

**Embargoed until: Wednesday October 25, 19:00**



**IEA Implementing Agreement Hybrid & Electric Vehicles  
CLEAN VEHICLE-AWARD: CEREMONY  
Wednesday October 25, 2006, 19:00 – 19:30**

Since 1993, the Implementing Agreement on Hybrid and Electric Vehicles of the International Energy Agency (IEA) is fostering information exchange and coordinated research in the field of clean vehicle technologies on international level. Since 1993, clean vehicle technologies and their components have made remarkable progress, and the first series vehicles have achieved their market breakthrough.

This progress is driven by committed persons, teams and manufacturers. The IEA Implementing Agreement for Hybrid & Electric Vehicles has therefore decided to honour outstanding commitments for clean vehicles by awards in three categories:

1. HONDA (Japan) achieving sales of more than 135,000 hybrid models worldwide  
LEXUS Division (Japan) for achieving sales of more than 50,000 hybrid models worldwide  
FORD (USA) achieving sales of more than 30,000 hybrid models worldwide
2. THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA for outstanding promotion of electric vehicles
3. HANS THOLSTRUP (Australia) for decades of commitment to enable progress in electric vehicles by establishing the World Solar Challenge solarmobile race.

**photos of the winners and the ceremony are available at the award ceremony or at [www.ieahev.org](http://www.ieahev.org) (from October 25, 2006, 20:00 on)**

**IEA** INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY



## **THE IEA IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT FOR HYBRID&ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

The Implementing Agreement on Hybrid and Electric Vehicles started in 1993 with the aim to produce and disseminate balanced, objective information about advanced vehicle technologies including electric, hybrid and fuel cell vehicles. It is a working group of Governments and research organizations of actually eight countries (Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States). Task forces – so-called Annexes – are formed to investigate actual topics in-depth, e.g. hybrid vehicles, advanced electrochemical storage systems, market deployment strategies of clean vehicles etc. A major part of the exchange of information and experience is informal, received directly from the source and as such not available elsewhere. The opportunity to share experiences – both positive and negative – in direct communication, and to receive immediate comments, suggestions and new ideas from an international group of experts are major benefits of this network.

In 2005, the Implementing Agreement started the 3<sup>rd</sup> 5-years phase. Participating organizations and target groups can expect the following benefits from the third phase of this Agreement:

- objective information on international technical development of hybrid, electric, and fuel cell vehicles (knowledge transfer)
- objective information on Government programmes and experiences with the market introduction of advanced vehicles (transition towards sustainable mobility)
- sharing of the costs of collecting and analyzing of the information by the participating countries
- advantages resulting from having a network of contacts in the major „hybrid and electric vehicle countries“, including the possibility of working on joint projects, and of obtaining information on a personal basis which is not available in published reports.
- benefits by the access to the research done by the leading research institutes in the world.

**To achieve a powerful organisation, all countries interested in clean vehicle transportation are invited to join this Agreement.**

### **CLEAN VEHICLES AWARD**

To put a technology on the market and to make it a market breakthrough is a very ambitious goal. The quickly changing society expects market breakthroughs within a very short time. With complex technologies – like cars – this often does not work; the attention of public and mass media turns to disappointment, and they will look for the next „promising technology“.

But continuous progress takes place. It is driven by committed persons, teams and manufacturers. This is the reason why the IEA Implementing Agreement for Hybrid and Electric Vehicles launched an award to those who dedicate their work to the dream of a clean efficient vehicle technology.

The award is presented in three categories:

- The „Clean Vehicle Award“ is given to manufacturers with outstanding sales figures (more than 25'000, 50'000, 100'000 or more than 250'000 sold vehicles)
- The „Best Practice Award“ is given to the organizers of an outstanding promotion project
- The „Personal Award“ is given to a person that has dedicated her/his work to the development or promotion of clean vehicles in an outstanding way.



## THE 2006 AWARD: THE WINNERS ARE....

### 1. THE CLEAN VEHICLES AWARD:

The “Clean Vehicle Award” of the Implementing Agreement “Hybrid&Electric Vehicles” is awarded for an achievement that mainly contributes to the goal of this Implementing Agreement to get a high energy efficiency and to lower the energy consumption in the transport sector. Only great numbers of clean cars on the road guarantee an effect in cleaning the transportation. Meanwhile the hybrid technologies have made an astonishing career, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Clean Vehicle Award 2005 was consequently presented to Toyota for the “Prius”. This years’ winners show the great market potential of a smart clean vehicle technology.

