Your Auto Destination
AUTONET

■ SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE

Local dealership unveils new Lexus GX 460

DON FRASER
Standard Staff

It's designed to be a showcase of go-anywhere performance merged with supreme luxury.

Last week, Performance Lexus in St. Catharines decked out its Lake Street showroom into an outdoor adventure scene to unveil the new 2010 Lexus GX 460.

"This is a premium, luxury, sport-utility vehicle," said Niels Pedersen, Performance Lexus/Toyota's general manager in an interview at the launch.

"So it's particularly aimed at the higher end of the luxury market," he said.

"What we've tried to present here this evening in the other showroom is the flexibility and the function that's associated with the Lexus sport utilities — in particular the GX 460."

"This is a premium, luxury, sport-utility vehicle. So it's particularly aimed at the higher end of the luxury market."

Niels Pedersen, Performance Lexus/Toyota's general manager

Pedersen said as an eight-cylinder, all-wheel drive vehicle, it's very capable in its towing capacity and is "a very rugged off-road drive with advanced technology."

This second-generation GX 460 has performance upgrades that include a new V-8 and six-speed automatic transmission with sequential shift.

It gives out 14% more power and is 11% more fuel efficient than the vehicle it replaces.

A long list of interior and exterior upgrades are also part of the package, including 18-inch wheels, smart key access and an integrated back-up camera.

Standard features include heated rear seats, Mark Levinson audio, HDD navigation system, Bluetooth and USB audio inputs.

It also contains safety measures like active front headrests with whiplash protection and a vehicle segment-leading total of 10 airbags.

The GX 460's highway fuel efficiency is 29 miles per gallon, or 9.8 litres per 100km. In the city, it gets 20 miles per gallon, or 14.1 litres per 100 km.

The models, which are available now, start at $68,500.

dfraser@stcatharinesstandard.ca

BOB TYMCZYSZYN Standard Staff
Staff at Performance Lexus unveiled the new GX 460 to invited guests last week.

HYUNDAI™ SMART ADVANTAGE

LOWER PRICES
OR WITH
0% PURCHASE FINANCING
FOR UP TO 5 YEARS.◊

2010 ACCENT L 3DR

MSRP $13,599
NEW SALE PRICE $9,999♦ WITH 0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 36 MOS.◊
GL Sport model shown

2010 ELANTRA L

MSRP $15,349
NEW SALE PRICE $11,999♦ WITH 0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 60 MOS.◊
Limited model shown
2009 ELANTRA "Highest Ranked Compact Car in Initial Quality in the U.S." -J.D. Power & Associates®

2010 ELANTRA TOURING L

MSRP $14,899
NEW SALE PRICE $13,999♦ WITH 0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 36 MOS.◊
GLS Sport model shown

2010 SONATA GL

MSRP $22,499
NEW SALE PRICE $17,999♦ WITH 0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 36 MOS.◊
Limited model shown
"MOST FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE IN ITS CLASS" -ecoENERGY Award, Natural Resources Canada¥

2010 SANTA FE GL 2.4L

Redesigned with a distinctive new style
STARTING FROM $25,999♦ WITH 0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 60 MOS.◊
Limited model shown

INTRODUCING THE ALL-NEW 2010 TUCSON
Starting From $22,999♦
Or Lease From $250** at 2.9%
Annual Lease Rate for 48 mos. with $4,695 down payment.
Delivery & Destination incl.

Limited model shown

HYUNDAI CLEAN AIR COMMITMENT
PLUS GET UP TO $1,000‡ IN ADDITIONAL SAVINGS WHEN YOU TURN IN YOUR 1995 MODEL YEAR OR OLDER VEHICLE.
5 YEAR WARRANTY 100,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY††
64079936

To find your local dealer or to get more information on our fuel-efficient line-up visit www.hyundaicanada.com
HYUNDAI™

GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. ♦Prices for models shown: 2010 Accent 3 DR GL Sport 5-speed is $14,299/2010 Elantra Limited is $20,449/2010 Elantra Touring GLS Sport is $21,899/2010 Sonata V6 Limited is $29,499/2010 Santa Fe Limited is $35,799/2010 Tucson Limited is $32,449. Delivery and Destination charges of $1,495 for 2010 Accent/$1,495 for 2010 Elantra/$1,495 for 2010 Elantra Touring /$1,565 for 2010 Sonata/$1,760 for 2010 Santa Fe/$1,760 for 2010 Tucson, registration, insurance, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◊Purchase financing available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services on 2010 Accent 3Dr/2010 Elantra/2010 Elantra Touring/2010 Sonata/2010 Santa Fe models with a finance rate of 0%/0%/0%/0%/0% for 36/60/36/36/60 month terms. Financing example: 2010 Accent L 3Dr 5-speed for $9,999 at 0% per annum equals $319.28 per month for 36 months for a total obligation of $11,494. Cash price is $11,494. Example price includes Delivery & Destination of $1,495. Example price excludes registration, insurance, licence fees and all applicable taxes. **Leasing offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2010 Tucson GL 6-speed with an annual lease rate of 2.9%. Monthly payment is $250 per month for a 48 month walk-away lease. Down Payment of $4,695 and first monthly payment required. Total lease obligation is $16,695. Lease offer includes Delivery and Destination of $1,495. Example price excludes registration, insurance, licence fees, insurance, registration, PPSA ($45), and taxes are excluded. $0 security deposit on all models. 20,000 km allowance per year applies. Additional charge of $0.10/km. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ♦♦"Offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ◊◊The Hyundai Elantra received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact cars in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 80,930 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 245 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ¥ecoENERGY Initiatives help Canadians use energy more efficiently, boost renewable energy supplies and develop cleaner-energy technologies. ‡You may qualify for an additional incentive if you turn in your 1995 model year and older vehicle and participate in the national Retire Your Ride program. Hyundai Auto Canada will provide additional Clean Air Cash that must be applied to the purchase of a new Hyundai vehicle in the amount of ($500 - 2009 Accent / $500 - 2009 Elantra sedan / $500 - 2009 Elantra Touring / $500 - 2009 Sonata / $500 - 2009 Tucson / $500 - 2009 Santa Fe / $1,000 - 2009 Genesis Sedan / $1,000 - 2009 Genesis Coupe / $500 - 2010 Accent / $500 - 2010 Elantra sedan / $500 - 2010 Elantra Touring / $500 - 2010 Sonata / $1,000 - 2009 Veracruz / $1,000 - 2010 Veracruz/ $500 - 2010 Santa Fe). Clean Air Cash will be applied to reduce the after-tax purchase price of your new Hyundai vehicle. By participating in this program you will not be eligible for any trade-in value for your old vehicle. For more information about the Retire Your Ride Program visit www.retireyourride.ca. Some conditions apply, see dealer for details. ΔSee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. †Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.

■ MR. GADGET

Sounding off on exhaust notes and flatware

COGA - AUTO P.A. SYSTEM
Price: about $70 U.S.
Available at: www.cogapa.com
Description: This is the gadget for drivers who want a horn that will turn heads and attract attention. The next time you want someone to move out of your way, instead of pushing down on your boring horn, use the Coga to blast them with a fog horn, a tug boat horn, a vintage car horn, or choose from a variety of animal sounds (including elephant roar), sound effects, voices or melodies.

Coga comes with 80 pre-recorded sounds and music clips, ready to go at the push of a button. You can also record your own songs or sounds using the built-in microphone. And should you ever feel the need to talk to people around while stuck in traffic, just press a button and speak into the built-in microphone. Whatever you have to say will be broadcast via the built-in public address system.

This gadget works through your 12-Volt outlet (or it can be hard-wired in), and uses a simple 2-wire system to connect to a dedicated loud speaker.

SOUNDRACER
Price: about $40 - $50 Canadian
Available at: List of retailers at www.soundracer.se; or on eBay
Description: This has got to be the coolest gadget I've seen in a long time. Plug the SoundRacer into your car's lighter/12-Volt outlet, turn on your FM radio, and the SoundRacer makes your car sound like a muscular sports car.

Somehow, this Swedish company has figured out a way to pick up your car's engine revs, magnify and enhance them, and then send them through the FM airways so that the new and improved engine sounds come through your speaker system.

Whether you drive a truck, sedan or subcompact, your car can now sound like a mammoth V8 or V10 supercar. You won't believe it until you hear it. Unfortunately, this gadget will not work on hybrids, and is not compatible with some makes and models.

WRENCH CUTLERY SET
Price: about $20 U.S.
Available at: www.genuine-hotrod.com
Description: Real men don't mind eating with their hands, but when the need to eat in a more civilized manner presents itself, real men don't feel the need to fuss with silverware or dainty knives and forks. That's why this stainless steel Wrenchware set makes perfect sense. It features a fork with a box wrench end, spoon with an open end wrench, and a knife featuring pliers' ends so even when you're fine dining, you can still feel like you're in the garage.

Sure...others might make fun of your cutlery, but when the need to tighten a bolt at the base of a wobbly dining room table rears its ugly head somewhere between the main course and dessert, their snickers will quickly turn to admiration as you get down on all fours to rescue the day.