alone, some 1,997mu-X units were delivered a staggering 27 percent rise from



November 2017's 1,572 sales tally.

The D-MAX pickup truck recorded 4,675-unit sales from January to December 2017, showing a 17.9-percent jump from the previous year. December sales for the IPC's pick-up truck went up a notch, selling 599 units, which showed a growth of 26.3 percent against 471 sold the month before.

The ever-reliable Crosswind showed a slight 2.1 hike on sales figures, garnering a total of 4,755 units for the whole year, as opposed to 4,651 units for the same duration

the previous year.

IPC's truck sales record also skyrocketed, with the N-Series providing much of the firepower. 2017 sales went up by 23 percent; from 3,734 in 2016 to an awesome 4,599 units sold last year.

The strength in sales especially during the latter part of 2017 was attributed to the strong economic performance of the country, introduction of Blue Power Technology across all models, as well as the consumers' anticipation for the implementation of the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Law.

IPC president Hajime Koso expressed his utmost gratitude over the outstanding sales performance, saying that they will continue to strive hard to provide the best to the Philippine market that IPC can offer.

“While we have reached greater heights this year, we will continue to provide and look for more ways to cater to everyone. Thanks for the unwavering support, trust and loyalty to our brand,” Koso said. **AQ**



Conquer more roads with the new Hilux Conquest



THIS January 2018, the top automotive brand in the country starts the year by introducing its boldest variant yet in the Hilux line-up.

The Hilux Conquest has been designed to thrill the hearts and minds of those who seek adventure and those who are looking for a powerful driving experience.

Powered by the same fuel-efficient and durable engine as the current Hilux lineup, the Hilux Conquest gets a 4-cylinder, 16-valve DOHC variable nozzle turbo with front mounted intercooler befitting any off-road activity.

In the spirit of always better vehicles, the Hilux Conquest asserts its bolder looks by showing more authority on the road with its sporty and refreshing new features such as a new grille design

and sports bar. To command a sportier presence on the road exterior features are added, including daytime running lights, a bed liner, and 18-inch alloy wheels.

The new Hilux Conquest also comes equipped with a smart key/entry and furnished with a new black interior trim and 6.5-inch capacitive touch screen/dvd/tuner/steering wheel audio control system. **AQ**



AVAILABLE in the colors Super White, Attitude Black Mica, and Nebula Blue Metallic, the Hilux Conquest will definitely show off a tougher appearance on the road. The Hilux Conquest is available in the following prices:



VARIANT	SRP
4 x 4 Conquest AT	PHP 1,745,000
4 x 4 Conquest MT	PHP 1,615,000
4 x 2 Conquest AT	PHP 1,386,000
4 x 2 Conquest MT	PHP 1,311,000



L-R : Mabalacat City Mayor Crisostomo Garbo, Former President & Pampanga 2nd District Representative Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, NLEX Corporation President & CEO Rodrigo Franco, Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) President and CEO Vivencio Dizon

New NLEX-SCTEX interchanges now open to motoring public

THE NLEX Corporation officially opened on February 26, 2018 the new Mabiga Interchange at the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX) and Sta. Ines-Magalang Exit at North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), two new projects aimed at improving motorist access with MacArthur Highway.

A ceremonial drive-thru led by former President and now Pampanga second district representative Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Mabalacat City Mayor Crisostomo C. Garbo, Bases Conversion and Development Authority President and CEO Vivencio C. Dizon, Pampanga Chamber of Commerce Chairman Emeritus Levy P. Laus, and Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation and NLEX Corporation President and CEO Rodrigo E. Franco signaled the inauguration of new infrastructure projects that will help

promote traffic safety and convenience for motorists traveling along NLEX, SCTEX, and MacArthur Highway within the Greater Clark area.

The tollways company converted SCTEX Mabiga into a full diamond interchange by building new access ramps with entry and exit toll plazas. This major expressway redesign is seen to improve road safety on this strategic location where the two expressways systems merge with the local traffic network.

The NLEX Sta. Ines interchange got a boost with the construction of a right-turning exit ramp to Mabalacat-Magalang Road to improve direct access to local roads in Magalang, Pampanga.

"These enhancements are intended to advance safety and productivity for both motorists and commuters by improving the

connectivity of our expressways to and from the MacArthur Highway and other local roads in Pampanga," said Metro Pacific Tollways and NLEX Corporation President and CEO Rodrigo E. Franco.

"We are proud to support NLEX Corporation in providing safe, reliable, and people-oriented projects such as the SCTEX Mabiga Interchange. The interchange will enable a smooth and faster flow of traffic for motorists going to Subic or Tarlac," BCDA President and Chief Executive Officer Vivencio C. Dizon said.

For his part, Mabalacat City Mayor Crisostomo C. Garbo lauded the tollways company in its continued effort in improving accessibility with MacArthur Highway for the comfort and convenience of the local motorists.

In 2016, the NLEX Corporation added eight lane kilometers of new expressway lanes in Mabalacat City, including new bridges at Bgy. Balem and Bgy. Quitanguil. This project segregated northbound and southbound motorists along separate carriageways and have since enhanced traffic safety. **qq**

Hyundai Motor and Grab sign strategic partnership

South Korean automaker Hyundai Motor Company and Grab, the Southeast Asia-based on-demand transportation and mobile payments platform, announced a strategic partnership that will expand Hyundai's innovative future mobility services in Southeast Asia.

The strategic partnership will help Hyundai explore new opportunities in the sharing economy and enhance its capability to lead future mobility in Southeast Asia.

The two companies will jointly explore ways to develop and provide innovative services to the region's customers, including a new mobility service platform that will utilize Hyundai's eco-friendly models such as the Ioniq Electric.

"Hyundai's strategic investment in Grab marks the beginning of an exciting new partnership between the two parties, bringing Hyundai one step closer to realizing its vision for future mobility. Grab's expertise in the Southeast Asian market coupled with Hyundai's eco-vehicle leadership will bring



innovative services to customers," said Young Cho Chi, Chief Innovation Officer and head of Strategy & Technology Division, which was established last year to spearhead Hyundai's future innovation. "We will continue expanding collaboration with leading mobility service providers in the world."

Grab's Series G financing marks the company's latest and largest fundraising round and significant investors including DidiChuxing, SoftBank and Toyota Tsusho have participated in the funding together with Hyundai.

"As we move into the next stage of Grab's growth, we look forward to collaborating closely with Hyundai to continue innovating new mobility solutions for Southeast Asia. We are pleased to welcome Hyundai to our global network of strategic partners, and we are

confident that we have an alliance of strong partners to push forward into Grab's next phase of long-term growth," said Anthony Tan, Group CEO and co-founder of Grab.