### HONDA (Japan)

HONDA’s commitment in clean vehicle technology has a long history. Electric concept cars have been shown since the early 90ies (e.g. the EVX in 1994, the CUV-4 in 1995). The racing solarmobile “Dream” winning the World Solar Challenge 1993 and 1996 surely had a great motivation effect on the company. In 1997 Honda launched the electric vehicle EV plus. In the same year also a commuter system has been introduced, called “Intelligent Community Vehicle System” ICVS. This system has been designed as a link between public and private transport. For this system small commuter electric vehicles PAL (especially the City PAL 1998) have been developed. Finally Honda decided to concentrate on the in-house development of a hybrid propulsion system, the Integrated Motor Assist IMA, first shown in the concept car VV in 1999. This system was commercially launched by the “Insight” (2000) for the Californian market and then adapted to the models Civic and Accord. This strategy is crowned with market success; and the worldwide figures prove the acceptance of this vehicle technology.

By these achievements HONDA is an outstanding example for an effective hybrid vehicle promotion, and we are therefore glad to award this commitment by the “Clean Vehicle Award” for more than 135,000 hybrid models sold worldwide.



*from left to right: Honda "Dream" at WSC 1996, Honda EV plus, Honda City PAL, Honda Civic hybrid*

### **LEXUS Division of Toyota**

Lexus is a success story for it shows that a SUV and a large limousine both can be operated on a low fuel consumption without losing any comfort or performance. This success is achieved by the adaption of Toyota's "Synergy Drive" hybrid technology for the Lexus models. The LEXUS hybrid vehicles meet a great demand in the market which is proven by the great acceptance and sales figures.

By these achievements the LEXUS Division of Toyota is an outstanding example for an effective hybrid vehicle promotion, and we therefore are glad to award this commitment by the "Clean Vehicle Award" for more than 50'000 hybrid models sold worldwide.



*from left to right; Lexus RX 400h, interior, powertrain, Lexus GS 450h*

### **FORD MOTOR CO. (USA)**

The Ford Motor Company played an important role as an innovator in the early 90ies proven, among others, by the development of the "Ecostar". The purchase and transformation of the THINK as a Ford make again has been an important experiment to explore the market acceptance. By developing and marketing of the hybrid Ford Escape, the Ford Motor Company has been a pioneer among the US manufacturers to introduce a sports utility vehicle to the marketplace, and this pioneering efforts led to a well-earned success in the marketplace.

By these achievements the Ford Motor Company is an outstanding example for an effective hybrid vehicle promotion, and we are therefore glad to award this commitment by the "Clean Vehicle Award" for more than 30'000 hybrid models sold worldwide.



*from left to right: Ford Ecostar, Ford TH!NK, Ford Escape hybrid*

## **THE BEST PRACTICE AWARD: THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

The People's Republic of China is a fascinating example how by the implementation of a regulation a small niche market for small electric vehicles (electric cycles and scooters) can be transformed into a millions-vehicle-market. The impact was given by the prohibition of small gasoline tanks in courtyards, and by that the use of gasoline mopeds for commuting. The strong traditional bicycle industry understood its chance and started a huge business in marketing electric bicycles. The users can choose among a wide range of price levels and technologies which is one of the preconditions for a functioning market.

Of course also the great commitment of the People's Republic of China has to be mentioned to develop clean vehicle models from car-size to buses and trucks. This effort will be an important step towards a cleaner transportation in China and will stimulate the market for clean vehicles worldwide.

By these achievements The People's Republic of China is an outstanding example for an effective hybrid and electric vehicle promotion, and we therefore are glad to award this commitment by the "Best Practice Award".



*the use of electric two-wheelers is a well adapted application for the mobility needs of Chinese people*

## **PERSONAL AWARD: HANS THOLSTRUP (Australia)**

Born in 1944, Hans Tholstrup followed his early fascination for technology, first as a motor racer in adventurous projects. After the oil crisis in the 70ies Tholstrup committed in fuel economy runs. His tendency towards perfection consequently lead to victories in the car and truck categories. 1982 Tholstrup drove the solarmobile „Quiet Achiever“, together with Larry Perkins, in 20 days from Perth to Sidney (4052 km). This experience encouraged him to organize an event in which solar vehicles should compete and thus push the development of clean vehicles. In 1987 the first World Solar Challenge has been run, from Darwin to Adelaide. Surely Tholstrup has been lucky with the first winner, the GM Sunraycer, a high-tech development designed by aircraft specialist Paul McCready and nominated by GM. This entrance pushed the high level of technology; and the following runnings of the WCS saw a lot of highly motivated teams showing the latest technical developments. Douzens of students committed in solar racing teams trained their skills and knowledge in designing electric propulsion systems liked with the solar array and so became a pool of highly specialized engineers that can be found in many clean vehicle projects of the automotive industry.

Hans Tholstrup is one of the outstanding personalities whose commitment encourages and inspires at least one generation of technicians involved in clean vehicle development and marketing, and we therefore are glad to award this commitment by the „Personal Award“.



*from left to right; the „Quiet Achiever“ and its drivers 1982, Hans Tholstrup visiting Tour de Sol Switzerland*