



Media Release Communiqué

www.auto21.ca

Automotive experts converge on Vancouver at AUTO21 Scientific Conference

For immediate release

June 12, 2006

Vancouver, B.C. - Vehicles affect the way Canadians live their lives, and future innovations will continue to influence society. Is the hydrogen economy truly possible or is it just one of many technologies fighting for future dominance? Academic and automotive industry representatives will spend two days debating this issue and more at the AUTO21 Scientific Conference at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre on June 13 and 14. AUTO21 is a federal Network of Centres of Excellence that focuses on automotive research and development.

Media are invited to attend conference sessions to learn more about the innovative auto-related research and development occurring at 39 Canadian universities through the AUTO21 Network. A conference agenda is attached for times and reference.

Speakers include representatives from Ballard Power Systems, DaimlerChrysler Canada Inc., Ford Motor Company of Canada, General Motors of Canada, QuestAir Technologies, Toyota Technical Centre U.S.A., the National Research Institute of Police Science in Japan, and the Raufoss Technology and Management Institute in Norway.

“The AUTO21 Scientific Conference provides an excellent venue to learn more about emerging issues in the automotive sector,” said Dr. Peter Frise, AUTO21 CEO and Scientific Director. “In addition to innovative research, the Network is providing training opportunities for nearly 400 graduate and post-graduate students at universities across Canada. AUTO21 is helping to keep the future Canadian automotive sector vibrant with new technologies and new minds.”

Since the Government of Canada created AUTO21 in 2001, the Network has helped Canadian researchers develop close to 30 patents on leading-edge technologies, some of which are in use by automotive manufacturers and suppliers. Supported by an annual research budget of approximately \$12 million in government and industry funding, 230 university researchers across Canada partner with industry and government researchers to work on 41 innovative auto-related research projects in the areas of health, safety, and injury prevention; societal issues; materials and manufacturing; design processes; powertrains, fuels and emissions; and intelligent systems and sensors.

- more -

Networks of Centres of Excellence are unique partnerships among universities, industry, government and non-governmental organizations aimed at turning Canadian research and entrepreneurial talent into economic and social benefits for all Canadians.

Three Canadian federal granting agencies - the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) - and Industry Canada combine their efforts to support and oversee the NCE initiative.

— 30 —

For more information:

Stephanie Campeau
AUTO21 Communications Manager
Tel: (519) 253-3000, ext. 4129
Cell: (519) 981-4598

Enc.: Conference Agenda

AUTO21 2006 Scientific Conference Agenda
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Tuesday, June 13

09:00-19:00	Registration
09:30-15:30	Ride and drives of hybrid and fuel cell vehicles
15:30-19:00	Poster viewing
18:00-19:00	Opening reception
19:00-21:00	Opening banquet Speakers: Dr. J. Gary Smyth, General Motors R&D

Wednesday, June 14

07:15-09:00	Continental breakfast
09:00-10:15	Panel Session: The Future Of The Hydrogen Economy: Is It Possible? Ralph McGill, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (retired) Michael Rosenberg, Ballard Power Systems
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:45	Panel Session: Sustaining The Auto Industry Through Ecology Dr. Christopher Bataille, M.K. Jaccard & Associates Inc. Dr. Richard Gilbert, Centre for Sustainable Transportation Dr. Odd Myklebust, Raufoss Technology and Industrial Management AS - Norway Mr. Blake Smith, Ford Motor Company of Canada
11:45-13:00	Lunch Industry Speaker: Deborah Greenman, Toyota Technical Centre, USA Honda Canada HQP Poster Awards Ceremony
13:15-14:30	Panel Session: Saving Lives Through Safer Roads Mr. Paul Boase, Transport Canada Dr. Hirotoishi Ishikawa, National Research Institute of Police Science - Japan Dr. John Mann, Daimler Chrysler Canada Inc. Dr. Tim Patterson, Baycrest Geriatric Centre
14:30-14:45	Break
14:45-16:15	Concurrent AUTO21 research sessions: Sustaining Collaboration for Innovation and Impact on Safety Outcomes Dr. Wayne Albert, University of New Brunswick Dr. Michel Bédard, Lakehead University Dr. Jennifer Durkin, University of Waterloo Dr. Andrew Howard, The Hospital for Sick Children - Toronto Public Policy and Sustainability of the Automotive Industry Dr. Dimitry Anastakis, Trent University Dr. John Holmes, Queen's University Dr. Anthony Perl, Simon Fraser University Emerging Materials for the Automobile of Tomorrow Dr. Chul Park, University of Toronto Dr. Mohini Sain, University of Toronto Dr. Carlton Fuerst, General Motors of Canada Dr. Noureddine Atalla, Université de Sherbrooke Is Energy Diversity a Path to Sustainability? Mr. Bowie Keefer, Questair Technologies Dr. Xianguo Li, University of Waterloo Mr. Gord McTaggart-Cowan, University of British Columbia Dr. Murray Thompson, University of Toronto

	<p>Sustaining Collaboration in Research and Design Dr. Faouzi Ghrib, University of Windsor Dr. Peter Gregson, Dalhousie University Dr. Greg Rohrauer, University of Ontario Institute of Technology Dr. Brian Surgenor, Queen's University Mr. John Wood, General Motors of Canada Limited</p> <p>From Concepts to Products: The Challenge of System and Information Integration in Making Cars Smarter Dr. Alain Berry, Université de Sherbrooke Dr. Elizabeth Cannon, University of Calgary Dr. Soumaya Cherkaoui, Université de Sherbrooke Dr. Ata Khan, Carleton University Dr. Wai Ng, University of Toronto</p>
18:30-21:00	Networking dinner and best project poster award