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Roush to Speed Product Development With New Transient Dynamometer Cell & Advanced Testing Methods

LIVONIA, MI. (April 14, 2008) – Roush recently completed the commissioning of a low inertia, high performance AC dynamometer cell on its Livonia, Michigan campus. With the commissioning of this cell, Roush adds test-bed based vehicle development, model-based mapping and climatic conditioning to its extensive range of performance, driveability, and emissions development testing services. The new advanced facility will enable Roush to significantly reduce its customers' product development time and program cost.

Jim Yagley, Roush's vice president of engineering, explained that this level of advanced technology is essential to address today's increasingly complex engines, greater demands for fuel economy, and more stringent emission standards. "Our customers are challenged both internally and externally to reach higher performance standards while simultaneously cutting costs and timing," Yagley stated. "We are one of very few suppliers to offer our customers the option of replacing costly prototype vehicles and lengthy field testing with simulated vehicle systems, drive cycles, and climatic conditions." Testing in a controlled environment with advanced design of experiments and testing methods results in increased program security, greater accuracy, and a dramatic reductions in critical cost and time-to-market milestones.

The climatic chamber is capable of controlling ambient temperature from -40C to 90C (-40F to 194F). In addition to controlling ambient temperature the Roush rapid cool system facilitates fast and highly controlled engine chilling for increased testing efficiency.

The dual-ended dynamometer is capable of having two engines mounted for testing at one time; one in climatic chamber and one ambient. The dynamometer can absorb 600 kW and 818 Nm (805 hp & 603 ft-lbf) and maximum speed of 10,000 rpm, with fuel conditioning and supply for gasoline, methanol, ethanol, and diesel testing. The cell also provides dual stream modal emissions sampling with diesel particulate and smoke measurements.

This cell complements the 50 other development and durability dynamometer cells on the Roush testing campus. As one of the automotive industry's leading resources for powertrain development services, Roush's engineering teams design, develop, test, and manufacture complex powertrain systems and offer customers seamless access to a host of in-house analysis, project management, and vehicle development services.

Founded in 1976, Roush is a full-service engineering supplier headquartered in the Detroit suburb of Livonia, Michigan, with over 2,500 employees in facilities located throughout North America. Widely recognized for providing engineering, testing, product development, and manufacturing services to the transportation industry, Roush also provides significant support to the automotive aftermarket, electronics, consumer product, and motorsports industries. More information can be found at their website, www.roushind.com.

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