

Hybridcars.com Gives Home to Hybrid Car Revolution - Online Tools Help Consumers Navigate New Automotive Landscape

Hybridcars.com, the leading independent source for information on hybrid cars, launched a new version of its website today. The site introduced a full set of online tools to help consumers learn about new hybrid car models, fuel efficiency, oil dependency, and alternative auto technologies. Sales of hybrid cars in the United States are predicted to reach at least 200,000 in 2005, more than doubling last year's 88,000 sold.

(PRWEB) January 20, 2005 -- Hybridcars.com, the leading independent source for information on hybrid cars, launched a new version of its website today. The site introduced a full set of online tools to help consumers learn about new hybrid car models, fuel efficiency, oil dependency, and alternative auto technologies. Sales of hybrid cars in the United States are predicted to reach at least 200,000 in 2005, more than doubling last year's 88,000 sold.

The new site allows consumers to hear directly from hybrid drivers, auto industry analysts, and leaders in the movement toward more fuel-efficient vehicles. $\hat{A} \Box Hybrids$ have been on the road for years, yet common myths about them persist. We $\hat{A} \Box$ re trying to raise public awareness and dialogue to a new level $\hat{A} \Box$ said Bradley Berman, Editor of Hybridcars.com.

The redesigned site will feature expanded content, expert blog columns, an environmental calculator, daily hybrid news tracking, a monthly email newsletter, surveys, eBooks, and discussion forums. $\hat{A} \square$ We are providing information about everything from car specs and hybrid car tax incentives to strategies for maximizing miles-per-gallon, $\hat{A} \square$ Berman added.

Hybridcars.com also tackles tough social issues, such as foreign oil dependency, terrorism, global warming, and the reluctance of American automakers to raise fuel efficiency standards. In his Hybridcars.com blog, $\hat{A} \Box Hybrid Daze, \hat{A} \Box$ cultural observer David J. Miller explained why he bought his Ford Escape Hybrid, "I view each trip to the pump as a partial beheading for myself, my country and the Americans who make a career out of defending the United States." Nearly two-thirds of the world $\hat{A} \Box$ s known oil reserves are under just six Persian Gulf nations: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Iran and Qatar. Other Hybridcars.com bloggers include economist Walter McManus, hybrid mechanic Craig Van Batenburg, technologist Kip Munro, Prius-driving Soccer Mom Maria McClean, and Aeman (Alternative Energy Man).

The site s Gas Mileage Impact Calculator is an interactive tool that allows users to compare hybrid and conventional models in terms of annual gas consumption, fuel costs, and the emission of global warming gases and other pollutants. The difference in carbon dioxide emissions between a hybrid, such as the Toyota Prius, and a similar combustion engine model, such as the Toyota Camry, can be as much as 6,000 pounds. That is more than a 50% decrease in emissions. Moreover, the Prius provides over \$500 annually in fuel savings. The Gas Mileage Impact Calculator was sponsored by Honda. Data for the calculator was provided by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy.

 $\hat{A}\Box$ The release of the new site, including interactive tools, new layout and new contributors, is just the beginning. We are dedicated to providing accessible, original, accurate, and independent information to those interested in learning about the changes that hybrid automobiles herald. It $\hat{A}\Box$ s not just about cars. The



environment, the economy, and our national security hang in the balance, $\hat{A} \square$ noted Berman.

For additional information contact: David J. Miller, 415-341-6610 or visit http://www.Hybridcars.com

About HybridCars.com

Hybridcars.com is an independent provider of information about hybrid cars, the auto industry, consumer choice, environmentalism, politics, energy independence, and technological innovation. The website is based in Montclair, New Jersey, and has contributors in California, Michigan, Texas, Massachusetts, and Canada.

Established in 2003, HybridCars.com offers independent product reviews, extensive community discussion boards, hybrid related blogs and news, and other hybrid related tools such as the Gas Mileage Impact Calculator.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release here.