Focusing on its 'open innovation' spirit, Hyundai has been bolstering its efforts to transform people's lives with disruptive technologies and services that materialize its visions for future mobility – clean, connected and freedom in mobility. Enhancements in mobility services include car-sharing, - hailing and - pooling, all of which benefit users by freeing them from existing mobility limitations.

Grab operates the largest transportation network in Southeast Asia and is one of the most frequently used mobile platforms in the region with over 3.5 million daily rides. The Grab app has been downloaded onto over 77 million mobile devices, giving passengers access to the region's largest land transportation fleet comprising over 2.3 million drivers. Grab now offers private car, motorbike, taxi, and carpooling services across 8 countries and 168 cities in Southeast Asia. **qq**

SUZUKI Motor Corporation will be the title sponsor of the ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) Championship.

This marks the sixth successive occasion Suzuki Motor has backed the AFF's flagship competition – the AFF Suzuki Cup – since 2008. First played in 1996, the biennial tournament is contested by the national teams of Southeast Asia and boasts record TV ratings and sold-out stadia.

"We began our sponsorship as the title sponsor in 2008 with the passion to bring thrill and excitement to the ASEAN region," said Kinji Saito, Managing Officer from Suzuki Motor Corporation.

During the 2016 games, when Myanmar and the Philippines hosted the Group Stages for the first time, Thailand triumphed for a record fifth.

"This year will be the 12th time we have staged the AFF Football Championship and we are truly grateful to Suzuki Motor



Suzuki Motor sponsors 2018 AFF Football Championship

Corporation for embracing the region's top footballing tournament as the title sponsor once again," said Azzuddin Ahmad, General Secretary of AFF.

Suzuki's renewal comes at a time when the tournament will see some exciting new changes to its format, aimed at providing more exposure to the players in their home

country and driving greater fan engagement.

"These are exciting times for the AFF Football Championship with Suzuki Motor Corporation extending its legacy as title sponsor and putting its weight behind an invigorated tournament," said Tom Smith, President, Football – Asia at Lagardère Sports. **AQ**

Suzuki Philippines shares new milestones with club members

PIONEER compact car distributor Suzuki Philippines (SPH) celebrates another successful year packed with strong sales performance and back-to-back recognitions and ushers in another exciting year with a gathering of its growing Team Suzuki Philippines (TSP) family.

It was also SPH's way of showing its gratitude for the support and loyalty of the growing TSP family, which now exceeds 4,100 active members. Suzuki's accredited car clubs consist of Team Alto Pilipinas, Team Celerio Philippines, Swift 1.2 Philippines, Club Ertiga Philippines, Vitara Club of the Philippines, Team Ciaz Philippines, and Suzuki Jimny 4x4 Club Philippines.

SPH supported a number of the car club activities last year. These included relationship-building and outreach programs between SPH and car club members.

Team Alto Pilipinas organized membership gatherings and outreach programs, one for the Aeta community and a feeding program in Binangonan, Rizal. Team Celerio Philippines' had an annual tree planting with its Aeta Livelihood Program and Christmas-in-a-Box project.

Team Ciaz Philippines' activities last year included grand membership eyeballs and a funrun. The team's fun run in Mt. Samat in March 2017 allowed Ciaz owners to enjoy the long drive and experience the flexibility and reliability of the subcompact sedan.

In addition to the regular member meetings, Club Ertiga Philippines, Inc. (CEPI) held its annual summer family get-together last June and tapped Cottolengo Filipino Orphanage as beneficiary. CEPI also held an outreach program last December at the Hundred Islands in Alaminos, Pangasinan.

Members of the Suzuki Jimny 4X4 Club Philippines organized a Mt. Balabag Trail

Day for newbie off-roaders. They joined the prestigious Rainforest Challenge Philippines 2017 as Official Marshalls. They also donated 23 personal computers and a generator to the Sitio Cuccong Elementary School in partnership with Teletech.

Meanwhile, Swift 1.2 Philippines joined last year's JSK Fun Run and held outreach programs, including one in partnership with No One In Need organization.

The Vitara Club organized several daytrips and overnight campings at the Jungle Base, Mt. Balabag, Manipo Falls and Treasure Mountain, all in Rizal, for its members and their families. "United in one team, one spirit, one goal, our continued strong partnership with the Suzuki car clubs, collectively called Team Suzuki Philippines, is one of our major achievements this past year. The support and loyalty of the car clubs to the Suzuki brand motivates each and every one of us to work harder," said Assistant General Manager for Automobile Cecil Capacete.

Shuzo Hoshikura, General Manager for Automobile, said: "We look forward to further growing Team Suzuki Philippines this year and reaffirm our commitment to supporting all their activities. As we gear up for an even more fruitful 2018, we are excited to further act on our mission to transform the automotive industry by delivering only quality products and services to better serve the Filipino people and bring to them the Suzuki Way of Life." **AQ**



UX revealed: Lexus' first urban compact crossover

THE eagerly anticipated Lexus UX urban compact crossover has broken cover with the release of the first official image and video clip, ahead of its world debut at the 2018 Geneva Motor Show on March 6.

These first visuals reveal the UX's bold and stylish design, combining powerful bodywork with a condensed appearance. Its crossover credentials are signaled by its muscular wings and haunches and high beltline, but under the skin an all-new

platform gives the UX exceptional body rigidity and a low center of gravity for the agile handling of a hatchback.

The scene inside the cabin combines a highly focused driver's cockpit, a wide and inviting passenger space and a commanding view of the road. With its brave design and imaginative technology features, the UX will offer strong appeal as a gateway model to the luxury brand in a dynamic and growing part of the market. **AQ**



LEXUS AT THE 2018 GENEVA MOTOR SHOW

LEXUS presented its new UX crossover in a world premiere at the Geneva Motor Show last March 6.

The luxury brand also hosted the European premiere of the RX L, a new version of Lexus' best-selling RX crossover, featuring three rows of seats. This new model provides comfortable accommodation for up to seven people in its cabin, with a flexible seating arrangement that also allows for excellent load-carrying flexibility. The RX L's versatile interior has been achieved with an extension of 110mm in the RX's overall length, while maintaining the crossover's stylish, coupe-like profile.

In addition, the Lexus LF-1 Limitless concept—first revealed at the Detroit Motor Show in early January—made its European debut.

Other Lexus highlights at the 2018 Geneva Motor Show included the Special Edition RC F coupe, created to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Lexus F and the RC F SPORT Black Edition. **AQ**



TOYOTA BAGS 16TH CONSECUTIVE TRIPLE CROWN

TOYOTA announces the achievement of its 16th consecutive Triple Crown, maintaining its position as the Number 1 brand in passenger car sales, commercial vehicle sales, and overall sales.

