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# News

Macomb County Executive  
Mark A. Hackel



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## Planning & Economic Development

*For Immediate Release*

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### **Macomb County driving auto industry success**

Macomb County has established itself as a premier location for the resurgence of the U.S. automotive industry. As the North American International Auto Show is set to take place this month at the renovated Cobo Convention Center, there is reason to celebrate.

Since 2010 the auto industry has invested more than \$5.3 billion dollars in Macomb County, through 109 separate investments greater than \$1 million. In Macomb County, the “Big Three” employ more than 35,000 individuals, operating 10 facilities within the county totaling more than 25 million square feet. Overall, in Macomb County the automotive industry is made up of nearly 500 companies that employ more than 44,000 individuals. This past year, Macomb County was ranked third in the nation for manufacturing job growth.

The investments made in Macomb County are substantial. From billion dollar commitments made by Ford, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and General Motors, to the continued rise in advanced manufacturing practices at local suppliers, the industry is opening up economic opportunities across Macomb County.

“From vehicle assembly plants such as Sterling Heights Assembly Plant and Warren Truck, to leading research and development facilities like the General Motors Tech Center and the Ford Proving Grounds, Macomb County is home to some of the industry’s most advanced capabilities,” said Macomb County Executive Mark A. Hackel. “Our steadfast commitment to Macomb County’s automotive and advanced manufacturing base is fueling sustainable economic growth.”

These refinements in facilities and operations have led to substantial gains in new car sales. This past year, U.S. automakers reported their highest annual sales ever, speeding past previous records that were set back in 2000. Industry analysts estimate 17.5 million vehicles were sold in 2015, surpassing the 2000 record of 17.4 million. General Motors sold 3,082,366 vehicles, for a 5 percent gain. Fiat Chrysler posted a 12.6 percent annual gain to 2,200,834, pushing their sales gain streak to 69 straight months. Ford Motor Co. also reported their best December and sold 2,603,062 vehicles in 2015.

Not only are volumes increasing, but so are car prices. According to Kelley Blue Book, estimates for the average transaction climbed \$297 (0.9 percent), from 2014 values to \$34,428.

“The automotive industry is focused on innovation and creativity,” said Executive Hackel. “This industry is rethinking the way everything moves -- from people, to vehicles and freight. We are exploring the next generation of mobility, and with a world-class cluster of capabilities and assets Macomb County is perfectly positioned to be a world leader in this transformation.”

Visit [www.MacombBusiness.com/NAIAS](http://www.MacombBusiness.com/NAIAS) for more information on the North American International Auto Show and about the continued progress of the auto industry in Macomb County.

**About The Big Three presence in Macomb County:**

- **General Motors**
  - GM Tech Center
  - Warren Transmission
- **Fiat Chrysler Automobiles**
  - Sterling Heights Assembly
  - Warren Truck
  - Sterling Stamping
  - Warren Stamping
- **Ford**
  - Sterling Axle
  - Van Dyke Transmission Plants
  - Romeo Proving Grounds
  - Romeo Engine Plant