

GM starts producing 200-mile electric Chevy Bolt

By TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer



A battery is lifted into place for installation in the Chevrolet Bolt EV at the General Motors Orion Assembly plant Friday in Orion Township, Mich.

AP Photo/Duane Burleson

ORION TOWNSHIP, Michigan — It can go more than 200 miles on battery power and it costs less than the average new vehicle in the U.S. But in an era of \$2 per gallon gasoline, the Chevrolet Bolt probably won't do a whole lot to shift America from gasoline to electricity.

General Motors has started making Bolt hatchbacks on a slow assembly line at a factory in Orion Township, Michigan, north of Detroit.

The cars, starting at \$37,495 before a \$7,500 federal tax credit, will go on sale in California and Oregon before the end of the year, and will spread to the rest of the country next year. The average sales price of a new vehicle in the U.S. is about \$34,000, according to Kelley Blue Book.

Analysts say the Bolt's 238-mile range on a single charge, plus a net price of around \$30,000, should make it an attractive alternative to cars with internal-combustion engines. While they expect the Bolt to incrementally add to the number of electric cars now on the road, they don't expect a seismic shift to electricity yet.

The Bolt's range more than covers the average daily round-trip commute of

about 40 miles in the U.S., and that should give comfort to those who fear running out of power, said Stephanie Brinley, an auto industry analyst for IHS Markit. But there's always the late night at work and the early meeting the next morning without enough charging time, or the night you forget to plug the car in. Those are tough adjustments for Americans, she said.

"We're trained to believe that wherever we go, we can get the fuel that we need.

With electricity you need to plan that out a little bit more," Brinley said.

IHS predicts that GM will sell just under 30,000 Bolts in the first year, which won't add much to the roughly 235,000 electrics now on U.S. roads. Brinley says there will be small growth as more companies such as Tesla Motors roll out affordable electric vehicles with range over 200 miles. Last year about 100,000 EVs were sold in the U.S., and IHS predicts 300,000 annual sales by 2020

and 400,000 by 2025.

Still, Chevrolet believes the Bolt is a game-changer. "It becomes just a mainstream vehicle choice," said Darin Gesse, the Bolt's product manager.

GM, he said, set out to make the range about equal to a half-tank of fuel in a gas-powered car. With a half-tank of gas, most people don't worry that they have to refuel for a while and are comfortable driving, he said.

In a quick drive Friday on roads near GM's technical

California electric-car rebates jump for lower-income buyers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Lower-income buyers of electric cars will get a bigger break under California's newest rebate rules, while deals for higher earners will disappear.

Changes to the state's Clean Vehicle Rebate Project went into effect this week for buyers of all-electric, plug-in hybrid and fuel-cell cars.

The changes are designed to help reach aggressive goals set by Gov. Jerry Brown and the Air Resources Board to vastly increase the number of zero-emission vehicles on highways, the Los Angeles Times reported.

"We want to see different types of communities adopt these vehicles," said Colin Santulli, senior manager of transportation at the Center for Sustainable Energy, the San Diego nonprofit that administers the state's rebate program. "We hope to see a peer effect, a snowball effect that you see with so many other technologies."

People with household incomes less than or equal to 300 percent of the federal poverty level will receive \$4,500 for buying or leasing battery-electric vehicles, \$3,500 for plug-in hybrids and \$7,000 for fuel-cell vehicles. That's a boost of \$500 per category, and it's up \$2,000 compared with the rebates offered two years ago, according to the newspaper.

center north of Detroit, the car accelerated quickly when compared to a gas car. GM says it goes from zero to 60 mph in about 6.5 seconds, which is faster than many muscle cars from the '70s and '80s. The handling was tight with very little body roll, yet the ride was smooth and quiet.

GM beat rival Tesla to market with a long-range affordable electric car by at

least a year. Tesla plans to start delivering its 200-mile, \$35,000 (before tax credits) Model 3 in the second half of next year, and it had 373,000 deposits as of May.

The carmaker hasn't revealed exactly when the first customer will get a Bolt. Chevrolet didn't take advance reservations but says there's been strong interest at its dealerships.

Paris climate change deal becomes international law for 96 countries

By MICHAEL ASTOR
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The Paris Agreement to combat climate change became international law on Friday — a landmark deal about tackling global warming amid growing fears that the world is becoming hotter even faster than scientists expected.

So far, 96 countries, accounting for just over two-thirds of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, have formally joined the accord, which seeks to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius. More countries are expected to come aboard in the coming weeks and months.

Secretary General Ban-Ki moon commemorated the event, talking with civil society groups at U.N. headquarters in New York to hear their concerns and visions for the future.

"Today we make history in humankind's efforts to combat climate change," Ban said before opening the meeting.

He praised the civil groups for mobilizing hundreds of millions of people to back fighting climate change, but warned the outcome remained uncertain.