Garnering a record-breaking sales of 183,908 units, 16% up from the previous year, Toyota solidifies its position as the top automotive brand in the country, with 38.9% market share. Its major models—Wigo, Vios, Camry, Innova, Fortuner, Hilux, and Hiace also topped in their respective segments. The Fortuner was also able to achieve a new milestone of 39,680 units sold while the locally manufactured Vios sold 36,734 units.

On its 30th year, Toyota continues to uphold its commitment to provide always better cars, always better ownership experience for its Filipino customers as a way to show appreciation for their unwavering trust and confidence in the products, services, and the Toyota brand. **AQ**



SUZU Philippines Corporation (IPC) recently launched two new limited-edition variants to add excitement to the existing line-up of its Isuzu D-MAX and Isuzu mu-X models.



On February 23, IPC displayed the latest edition of the Isuzu D-MAX X-Series which serves as the model's offering to the younger market segment; alongside is the new mu-X Luxe which as the name suggests is the most well-appointed mu-X variant to date.

"Keeping our line-up fresh is the key to the very demanding market, especially for the pick-up and SUV segment. To keep up with the competition, we are offering two new variants which are designed to exude the more aggressive and luxurious side of the D-MAX and mu-X models," said IPC President Hajime Koso.

2018 D-MAX X-Series

Dressed to be more edgy, the 2018 edition of the D-Max X-Series now has a black radiator grille with red Isuzu logo, a front and rear skirt lined with a deep red accent which not only adds to its looks but also assist in the vehicles over-all aerodynamics.

The X-Series also has a color-keyed sleek cargo spoiler, matte black roof rails and



Isuzu unveils new variants of D-MAX and mu-X

red fog lamp garnish. To top off its look, the pickup now has a black 18-inch alloy wheels with a matching red lip accent.

Inside the cabin, the X-Series has a rocker plate with illuminated red Isuzu logo and additional multiple USB ports for driver and passenger convenience.

mu-X 'Luxe'

The mu-X gets a 'Luxe' variant which brings together superior features that delivers a statement and status of a premium SUV.

The luxury edition mu-X is equipped with a power-lift tailgate which opens and closes with a touch of a button for a hassle-free cargo loading. For added styling, light gray fender flares are installed which



doubles as a protective feature to deflect rocks and debris away from the vehicle's body

Adding to its already premium interior, mu-X Luxe has a new blue illuminated scuff plate and 3D surround sound system to complete the over-all luxurious experience while driving or riding the new mu-X Luxe.

Available only on a 4x2 drivetrain, both the D-MAX X-Series and mu-X Luxe runs on the ever-reliable 4JJ1-TCX 3.0L Blue Power Diesel engine that is Euro 4 compliant and is rated to produce 177 PS maximum power and 380 N-m maximum torque. **AQ**





Honda Cars PH announces safety recall for select City, Jazz, Civic, CR-V, Accord and Pilot models

HONDA Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI), Honda's automobile business unit in the Philippines, is asking customers to take part in the voluntary safety recall of select models of the City, Jazz, Civic, CR-V, Accord and Pilot sold in the Philippines from 2001–2015 due to a suspected defect in the airbag inflator of the driver side airbag.

In a statement, Honda said the recall campaign is the company's proactive effort to ensure safety of the owners of the affected vehicles. It emphasized that no accident or injuries were reported related to this concern in the Philippines, to date.

HCPI President and General Manager, Noriyuki Takakura appeals to Honda customers to take action and have their vehicle checked. "We urge affected

customers to have their vehicles repaired in any Honda Cars Dealership, as soon as possible."

The voluntary safety recall campaign for select models is free of charge and will only take about one hour in any of the 37 authorized Honda Car dealerships and three authorized service outlets nationwide. Customers can check if their Honda vehicle is affected through the recall webpage at

www.hondaphil.com/services/vin-search. The website has a Chassis Number consisting of 17 digits / Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) Check Tool to enable customers to see if their vehicle is affected. Customers can also call the dedicated Honda hotline numbers at 1-800-1000-HONDA (46632) or (02) 857-7240 between 8am to 5pm from Monday to Friday or through email at update@hondaphil.com.

HCPI aims to repair more than 199,000 possibly affected vehicles in the Philippines. Customers are encouraged to immediately schedule an appointment at any dealership. **AQ**

Phoenix Petroleum launches PULSE Technology

PHOENIX Petroleum recently unveiled its upgraded fuels powered with Phoenix PULSE Technology.

Available in all its fuel products, Phoenix PULSE Technology is an innovative formulation with advanced cleaning and protection properties for enhanced power and acceleration.

The upgraded fuel products promise three main benefits. It avoids fuel filter blockage in diesel-powered vehicles, removes deposits from fuel injectors, valves, and piston surfaces, and provides engine protection. Phoenix PULSE

Technology also helps result in better fuel economy when used continuously.

"The launch of Phoenix PULSE Technology is in fulfillment of our goal to be the most credible alternative to the major brands. We enhanced our fuel products and improved our formulation not only to be able to compete with bigger players in the oil industry, but more importantly, to add value to every peso fueled up at Phoenix," said Phoenix Petroleum Chief Operating Officer Henry Fadullon.

In just 15 years, Phoenix Petroleum has grown from five stations in Mindanao

to 530 nationwide, establishing its reputation as the fastest-growing oil company in the Philippines. Just last year, the company broadened its portfolio to include LPG with the acquisition of Petronas Energy Philippines, Inc., now Phoenix LPG Philippines, Inc., and convenience retailing with the purchase of Philippine Family Mart. It will soon venture into the bitumen business.

"As a homegrown brand, we aim to be the Filipinos' top choice not only for their fuel needs, but also for fueling their dreams and aspirations. We work

hard and continue to grow our business not only so we can bring our vision of being an indispensable partner to life, but also because as the next generation company, we want to provide this generation with the best products and services at the best value," said Phoenix Petroleum President and CEO Dennis Uy. **AQ**



Mitsubishi opens new stamping shop in Santa Rosa

MITSUBISHI Motors Philippines Corporation (MMPC) is shifting Mirage production into high gear with the opening of a new stamping shop in its manufacturing facility in Santa Rosa, Laguna.

The new facility contains a 2,000-ton stamping machine, the biggest of its kind in the Philippines. It has the capacity to produce 35,000 units in two shifts per year, enabling Mitsubishi Motors to dramatically scale up local production of the Mirage hatchback and Mirage G4 sedan.

The addition of this machinery allows Mitsubishi to press body and chassis panels for the Mirage models within the factory. This reduces the need to import pressed body and chassis panels, and increases the local content of the Philippine-built vehicles. Prior to this, metal stamped parts were ordered from Mitsubishi Motors Thailand Co. Ltd.

