



Automotive Resources International

Fleet Street

Fleet News from ARI Canada

April 2011

Vehicle Delivery Update

The aftermath of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami continues to affect the production and delivery of both vehicles and parts. As there are a number of manufacturers and vehicles involved, and a resolution to the situation remains uncertain, ARI has and continues to work closely with its OEM partners to determine the status of any client orders that may have been affected by production delays.

Current Order Status

Japanese hybrids, in particular, are manufactured exclusively in that country and not in North America, as is the case with other Japanese models.

Clients with outstanding orders that may be affected have been notified by their respective Client Service Representative of any potential delays. In general, all new orders of Japanese produced vehicles will now be treated as stock vehicles, which means they will be sourced out of existing dealer stock within Canada.

Paint Component Shortages

A shortage of a component from a Japanese supplier has affected the availability of certain paint colours for a number of domestic and foreign manufacturers. Clients with outstanding orders that may be affected by paint shortages have been notified by their respective Client Service Representative and have been presented with other paint options. Similarly, clients will be advised at the time of ordering if their preferred colour is unavailable.

Outlook

The outlook for when vehicle production will return to normal remains unclear. Toyota has recently announced that due to parts shortages North American production will be suspended for much of May. Subaru has also announced that continued supply chain issues will likely delay the start of 2012 model year production until the fall. Subaru's 2011 models will continue to be produced throughout April and May with all delayed production catching up by the end of June.

Transportation Issues

Transport issues, which are unrelated to the situation in Japan, may also affect the delivery of some vehicles. Availability of rail transportation has been limited in some areas, which has affected the transport of some North American vehicles from manufacturing facilities to dealerships. Again, clients with affected vehicles have been notified individually.

Further updates will be forthcoming until the delivery situation returns to normal. In the meantime, please contact your ARI representative with any questions or concerns.

ARI® Cross Canada Client Seminar Series

ARI, along with General Motors, Chrysler Canada, and Ford Fleet, is pleased to announce the dates for our 2011 Cross Canada Client Seminar Series. Sessions will include presentations on leading edge fleet technology, along with guest speakers, followed by golf in the afternoon.

Client Seminars will be held in the following cities:

Toronto: June 6th

Angus Glen Golf Club (pictured)

Vancouver: July 18th

Furry Creek Golf & Country Club

Calgary: July 20th

Country Hills Golf Club

Edmonton: July 21st

Wolf Creek Golf Resort

Montreal: September 14th

Les Quatres Domaines Golf Club



The event is open to all ARI clients and other fleet professionals, with additional opportunities for fleet vendors. For information on how to participate, please contact info@arifleet.ca or Peter Nogalo at 905-804-2129. **Pre-registration is required.**

Spring Vehicle Maintenance

The long Canadian winter is can be tough, particularly on vehicles. With spring finally arriving, it's a good time for some basic maintenance to ensure your vehicle remains in top condition. With the warmer weather coming, be sure to activate the air conditioning system to ensure it is working properly. If it isn't, be sure to arrange an appointment soon, in order to beat the rush that will come. An air conditioner that is not working properly should be repaired as soon as possible to avoid a much more expensive repair down the road.

Windshield wiper blades should be checked in the spring because harsh winters can wreak havoc with the rubber. If the wipers are worn down, they should be replaced. It is a small way to keep you driving safely with clear vision.

Now is also the time to give a vehicle a good wash. With the salt and grime that comes from winter driving, a thorough washing, including the wheel wells and under-body, is an easy way to have the vehicle ready for road, while protecting it from corrosion.

Lastly, and most importantly, winter tires should be removed as soon as the weather conditions allow. Winter tires will break down quickly if driven during warmer weather. Winter tire rubber is significantly softer, which allows for flexibility during colder temperature, but once the weather warms up the threads wear down. It is also important to record the tread depth on all four tires before putting them into storage. ARI Contact Centre Technicians are instructed to request the information each time tires are changed seasonally. This ensures that tire storage charges are not incurred un-necessarily.

Chrysler Canada Ride and Drives

Chrysler Canada National Fleet has announced the dates for their 2011 Chrysler Spring Fleet Launch Meeting Ride and Drives, featuring the All-New 2011 Chrysler 300, Chrysler 300C, Chrysler 200, Chrysler 200 Convertible (pictured) and Chrysler Town & Country. ARI clients should pre-enrol for the events, which will be held in the following four cities across Canada:

Thursday April 28th, 2011 - Calgary Alberta

Spruce Meadows
18011 14th Street SW
Calgary, Alberta
Lunch will be served at Noon
Ride and Drive 1:00 PM until 4:30 PM

Thursday May 5th, 2011 - Edmonton Alberta

Mayfield Inn & Suites
16615 - 109th Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
Ride and Drive 9:00 am until 12:00 Noon
Lunch will be served at Noon

Thursday May 12th, 2011 - Montreal Quebec

Plaza Volare
6600 chemin Cote-de-liesse
Montréal, Québec
Ride and Drive 9:00 am until 12:00 Noon
Lunch will be served at Noon

Thursday May 19th, 2011 - Toronto Ontario

Pearson Convention Centre
2638 Steeles Avenue East
Brampton, Ontario
Lunch will be served at Noon
Ride and Drive 1:00 PM until 4:30 PM



To enrol please visit Chrysler's enrolment Website at - www.chryslerfleettour.com, call the Chrysler Fleet Info Line at - 1-800-463-3600, or e-mail the Chrysler Fleet Info Line at fleetinfo@chrycan.com.

Ontario to Relax Drive Clean Rules

The Ontario government will move to relax the rules around the Drive Clean emissions testing

program. With the change, biannual mandatory emissions tests will not be required until a vehicle is at least seven years old. Currently, emissions tests are required after five years.

Given technological advancements, the government says that the new seven year standard will be as effective in curbing polluting vehicles as the current five year requirement.

In another change, testing will no longer be required when a driver is buying out a lease or when transferring ownership within a family, provided the vehicle has been tested within the past two years.