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GM's Robert A. Lutz to Receive SAE Foundation's 2006 Manufacturing Leadership Award

Troy, MI (April 24, 2006) – Robert A. Lutz, vice chairman, Global Product Development, General Motors Corporation, is the recipient of the 2006 Manufacturing Leadership Award presented by the SAE Foundation. Lutz will receive the award at the annual SAE Foundation Banquet on Wednesday, May 24, at the Detroit Marriott at the GM Renaissance Center.

The banquet benefits educational programs offered through the SAE Foundation for students in elementary, middle and high school, as well as college and beyond. The SAE educational programs involve mentors from the engineering profession who work with students and teachers in the classroom on projects that bring many math and science principles and theories to life.

The Manufacturing Leadership Award recognizes individuals who have made meaningful contributions to the development of the automotive industry. Nominees must have achieved a significant level of success in their manufacturing careers, demonstrated innovation and risk taking, and established a new direction or developed a position that challenged their industry. Applicants must also have made contributions outside the automotive industry, exemplified through community education, philanthropic or government activities.

"I am deeply honored by this prestigious award from the SAE Foundation," Lutz said. "However, by definition, it recognizes the teamwork and coordination necessary to bring great products from concept to the marketplace. Therefore, I share this honor with the outstanding design, engineering and manufacturing teams at General Motors."

Robert A. Lutz

Robert A. Lutz was named General Motors vice chairman of product development on September 1, 2001. On November 13, 2001, he was named chairman of GM North America and served in that capacity until April 4, 2005 when he assumed responsibility for Global Product Development. He also served as president of GM Europe on an interim basis from March to June 2004.

As leader of Global Product Development at GM, Bob Lutz is emphasizing cutting-edge design, high quality engineering, and a swift response to customer demand. The Pontiac Solstice, Chevrolet HHR, Hummer H3 and Buick Lucerne are just a few of the popular new vehicles that have gone from concept to city streets under Lutz's leadership.

Lutz began his automotive career in September 1963 at GM, where he held a variety of senior positions in Europe until December 1971. For the next three years, he served as executive vice president of sales at BMW in Munich and as a member of that company's board of management.

Lutz was chairman and CEO of Exide Technologies, the world's largest independent producer of lead-acid batteries, from 1998 to 2001, continuing as chairman through April 2002. He is the author of *Guts: 8 Laws of Business from One of the Most Innovative Business Leaders of Our Time*, a best-selling business book.

Lutz received his bachelor's degree in production management from the University of California-Berkeley in 1961, where he earned distinction as a Phi Beta Kappa. He received a master's degree in business administration, with highest honors, from the University of California-Berkeley in 1962. He received an honorary degree of doctor of management from Kettering University on June 21, 2003, and an honorary doctorate of law from Boston University in 1985.

He serves as chairman of The New Common School Foundation and as a trustee of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. He is also a member of the board of trustees for the U.S. Marine Corps University Foundation and vice chairman of the board of trustees for the Marine Military Academy in Harlingen, Texas.

Lutz served as a jet-attack aviator in the United States Marine Corps from 1954 to 1965 and attained the rank of captain. He was born on February 12, 1932, in Zurich, Switzerland.

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