To achieve efficient operation of the machine, MMPC sent engineers to Mitsubishi Motors Corporation Japan (MMC) to learn the proper stamping processes, use, maintenance and repair of the machine, plus the care of the stamping die, the part that presses and forms the parts out of sheet metal.

The opening of the new shop facility comes on the heels of the inauguration of the Santa Rosa plant in 2015 and represents an important step in Mitsubishi Motors' plans to expand its presence in the fast-growing Philippine automotive market. Since its inauguration in January that year, MMPC's Santa Rosa plant has already provided 600 new jobs.

Mitsubishi is the first car manufacturer to join the Philippine government's Comprehensive Automotive Resurgence Strategy



(CARS) program. This means that by 2023, MMPC should have produced 200,000 units of the Mirage hatchback and Mirage G4. In addition to the promised quantity, another requirement is to locally source at least 50-percent of the vehicle's assembly weight.

The opening of the new stamping shop coincides with the announcement that Mitsubishi Motors has raised the local content of the Mirage to 35 percent, and will increase it further to fulfil the key requirement of the CARS program.

"The opening of our new stamping shop is the beginning of a new chapter in the story of Mitsubishi Motors' operations here in Philippines. This stamping shop enables us to turn the aspiration of localized production into a reality, further building our presence in the Philippines, at the same time as strengthening our offering to consumers," said Mutsuhiro Oshikiri, MMPC President and CEO. **AQ**



Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi alliance launches a \$1-B venture capital

LEADING automotive alliance Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi announced the launch of Alliance Ventures, a new corporate venture capital fund that plans to invest up to \$1 billion to support open innovation over the next five years.

In its first year, the fund expects to invest up to \$200 million in start-ups and open innovation partnerships with technology entrepreneurs focused on new mobility, including vehicle electrification, autonomous systems, connectivity and artificial intelligence.

With further annual investments, Alliance Ventures is set to become the largest corporate venture capital fund in the automotive industry over the period of Alliance 2022, the strategic midterm plan launched last year by Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi.

Carlos Ghosn, chairman and chief executive officer of Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi, said: "Our open innovation approach will allow us to invest and collaborate with start-up companies and technology entrepreneurs, who will benefit from the global scale of the Alliance. This new fund reflects the collaborative spirit and entrepreneurial mind-set at the heart of the Alliance."

The new fund is unique because it offers potential partners access to the global scale and scope of Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi, which sold more than 10 million vehicles in 2017 through 10 separate brands with a presence in all major automotive markets.

Alliance Ventures will invest in start-ups to bring new technologies and businesses to the Alliance while ensuring a fair financial return. The fund will make strategic investments at all start-

up stages and will incubate both new automotive entrepreneurs and forge new partnerships.

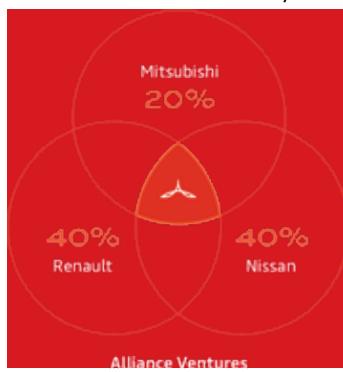
The first deal by Alliance Ventures will be a strategic investment in Ionic Materials, a promising US-based company which is developing solid-state cobalt-free battery materials. The equity acquisition coincides with the execution of a joint-development agreement with the Alliance for the purpose of R&D cooperation. Ionic, based in Massachusetts, is the developer of a pioneering solid polymer electrolyte that enables improved performance and cost effectiveness of high-energy density batteries for automotive and multiple other applications.

By making such investments, Alliance Ventures will help identify and support the development of new technologies for potential use by Alliance members. Such initiatives are aligned with the objectives of Alliance 2022, which aims to strengthen cooperation and to double the annualized synergies generated by Renault, Nissan and Mitsubishi Motors to more than \$10 billion by the end of 2022.

The \$200 million initial venture capital investment comes in addition to more than €8.5 billion in total annual research and development investments by the Alliance members.

Renault (40%), Nissan (40%) and Mitsubishi Motors (20%) will jointly fund the entity, which will have a dedicated investment committee to make investment decisions and monitor their performance.

"This investment initiative is designed to attract the world's most promising automotive-technology start-ups to the Alliance," said Ghosn. **AQ**





70 years of sports cars at Porsche

FAST. Pure. Emotive. For the past 70 years, the Porsche brand has been synonymous with sports car construction at the very highest level. The first vehicle to bear the Porsche name was registered on June 8, 1948: It was the 356 "No.1" Roadster. This is the day on which the Porsche brand was born. The Type 356 turned Ferry Porsche's dream of a sports car into a reality. "His vision at that time embodied all of the values that still define the brand to this day", said Oliver Blume, chairman of the executive board of Porsche AG, at a New Year Reception at the Porsche Museum.



"Tradition is a commitment. Without our tradition and without our core values, we would not be where we are today", explained Blume. "We plan to uphold the standard of technical excellence set by Ferry Porsche well into the future. Intelligent dynamic mobility has a great future ahead of it. And we have the solid technological expertise, creative employees and unique team spirit to be involved. We have what it takes to ensure that the Porsche brand continues to fascinate – even in another 70 years."

The history of the Porsche brand begins in 1948. Yet the foundation of the sports car manufacturer is built upon the life's work of Ferdinand Porsche – work which his son Ferry then continued. Ferdinand Porsche had already designed pioneering innovations for the automotive industry as early as the start of the last century. In 1900, he built an electric car with a wheel hub drive known as the Lohner-Porsche, a vehicle on which he would then base the world's first all-wheel-drive passenger car. In the same year, he created a template

“Porsche will always be Porsche – the leading brand for exclusive, sporty mobility”

for hybrid vehicles with the development of a mixed petrol-electric powertrain. In 1931, Ferdinand Porsche founded his own engineering office. The "Berlin-Rome Car" showcased in 1939 was the beginning of his idea for a sports car bearing the Porsche name, although this dream was only realized by his son Ferry in 1948 with the Type 356.

The successor model to the 356, the Porsche 911 designed by Ferry Porsche's son Ferdinand Alexander, finally gave the company its breakthrough as one of the leading manufacturers of sports cars in the world, both from a technical and a design perspective. The Porsche 911, presented to the global public for the first time in 1963, has now been built over a million times. "Although the 911 has been consistently

developed in the intervening decades and enhanced many times over with new, innovative technologies, no other vehicle has managed to retain its original essence in the same way as the 911", says Blume. "All Porsche models to be developed now and in the future are based on this sports car. As the centerpiece of the brand, the 911 has become the sports car of dreams, winning the collective heart of enthusiasts all over the world."

