

Beat: Automobiles

Daimler makes three-millionth Commercial Vehicle

North America

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USPA NEWS - Truck subsidiary Daimler Trucks North America celebrates production milestone. Anniversary vehicle Freightliner Cascadia Evolution rolls off the line at plant in Cleveland, North Carolina. Daimler is the leading manufacturer of medium-duty and heavy-duty trucks in North America

The wholly-owned Daimler commercial vehicles subsidiary Daimler Trucks North America (DTNA) is celebrating the production of its three-millionth vehicle in Cleveland. The anniversary truck Freightliner Cascadia Evolution is going into customer operations at "Schneider"^[2], one of the largest logistics and transportation service companies in North America with around 80 years of business history.

Schneider's fleet of over 25,000 Freightliner trucks will now be supplemented by the jubilee truck. The Freightliner Cascadia Evolution is equipped with the completely integrated drivetrain of the Detroit component brand including the fully automated DT12 transmission. The flagship model is setting new standards for savings of operating costs. Compared to its EPA 2010-conformant predecessor model the Freightliner Cascadia Evolution achieves up to seven percent higher fuel efficiency.

"The integrated drivetrain from Detroit is a prime example of the pioneering spirit and innovation power that have made Freightliner the undisputed market leader in the North American commercial vehicles industry"^[2], says Martin Daum, President and CEO of Daimler Trucks North America. DTNA is the only truck manufacturer in the NAFTA region to develop and produce a fully integrated drivetrain from one single source. The customers benefit from these optimal consecutively adjusted drive components consisting of engines, axles and transmissions of the Detroit brand.

Since the production start in the year 2013, the Freightliner Cascadia Evolution has already been ordered more than 50,000 times. The model is making a significant contribution to the success of Daimler Trucks in the NAFTA region, where Daimler sold around 135,000 commercial vehicles last year. In view of the expected market growth in the NAFTA region, in the current year unit sales should continue to develop positively to a significantly higher level than that seen in the year before.

In addition to the announcement of the production of the three-millionth commercial vehicle, Daimler Trucks is celebrating two other milestones in the production network in North America this year. In the middle of the year, Daimler topped the million mark of Detroit axles produced in the aggregates plant in Redford, Michigan, where the company has been making axles for buses and trucks of DTNA since 2003. Moreover, in July of this year, the 250,000th Detroit engine rolled off the line in Redford. The Detroit engine family convinces with its high power dynamics and superior performance.

About Daimler Trucks North America

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA) headquartered in Portland, Oregon, is the leading manufacturer of medium-duty and heavy-duty trucks in North America. DTNA manufactures and sells commercial vehicles of the Freightliner, Western Star and Thomas Built Buses brands.

In July of this year, DTNA held the groundbreaking ceremony for the new corporate headquarters in Swan Island in Portland, Oregon. In future, the new building will house DTNA employees from different locations in the Portland region under one roof. Daimler has earmarked 150 million US dollars of capital expenditures for the building, which is scheduled for completion in 2016.

The DTNA-production network covers nine manufacturing locations. Besides its headquarters and assembly in Portland (Oregon), there are four productions in North Carolina (Cleveland, Gastonia, High Point and Mount Holly) and a production plant in Redford (Michigan) and Gaffney (South Carolina). DTNA has two other production sites in Mexico (Saltillo and Santiago Tianguistenco).

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