



Canada 

Employee Communications

Hirata Equipment Installation Sets Record Within GM

St. Catharines HFV6 Demonstrate A World Class Production Ramp

On Friday, August 15th, the GM St. Catharines Engine Plant broke an industry record by completing the ramp of the first module of its High Feature V6 engine program by building engines at full capacity in less than four months after initial production. The team successfully achieved their ramp target one week earlier than scheduled, despite several obstacles including the power outage, schedule changes and increased volumes.

At the outset, the High Feature V6 Team set aggressive ramp goals. The first was to achieve the ramp in less than four months, a two-month improvement from that of the Gen III ramp, re-establishing the St. Catharines Engine Plant as holding the record for fastest ramp. Amongst some of the other goals was to reach first module capacity of 350 engines per day while demonstrating world-class safety, people involvement, quality, responsiveness and cost. This concept of achieving a balanced scorecard at benchmark levels in all metrics is of high importance to the St. Catharines leadership team, as well as their customers. Plant Manager Bill Shaw commented, "not only did the High Feature V6 Team meet all customer expectations, they exceeded them by one week, congratulations".

"Give St. Catharines a product and a challenge and they will demonstrate their world class ability to deliver it, my sincerest congratulations."
Al Green, vice president & general director ? personnel (GM Canada).

Homi Patel, GM Powertrain vice president and general manager of manufacturing operations, also congratulated the team. "My congratulations to the HFV6 team for completing their production ramp in record time. Keep up the good work at the St. Catharines engine plant and keep building the 'world's best powertrains!'"

The High Feature V6 engine powers the very popular Cadillac CTS and the all-new Cadillac SRX.