The future of Porsche sports cars is already coming up to the starting line in the form of the Mission E, the

first purely electrically driven technology champion from Zuffenhausen. This concept vehicle combines the distinctive emotional design of a Porsche, exceptional driving performance and forward-thinking everyday functionality. The four-door model with four individual seats delivers a system performance of over 440 kW (600 hp) and a range of more than 500 km, acceleration from 0 to 100 kph in less than 3.5 seconds and a charging time of around 15 minutes for 80 percent of the electrical energy required. Porsche has invested around €1 billion in this futuristic project, creating more than 1,200 additional jobs just at the headquarters in Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen, where the Mission E will be built. "Porsche will always be Porsche – the leading brand for exclusive, sporty mobility," says Blume. **aq**

Caltex rolls out TechronD Concentrate

DISEL car, van and SUV owners can now clean and keep their diesel injectorengines working like brand new with the new TechronD Concentrate cleaner.

Launched by Chevron Philippines Inc. (CPI), marketer of Caltex brand of fuels and lubricants, TechronD Concentrate cleans diesel injector deposits across a range of injector technologies and comes with Cetane Improver.

One 16-oz. bottle treats up to 80 liters of diesel fuel every 5,000 km. Users will quickly restore lost engine power; improve engine responsiveness, drivability and engine noise reduction; maximize fuel economy and remove carbon deposits in the entire fuel system. It also has cetane boost that improves cold starting and combustion, and reduces emissions.

TechronD Concentrate is also effective in older engines and the latest common rail diesel engines. It can be used with all types of diesel fuel including ultra-low sulfur diesel, bio-diesel and bio-diesel blends. It will not harm after treatment devices such as diesel fuel and particulate filters.

In tests, TechronD Concentrate restored injectors that had only 20%



(2nd from left to right)CPI Finished Lubricants executives Roel Faustino, National Sales Manager; Manuel Valerio, Technical Manager; and Hafiz Nasar, Area Business Manager, launching the all-new Techron D Concentrate that maximizes fuel economy and gives your engine a superior cleaning performance.

flow remaining to 99% flow. The additive is also effective at removing internal diesel injector deposits, as shown in engine testing and collaborative work with OEMs.

In addition, TechronD Concentrate delivers a high treat of cetane improver which functions by reducing the ignition delay period between first injection of the fuel into the cylinder and the start of combustion.

This combustion enhancing effect improves cold starting; reduces white smoke on start-up; reduces engine noise; lowers particulates, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide emissions; and reduces nitrogen oxides discharge from heavy duty diesel engines.

TechronD Concentrate is now available in Lazada and Caltex service stations nationwide. **QQ**

Caltex opens 5 new stations nationwide

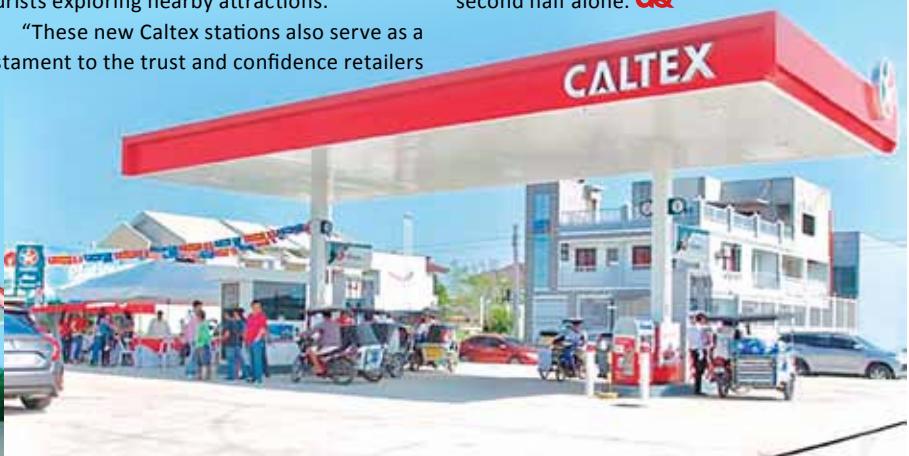
CALTEX, marketed by Chevron Philippines Inc. (CPI), opened five new stations across the country as part of Caltex efforts to expand its retail presence.

The new Caltex stations opened in General Tinio Extension, Cabanatuan

City, Nueva Ecija; National Highway, Ligao, Albay; National Highway, Cumadcad, Castilla, Sorsogon; Mac Arthur Highway, Tablac, Candon, Ilocos Sur; and in Panabo Wharf Road, Panabo, Davao del Norte. These strategic locations cater not just to residents and businesses but also to the growing number of local and foreign tourists exploring nearby attractions.

"These new Caltex stations also serve as a testament to the trust and confidence retailers

have for the Caltex brand. CPI will continue strengthening its partnership with branded marketers and retailers to be of further service to the increasingly mobile Filipino community," CPI Country Chairman Louie Zhang said. The company has since opened 19 new service stations during this year's second half alone. **QQ**





“The company has always been committed to providing exceptional product lines through scientific and technological innovation.”



Foton goes green with Blue Energy engines



FOTON Philippines has launched two new turbo-diesel engines to comply with government regulations on the Philippine National Standard for automotive diesel fuel standards.

Products of a 12-year collaboration with engine-maker Cummins Inc., Foton Motor Philippines unveiled the ISF (Interact System F) technology that has been developed for light commercial applications like pickups, vans, utility vehicles and trucks.

The key feature to the ISF design is its advanced thermal engineering, allowing the engine to deliver high torque and power, even at high temperatures, without the need for large cooling packages. This makes it lighter and more cost-effective.

To reduce noise, harshness and vibration while also increasing durability, ISF engines come with a stiffer block, composite oil pan and valve cover, and a rear gear train.

It also comes with several advanced features including an Electronic Control Module for load control, a high pressure common rail system, a wastegated turbocharger developed by Cummins Turbo Tech, a new engine filtration system and more importantly, emissions technology that allows it to meet Euro-4 standards.

Because of its architecture and performance, the Cummins ISF engines have been classified as the lightest and strongest engine in their displacement class.

Branded locally as Blue Energy, ISF will be found in the new



2.8L and 3.8L Euro-4 engines to power a select lineup of SUVs, commercial vehicles and light commercial vehicles (LCVs).

As a light duty unit, the ISF 2.8L can produce 109 and 131-PS at 3,600 RPM with torque of 280-Nm at 1,400 RPM. Max output is 163-PS at 3,600 RPM and torque of 360-Nm at 1,800 RPM.

Going heavy duty, the ISF 2.8L brings the RPM down to 3,200 with an output of 131 and 150-PS, and torque of 310-

Nm at 1,600 RPM and 360-Nm at 1,800 RPM respectively.

The ISF 3.8L only has three output specifications: the base being 143-PS and 450-Nm of torque; mid-level at 156-PS and 500-Nm of torque; and the top-spec produces 170-PS and a whopping 600-Nm of torque.