"We are still in a race against time. We need to transition to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future," Ban said. "Now is the time to strengthen global resolve, do what science demands and seize the opportunity to build a safer more sustainable world for all."

Scientists praised the speed at which the agreement, signed by over 190 parties last



AP Photo/Michel Euler

The Eiffel Tower lit up in green to mark the success of the Paris Agreement, Friday in Paris. The Paris Agreement on climate change enters into force Friday faster than anyone had anticipated, after a year with remarkable success in international efforts to slash man-made emissions of carbon dioxide and other global warming gases. Inscription reads, "it's done."

"Today we make history in humankind's efforts to combat climate change."

— Secretary General Ban-Ki moon

December in Paris, has come into force, saying it underscores a new commitment by the international community to address the problem which is melting polar ice caps, sending sea levels rising and

transforming vast swaths of arable land into desert.

But environmentalists say the agreement is just the first step of a much longer and complicated process of transitioning away from fossil

fuels, which currently supply the bulk of the planet's energy needs and also are the primary drivers of global warming.

Naomi Ages, climate liability project lead at Greenpeace, said that it was up to civil society groups to hold governments and corporations responsible.

"We know that existing fossil fuel projects will push us past 2 degrees, so we're mobilizing around the world to keep it in the ground and stop development of new fossil fuel projects," Ages said.

While the Paris agreement is legally binding, the emissions reductions that each country has committed to are not. Instead, the agreement seeks to create a transparent system that will allow the public to monitor how well each country is doing in hopes that this will motivate them to transition more quickly to clean, renewable energy like wind, solar and hydropower.

The agreement also requires governments to develop climate action plans that will be periodically revised and replaced with new, even more ambitious, plans. Many of these details will begin to be addressed at the COP22 climate change meeting that begins next week in Marrakech, Morocco.

Chinese company buys Dick Clark Productions for \$1B

BEIJING (AP) — China's Dalian Wanda Group has added another entertainment trophy to its stable of overseas acquisitions, paying \$1 billion for Dick Clark Productions, the TV company that produces the Golden Globes and the "Miss America" pageant.

Wanda is one of China's most important conglomerates and China's largest property developer. Its chairman, Wang Jianlin, is China's richest man by most measures, with an estimated net worth exceeding \$32 billion.

The company owns AMC Theatres and bought Legendary Entertainment for \$3.5 billion in January. In September, it announced a movie partnership with Sony Pictures.

Diversifying away from China's weakening property market, Wanda Group has made entertainment a major focus of its growth in recent years. It has openly embraced a mission to fend off Western imports in the Chinese market and become a globally recognized Chinese entertainment brand.

That push into the U.S. entertainment industry has raised alarm among some American lawmakers concerned about creative freedom and the promotion of Chinese propaganda. A group of legislators recently

asked the U.S. Government Accountability Office to review Chinese takeovers.

The namesake company of legendary American television host Dick Clark was purchased in 2012 by a group including investment firm Guggenheim Partners. It produces several awards shows and the New Year's Eve countdown show in New York.

Wanda said in a statement Friday that Dick Clark Productions' existing management "will remain in its entirety," and that both sides had reached a long-term operating agreement. It expects Dick Clark Productions to show "strong increases" in revenue and profit every year, but did not say whether its agreement with management was contingent on revenue targets.

Wanda's statement said it expected to find ways to coordinate development between Dick Clark Productions and its previous deals in film, tourism and sports.

Hollywood has eagerly welcomed Chinese partners. From 2000 to 2015, Chinese direct investment in U.S. entertainment firms amounted to \$4 billion, according to Rhodium Group. That pace then skyrocketed in January with Wanda's purchase of Legendary, which almost doubled that total by itself.

GROCERY STORE TOUR!



Join Registered Dietitians, Christine Guenther and Melissa Naff, for this interactive tour!

We will help you:

- Understand food labels
- Eat healthy on a budget
- Make better choices from aisle to aisle

Thursday, November 10th, 2016 • 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Safeway - Pendleton (Meet at the store)

203 SW 20th Ave., Pendleton

Space is Limited - Call (541) 278-3235 to register.

CHI St. Anthony
Hospital

SAFeway



COLDWELL
BANKER

WHITNEY AND
ASSOCIATES

Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated

CONGRATULATIONS KEVIN

HALE! The agents and staff at

Coldwell Banker Whitney and

Associates would like to congratulate Kevin on being

honored with Realtor of the Year by the Umatilla

County Board of Realtors 2016. This award recognizes

a member who exemplify the high standards set by

the National Association of Realtors in representing

the industry as well as giving back to our community.

Kevin has given back to the community his entire life

and was also recognized as Man of the Year 2016 by

the Chamber of Commerce at the First Citizens Award

Banquet in January. It truly has been "the year of

Kevin!" GREAT JOB!

THANK YOU FOR BEING A TRUE LEADER IN OUR
INDUSTRY AND OUR COMMUNITY.