



THE AUTOMOBILE OF THE 21st CENTURY • L'AUTOMOBILE DU XXI^e SIÈCLE

MEDIA RELEASE

AUTO21 Network of Centres of Excellence Announces New Board Chair

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 30, 2002

Windsor, Ontario: AUTO21, a federal Network of Centres of Excellence focusing on automotive research and development, is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. James Miller as Chair of the Board of Directors, effective immediately. Mr. Miller has been a member of the Board since its inception in June 2001. Mr. Miller replaces the founding Chair of the Board, Dr. Inge Hansson, President of Hansson Technologies Management, whose term as Chair recently concluded.

“The AUTO21 Network of Centres of Excellence represents an outstanding opportunity for the automotive industry and the country’s research community to participate in the Government of Canada’s innovation strategy,” says Mr. Miller. “At this critical time when the focus is on strengthening the Canadian automotive industry, AUTO21 has the potential to help the industry compete in the global market by advancing the introduction and adoption of innovative methods, materials and technologies. I am truly pleased to have the honour of serving as the Chair of the Board of Directors for AUTO21.”

Mr. Miller is currently Senior Vice-President of Corporate Affairs for Honda Canada. He began his career in the automotive industry in 1964 at Ford Motor Company. He has held a variety of positions of increasing responsibility in areas such as sales and marketing. He joined Honda Canada in 1983 to assist with the launch of the Acura Division of the company. Prior to his current role, Mr. Miller held the positions of Vice-President and Senior Vice-President of Automobile Sales and Marketing for Honda and Acura. A graduate of York University, Mr. Miller also serves as Past Chair of the Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters and is a Board Member of the Canadian Automotive Institute at Georgian College.

The Government of Canada established the AUTO21 Network of Centres of Excellence in 2001 to help position Canada as a world leader in automotive research and development. More than 200 researchers at 28 Canadian universities are working on innovative, auto-related 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. In addition to the federal grant of \$23 million over the next four years, AUTO21 is supported by industry, government and institutional contributions of \$11 million.

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University of Windsor / Université de Windsor, 401 avenue Sunset Avenue, Windsor, ON N9B 3P4

Phone/téléphone: (519) 253-3000 ext./poste 4130 • Fax/télé.: (519) 971-3626 • www.auto21.ca • info@auto21.ca





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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. An integral part of the federal government's Innovation Strategy, these nation-wide, multidisciplinary and multisectorial research partnerships connect excellent research with industrial know-how and strategic investment.

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

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For more information:
Ms. Stephanie Campeau
Communications Manager
AUTO21 Network of Centres of Excellence
(519) 253-3000, ext. 4129

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