At the launch, Foton Philippines revealed that the Blue Energy engines will be available in the all-new Thunder A/T pickup, the Toplander A/T SUV, Toano, and Traveller vans and in the various trims of the highly popular light duty truck, Tornado, including the newly launched, Tornado M4.2C.

“The company has always been committed to providing exceptional product lines through scientific and technological innovation. Blue Energy is a continued expression of this promise — a product of earnest R&D that serves up a host of benefits such as power, durability, reliability, efficiency and clean operation,” said Foton Motor Philippines President Rommel Sytin. **aq**



(L-R) Shell V-Power Brand Manager Mark Malabanan, Goldsmiths, University of London analyst Cleary Ahern, health and diet guru Nadine Tengco, award-winning racecar driver Michele Bumgarner, and actor and motoring enthusiast Jericho Rosales.

Filipinos achieve highest score in worldwide driving study

DRIVING in the Philippines is no joke. Every drive in the Philippines can feel like an emotional roller coaster, but do the feelings of a driver affect their performance on the road?

Shell recently conducted the Shell Driving Experiment, a groundbreaking worldwide study that uses cutting-edge emotion tracking technology, ChatBots, mobile apps, and weather and traffic information to uncover how emotions of drivers affect their driving performance. Shell worked with experts from Goldsmiths, University of London, to monitor data points gathered from almost 15,000 journeys from participants across 11 countries in order to measure the driver performance of each country.

The results of the study were revealed during the 'What Drives You' launch event on February 27, which featured interactive installations and a panel of specialists discussing the research findings. The panelists included Cleary Ahern, a Doctoral Researcher from Goldsmiths, University of London. Ahern was then joined by other panelists composed of subject matter experts including actor Jericho Rosales, champion racer Michele Bumgarner, and health and diet guru Nadine Tengco.

In the Philippines, more than 300 participants logged nearly 2,000 journeys from three key areas – Metro Manila, Cebu, and Davao – to help uncover the nature of Filipino drivers. The data from these journeys revealed that the Philippines achieved the highest driving performance score among all the countries that participated in the global study. This means that Filipinos have smoother journeys (less incidents of harsh acceleration and harsh braking) and

are more efficient than other participating countries such as Malaysia, Germany, and the Netherlands.

The results of the study also showed that contrary to a common local stereotype, gender has no significant influence on driving performance, with personality type more likely to predict your driving style. Two



Pinoys outperform other markets in largest driving experiment done by Shell



high-performing personality types among Filipino drivers were uncovered by the study: the Modern Man and the Gamma Woman. These are the uniquely Filipino personality types that are shaped by both internal and external factors inherent in Philippine driving conditions.

The Modern Man is the type of driver that has a unique combination of sensitive and ambitious personality traits, leading

to their ability to maintain a well-balanced emotional state behind the wheel. They adapt well to any situation in life and exercise cautiousness on the road to achieve outstanding driver performance scores. The Gamma Woman on the other hand is known for her openness and emotional stability both on and off the road, leading to exceptional driving performance scores.

Family has always played a big part in the lives of Filipinos, and this was apparent in the Shell Driving Experiment. Evidence linking the presence of children and additional passengers in the car to better driving performance was consistent throughout the study. A different result was found in other countries, with drivers in Germany performing better when they are alone in the car.

The Shell Driving Experiment also confirmed that stress is a constant emotion felt by Filipinos on the road. Destination is also another factor, with findings showing that drivers who are on their way to work are more stressed than those who are on the road for other purposes. Even food plays a role in the driving performance of Filipinos. Participants of the study who reported feeling hungry during their journey had lower driver performance scores.

"The Shell Driving Experiment is part of Shell's efforts to understand the changing needs of our customers," shares Anthony Lawrence Yam, Vice President for Retail at Pllipinas Shell. "This helps us create better products and services, such as developing new fuels like Shell V-Power with DYNAFLEX Technology and the expansion of our non-fuel offers at Shell Select, which are relevant in improving the driving experience of Filipinos. At the end of the day, our goal is making life's journeys better for every Filipino on the road." **AQ**



Hino offers Euro 4-powered fleet

HINO Motors Philippines (HMP) kicks off 2018 with a new line of trucks and buses running on Euro 4-compliant engines.

An affirmation of its commitment to deliver total support to Filipinos, the company's shift to the Euro 4 emission standard complies with government regulations while responding to the industry's call for innovative transport solutions. Hino's new lineup of vehicles promises increased engine durability at greater cost efficiency and less carbon footprint.

The Euro 4-compliant fleet includes refrigerated van, cargo crane, dump truck, cab & chassis truck, tractor head, wing van, Cerito bus, Grandeza bus, and a modern Hino Jeepney Class 3AC. The new modern jeepney is part of the prototype for the government's public utility vehicle (PUV) modernization program. Designed like a mini bus, this Hino jeepney has a 23-person seating capacity.

"We are very excited to share our latest vehicles with our valued partners. As a reliable one-stop shop, we are equipped to provide 360-degree support to all our clients' trucking requirements—from assembly to chassis, body and, more importantly, aftersales and maintenance," said HMP Chairman Vicente T. Mills, Jr.

With the Philippines' aggressive infrastructure plan under the Duterte administration, the company sees continuous increase in trucking requirements, whether for brand-new



Hino launches Euro 4-compliant trucks and buses to meet growing demand for more efficient yet environment-friendly vehicles

trucks or for maintaining trucks. "The boom in infrastructure construction increases opportunities for transport businesses and truck and bus requirements over the next couple of years. The rise in domestic travel activities will also provide more impetus to the bus industry. Any increase in the movement of people will require the services of modern buses. Further, fleet replacement in compliance with Euro 4 and such requirements will translate into more sales," Mills explained.

"Hino is honored to have been given the opportunity to incorporate this ecological innovation to the Hino quality of trucks and buses. As we affirm our commitment to supporting the community,

we will continue to leverage our ability to assemble and distribute quality trucks and buses designed to address the different needs of Filipinos in the most efficient way possible," HMP President Mr. Hiroshi Aoki said.

Hino envisions a more "connected community" and is keen to help people and goods go where they need to go. HMP has been engaged in the assembly and exclusive distribution of quality Hino trucks and buses in the Philippines for more than 40 years. Known for providing safe, durable and reliable trucks, HMP meets the transport needs of businesses ranging from small and medium enterprises to big corporations. **aq**

GAZelle NEXT minibuses go on sale



RUSSIAN commercial vehicle maker GAZ Group and Gazelle Motors Corp., the official Philippine distributor of GAZ Group, are now selling GAZelle NEXT minibuses and GAZelle NEXT Citiline framed buses in the country. The vehicles are equipped with Cummins diesel engine ISF 2.8l and are sold through the own dealer centers network of Gazelle Motors Corp.

