

# School of Transportation Newsletter

The **FUTURE** of **LEARNING**

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Issue LXXXVI



## Automotive & Motorcycle Department



Above: **The Motorcycle Program Advisory Committee**. PAC members and College resource people, from left to right, are: Chris Mackovski, student; Caroline Mbutia, recording secretary; Dave Shepherd, Yamaha Motor Canada; Peter Woodall, Department Chair; Paul Shantz, Suzuki Canada; Steve Redford, Barrie Harley Davidson; Roy King, faculty member; Stu Bottrell, Canadian Scooter Corp; Laurent Feuiltault, Kawasaki Motors Canada; Jeff Down, MTD Products Ltd. Our students have a motorcycle lab to die for, filled with fabulous products, donated by these and other industry friends and partners. Together, we are better!

The **Automotive & Motorcycle** department is one busy place! With five, 8-week intakes a year as well as 14 day-release programs that run for as long as 40 weeks, the department offers as many as 24 different classes during peak periods. The department serves a variety of trades including AST, Motorcycle, Autobody and Parts as well as, occasionally, specialty programs like Transmission Technicians and Alignment and Brake Specialists. It also conducts apprenticeship classes for high school students in OYAP programs and in two different pre-apprenticeship programs. Post-secondary offerings include a class of 76 autobody students, 45 Motorcycle & Powersports students as well as four co-op programs partnered with Chrysler Canada and the Toronto Auto Dealers Association.

Most of the students in the department are in Automotive Service Technician apprenticeship programs which are the foundation for all of the automotive programs in SoT. This is the base curriculum for all of the Modified Apprenticeship Programs and post secondary automotive programs that followed after the responsibility for training Automotive Service Technicians (previously known as "Motor Vehicle Mechanics") was transferred to colleges from the Provincial Institute of Trades in the late sixties. Before that, in the late forties and early fifties, Motor Vehicle Mechanics were trained by what is now Ryerson University. AST programs are dynamic and evolving entities, however, and are thoroughly up to date with a, system-wide, shiny new curriculum slated for January 2010 that was developed by a faculty and industry team led by Centennial.

Most of SoT's faculty, are Centennial graduates and, in fact, many are now "second generation" graduates. In the Automotive department alone we are pleased to have at least ten recently hired teachers teaching alongside those who taught them in their apprenticeship classes. Centennial AST graduates are also to be found amongst the ranks of teachers in high schools, other colleges and in many manufacturers' training departments. This is a department with a lot of history and a great legacy for the industries that it serves.

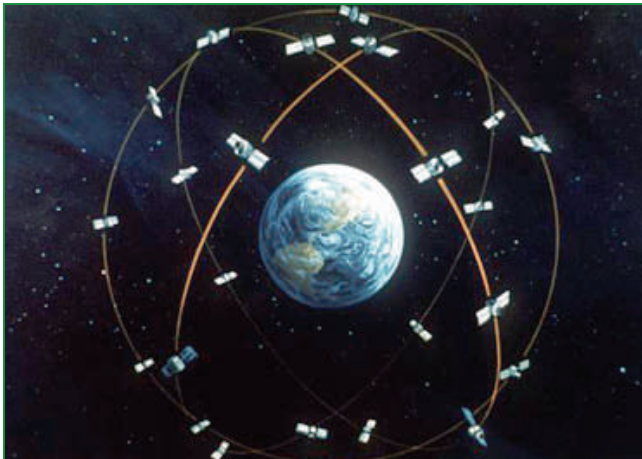
*Wheels & Wings*

## Cadillac Escalade Hybrid



Marry bling-bling with cool, innovative hybrid technology and you have a hit that'll solicit questions from guys in all directions. Large hybrid decals are plastered everywhere so no guy will miss this green monster machine. Sure, it's slightly better on the environment and your pocketbook than its gas-powered sibling. But it costs \$93,390 compared with the conventional gas-powered SUV, which starts at \$77,685. (Petrina Gentile's Top Ten, Globe and Mail)

## Finding Your Way With GPS Technology



When people talk about "a GPS," they usually mean a **GPS receiver**. The **Global Positioning System (GPS)** is actually a **constellation** of 27 Earth-orbiting satellites (24 in operation and three extras in case one fails). The U.S. military developed and implemented this satellite network as a military navigation system, but soon opened it up to everybody else.

Each of these 3,000- to 4,000-pound solar-powered satellites circles the globe at about 12,000 miles (19,300 km), making two complete rotations every day. The orbits are arranged so that at any time, anywhere on Earth, there are at least four satellites "visible" in the sky. Source: <http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/gadgets/travel/gps>



View the SoT video (2 minutes) by clicking [here](#)