

Canada auto sales rise 1% in June on Detroit 3 truck volume

TORONTO (Reuters) — Canadian auto sales in June rose 1.3 percent to 171,608 vehicles, industry consultant Desrosiers said on Wednesday. Ford Motor Co. saw its sales fall 6 percent, but it remained the top-selling automaker in Canada in June with sales of 28,703 vehicles. Chrysler Group ranked second with sales of 26,054 vehicles, 11 percent higher than a year ago. It was the 43rd consecutive month that Chrysler reported a year-over-year sales gain. General Motors placed third in June sales with volume rising 8 percent to 24,707 vehicles. Overall, automakers sold more new vehicles last month in Canada than in any previous June, Desrosiers said. In the United States, U.S.-based automakers on Tuesday reported an increase in sales of pickup trucks that outstripped the industry's overall pace. New trucks were also popular in Canada last month. U.S.-based automakers reported double-digit June sales gains for pickup trucks in Canada in June, while sales of sedans and other passenger cars fell 5 percent. Canadian sales of all light trucks, which includes SUVs, rose 7 percent last month. Ford's F-Series pickup truck registered sales of 11,051, an increase of 15 percent from a year ago. Demand for Chrysler's Ram pickup truck rose 16 percent to 7,176. At GM, pickup truck sales rose 10 percent to 9,234 units last month. Among other major automakers, Toyota Motor Corp.'s Canadian sales fell 4 percent to 17,052 vehicles in June. Also topping 10,000 in Canadian June sales were Hyundai Motor Co. at 14,605, up 6 percent, and Honda Motor Co. at 13,416 units, a gain of 11 percent or June 2012.