GAZelle NEXT Minibuses can be effectively used for route transportation (up to 17 commuters) and even allow standing passengers. It can serve as platform for various specialized vehicle requirements such as for public utility, transport for disabled people, school bus,

airport shuttle, or executive corporative minibuses.

The GAZelle NEXT Citiline frame bus has a shorter overall length but wider overall width. Despite the compact dimensions, these buses can carry up to 19 passengers. The buses are equipped with comfortable seats and railings allowing passengers to safely move around inside the cabin.

GAZelle NEXT family is a range of light commercial vehicles combining high functionality, modern and eco-friendly technical solutions. These are powered by the new Cummins diesel engine ISF 2.8l with Euro 4 and Euro 5 eco standards and rated at 150hp and 330 Nm.

Sales and after-sales services will be

provided by five dealer centers of Gazelle Motors Corp. in the Philippines and a network of 35 fully trained and accredited after-sales centers throughout the country provided by partner-companies Rapide and Payless.

GAZ Group is Russia's top producer of commercial vehicles, which exports to more than 40 countries worldwide. Its product portfolio includes light and medium-duty commercial vehicles, buses, heavy-duty trucks, powertrains, and car parts.

Gazelle Motors Corp. is a subsidiary of Eastern Petroleum, a diversified business group. The cooperation agreement between GAZ Group and Eastern Petroleum was signed in September 2017. **AQ**

NISSAN INAUGURATES NEW DEALERSHIP IN DUMAGUETE CITY

NISSAN strengthens its presence in the Visayas with the opening of a new dealership in Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental. The new showroom features Nissan's new retail visual design, allowing customer to rediscover excitement with the Nissan brand – from the moment they enter the dealership until they drive away in their newly purchased vehicle. Also available are the latest end-to-end customer service programs, designed to make car ownership better and more exciting.

Nissan Dumaguete also offers various after-sales services. The Nissan Express Service delivers complete periodic maintenance service within 30 minutes. The Executive Car Check-up provides a comprehensive, bumper-to-bumper assessment of any Nissan vehicle. **AQ**





Autohub Group gets Pagani deal

IT looks like the Philippine ultra-luxury car market will get much busier this year with the planned entry of another brand.

Exclusive Italian hypercar marque, Pagani, is officially entering the Philippine auto market. The Autohub Group, distributor of luxury brands like Mini, Lotus, and Rolls-Royce, will be its official distributor in the country.

Pagani Automobili is the creator of such eye-catching and space-age vehicles like the Zonda and Huayra. It was founded in 1992 by former Lamborghini engineer, Horacio Pagani. Automobile enthusiasts refer to its products as hypercars due to their performance that typically surpasses established supercars like the Lamborghini, Ferrari, and Porsche—capable of reaching speeds in excess of 320 km/h.

The Autohub Group has yet to reveal official prices of its models

as it may vary depending on options, however a standard Huayra is offered in the US starting at \$1.4 million, easily translating to an eight-figure price tag in the Philippine currency.

In addition to the Philippines, Pagani has also established partnerships in Germany, South Africa, and Southern California in 2017 to better serve Pagani customers in these territories.

In a statement, Hannes Zanon, Pagani commercial director, said: "The recent increase in production capacity and the expansion into new territories are part of a global growth plan, which aims at securing the future of our company while maintaining the exclusivity of Pagani vehicles in the respective market regions. Being close to the customer is key for our brand, and we are honored to have partners all around the world who can ensure a customer to feel right at home in the Pagani showroom." **aq**



MG launches first compact SUV in the Philippines

MORRIS Garages (MG) Philippines is expanding its four-car lineup as it joins the highly competitive compact SUV market with the MG ZS.

Priced at P1.127 million, the MG ZS undercuts a vast majority of its competition in the segment while still touting premium features and amenities to suit the Filipino taste.

The vehicle's façade boasts of daytime running lamps with 23 LED bulbs, a feature it proudly claims as something average vehicles don't have.

The vehicle also comes with an extra wide chrome grille that extends below the bumper, bearing the marque's crest, and a skid plate flanked by fog lamps on both ends.

The sunroof opens all the way to the back allowing rear passengers that panoramic

view enjoyed by those in front.

Inside the cabin is where the ZS brings forth the extra bang-for-your-buck qualities. It has a keyless entry system and a Start/Stop button for starters, plus it offers a soft-touch, two-toned leather finish and carbon-fiber framing of the eight-inch touchscreen system. iOS users will be glad to know that it comes standard with Apple CarPlay and an intuitive infotainment system.

The trunk comes with a split-level floor system that increases trunk space while also making it possible to discreetly store valuables away from prying eyes.

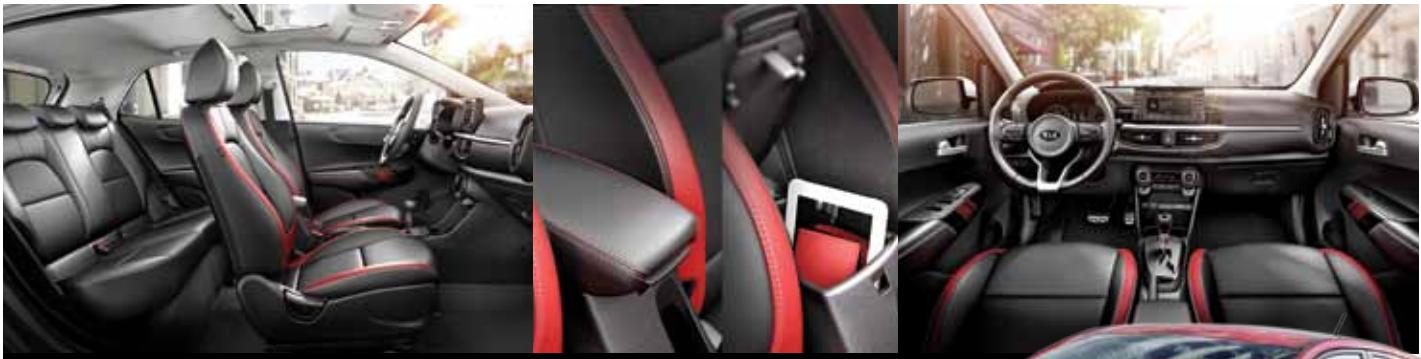
Boasting one of the most generous shoulder, leg and headroom capacities in its segment, the MG ZS offers a premium travelling experience for driver and passenger alike—providing around 55mm additional rear shoulder room and 80mm rear headroom than the segment average. An incredible 448 liters of boot capacity (some 60 liters

larger than the typical compactSUV) provides plenty of room for luggage, outdoor leisure equipment or the weekly shop, while keen cyclists and adventure sports fans will benefit from numerous compartments throughout the car which provide additional storage.

