



Media Release

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GEM vehicles and students get connected at Solar Decathlon in Washington, D.C.

GEM neighborhood electric vehicles are helping tomorrow's engineers, architects, researchers, and homeowners design "better living under the sun" as a part of the U.S. Department of Energy's third Solar Decathlon taking place October 12-20 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

The competition brings together 20 teams of college and university students from the U.S., Canada and Europe to design, build, and operate the most attractive, effective, and energy-efficient solar-powered house. The homes must be able to power home appliances as well as the plug-in electric GEM car.

Some colleges and universities represented at the event include Texas A&M University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid and Technische Universität Darmstadt.

The Department of Energy provided each team with a GEM e2 to incorporate into their solar home plan. GEM vehicles are powered by six 12-volt flooded electrolyte batteries which can be recharged in any standard 110-volt outlet in about six hours when completely discharged.

"We're proud to work with these talented college students as they focus on helping all of us realize how to live a more environmentally sound life," says Rick Kasper, chief operating officer and president of Global Electric Motorcars. "GEM has been producing all-electric vehicles for ten years, and has been at the forefront of producing an environmentally friendly consumer product, an issue the Solar Decathletes are addressing head-on."

Global Electric Motorcars, a Chrysler company, was the first to offer a multipurpose neighborhood electric vehicle (NEV) for sale from a major automaker. Today, the company produces six fully electric vehicle models ranging from two-seaters, to six-seaters, to utility models. GEM has more than 35,000 of its vehicles on the road to date.

GEM vehicles have driven a combined 150 million miles and spared more than 100 tons of pollutants from reaching the air, while saving 7.5 million gallons of gasoline.

GEM was recently recognized by California's WestStart-CALSTART with the prestigious 2007 Blue Sky Merit Award for its positive impact in the state of California.

GEM vehicles are eligible for incentives and tax credits from clean-air districts and other governmental agencies.

About Global Electric Motorcars:

Global Electric Motorcars is a 10-year old manufacturer of neighborhood electric vehicles (NEVs) that are street-legal and have many of the same safety features of regular cars (such as three-point seat belts, automotive safety glass, and lights) - but are much more economical in price and fuel consumption. Perfect for short trips, such as to the post office or grocery store, or for facilities management, all six GEM models are popular with planned or retirement communities, resorts, and college campuses. They are used by many military installations of all branches and government agencies as well. The company is based in Fargo, North Dakota. For more information, to build your own GEM, or locate a dealer visit www.gemcar.com.

About the Solar Decathlon

The Department of Energy Solar Decathlon is a competition in which 20 teams of college and university students compete to design, build, and operate the most attractive, effective, and energy-efficient solar-powered house. The Solar Decathlon is also an event to which the public is invited to observe the powerful combination of solar energy, energy efficiency, and the best in home design. For more information visit www.solardecathlon.com.

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