The new SUV is powered by the same 1.5-liter naturally aspirated VTi-Tech gasoline engine used by the MG 3 but tuned based on the emissions standard of the country and comes with the same specs as the China model, 120-PS and 150-Nm of torque. Only one gearbox has been made available locally and that's a four-speed automatic transmission.

The MG ZS comes with a seven-year warranty and can be purchased at any of the three dealerships of MG Philippines – one located along EDSA, another in Pasong Tamo and the third in Cebu.

MG Philippines plans to open two more dealerships within the year. **aq**



Kia Picanto: A surprise in every ride

PEOPLE have a lot of misconceptions whenever they make decisions on what new car they are going to buy. One of the biggest factors that people consider when they make these decisions is the size of the vehicle that they're going to purchase. Conventional thought is that bigger is better, though that may not always be the case.

Last year, Columbian Autocar Corporation (CAC), the exclusive distributor of Kia vehicles in the Philippines, introduced the all-new Kia Picanto as the latest iteration of the company's best-selling subcompact.

The subcompact category is one of the fastest-growing segments in the local automotive industry. Aside from their more reasonable price, prospective buyers are becoming more attracted by the different attributes that are shared by these types of the vehicle, proving that when you want to Live Large, as the marketing tagline of the Kia Picanto suggests, small is ideal.

“Kia offers the Picanto in 10 different colors to suit every style and personality. The Picanto also comes in a sportier GT-Line body style.”



An advantage to smaller cars is that they tend to be more fuel-efficient, especially when they are optimized for the start-stop nature of city driving. This was put to the test when the all-new Kia Picanto has emerged as the most efficient gasoline-powered vehicle in the 2017 Department of Energy Eco-Run with an impressive score of 29.23km/l.

The Kia Picanto, with its 3,595mm overall length and 1,595mm width, also allows it to squeeze into a variety of spaces and still be parked safely in a standard 2.4mx5m parking slot.

Maintenance cost for subcompact vehicles is more manageable for the average car owner. Consumable items like tires and fluids are more affordable so keeping it running will save money compared with a larger vehicle.

Kia offers the Picanto in 10 different colors to suit every style and personality. The Picanto also comes in a sportier GT-Line body style. **aq**



AAP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL INFORMATION					
<input type="checkbox"/> MR. <input type="checkbox"/> MRS. <input type="checkbox"/> MRS.	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME		
BIRTHDATE		BIRTHPLACE			
SEX <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	CIVIL STATUS		AGE		
CITIZENSHIP		OCCUPATION			
CONTACT INFORMATION					
HOME ADDRESS					
COMPANY NAME					
ADDRESS					
HOME PHONE	COMPANY PHONE	FAX NO.			
CELL PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS				
REGISTERED CARS					
CAR	MAKE/MODEL	YEAR	COLOR	PLATE NO. CONDUCTION STICKER NO.	FUEL TYPE
1 st					<input type="checkbox"/> GAS <input type="checkbox"/> DIESEL
2 nd					<input type="checkbox"/> GAS <input type="checkbox"/> DIESEL
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"/> PIPD	<input type="checkbox"/> ASSOCIATE GROUP	NO. OF CARS	www.aap.org.ph Registration/Refund/Outfit		
PAYMENT MODE					
Paid PhP _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash Payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card			
<input type="checkbox"/> BPI's check free payments Visit www.bpiexpressonline.com or call 89-100					
<input type="checkbox"/> Pay through Banco de Oro (institution code #0136) Upon teller's validation, BDO payment slip serves as your official receipt					
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Payment (payable to Automobile Association Philippines) Date _____ Bank _____ Account No. _____					
<input type="checkbox"/> Bancnet Online Payment (for online Applications only)					



The National Auto Club
www.aap.org.ph

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

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

AAP offers its members the following exclusive benefits:

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

Additional Products and Services:

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

* Not available in some offices

** Outsourced

DATE	APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE
FOR AAP USE ONLY	
SOURCE: <input type="checkbox"/> REC <input type="checkbox"/> TERS <input type="checkbox"/> RDL <input type="checkbox"/> HDM <input type="checkbox"/> SALES	BRANCH: <input type="checkbox"/> OTHERS
AAP I.D. NO. _____	AMOUNT PAID _____
INSURANCE NO. _____	O.R. NO. _____

MAIN OFFICE

AAP Tower, 683 Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City 1112
Tel: (632) 705 3333
Email: info@aap.org.ph
Website: www.aap.org.ph

Emergency Roadside Service Hotline: (632) 723 0808



- 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)



**THE BEST GASOLINE
IN THE COUNTRY.**

**THE ONLY 100 OCTANE AND EURO 6 GASOLINE
IN THE PHILIPPINES.**



BETTER POWER • BETTER MILEAGE • BETTER ENGINE PROTECTION
V.S. STANDARD FUELS

FORMULATED WITH
**TRI ACTION
ADVANTAGE** 



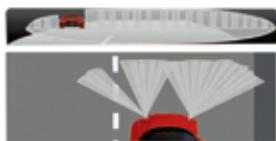
2018 MAZDA CX-5

SKYACTIV

with G-VECTORING CONTROL



MADE IN JAPAN



Adaptive LED Headlamps
with 12 Split Array



Heads Up Display



Rear Parking Sensors
and Camera Display



Lane Departure Warning

Available in 2.5L AWD & 2.0L SKYACTIV-GAS / 2.2L AWD SKYACTIV TWIN-TURBO DIESEL



"The Mazda CX-5 has always been the overachiever that Mazda promised it to be. We can talk about styling, about the features, about the engine range, about the handling, about the versatility, and so on and so forth, but what CX-5 delivers on is the feel that you're driving something far more special, and far more premium, than what the price allows. And it's very family friendly, and that's why it wins." - C! Magazine

FREE 3-year
Periodic Maintenance Service
(Parts, Oil and Labor) or 60,000 km.

Alabang 772-3168 to 69 • Greenhills 722-1102 • Makati 729-4809 • North EDSA 351-5130 • Otis 561-0973 • Pasig 655-1005 • Quezon Avenue 742-2089 • Cabanatuan (044) 940-0048 • Cagayan De Oro (088) 855-8882 • Cavite (046) 686-0698 • Cebu (032) 238-2222 • Dagupan (075) 522-1111 to 14 • Davao (082) 235-2700 • Iloilo (033) 514-3927 • Negros (034) 432-6305 • Pampanga (045) 435-6424 • Pulilan 519-4398 • Santa Rosa (049) 508-4095 • Tarlac (045) 491-1598

lovemy.mazda.ph MazdaPhilippines Mazda_ph mazda.ph

ASC Ref No. B005N101717M