

Community Development's Business Retention Team visits with your business neighbors...

# Tomcar Launches First High-Volume Assembly Line for its Side-by-Side All Terrain Vehicles at EDAG in Auburn Hills

**T**omcar USA, announced on April 1, 2008, that its first US assembly plant capable of producing Tomcar's line of Side-by-Side Off-road vehicles will be produced under contract at EDAG Inc. at its plant in Auburn Hills.

The factory will be capable of producing up to 10,000 Tomcar vehicles per year in a flexible volume to be able to adjust faster to greater future demands. Two-seat, four-seat and mini-truck configurations will be assembled in a just-in-time operation.

Guy Poran, Chairman and CEO of Tomcar Global Holdings, says, "Due to the overwhelming demand from both the recreational and commercial sectors of the market, we have been forced to accelerate our plans for establishing a full-scale production facility. We are delighted that a company with EDAG's experience and reputation has agreed to partner with us in this undertaking because it serves to underline the importance we give to the performance, reliability and durability of what is a unique automotive product. It is with great pleasure to see that the EDAG factory starts its high-volume production activities today which at the same time is a vision come true for Tomcar. We are now able to satisfy the ever growing market demand."

Founded in Israel in 1991, Tomcar is the by-product of 15 years of building high-performance vehicles for off-road racing and demanding military and indus-

trial clients. Over the past 10 years, Tomcar products have matured with extreme usage by highly demanding customers and have gained a reputation of excellence in performance and value.

Tomcar products offer a unique value proposition to various, rapidly growing, market segments such as the Recreational, Motor Sports consumer market, the Utility Commercial Vehicles market (tourism, mining, Farm & Ranch); and for Military and Government agencies.

With close to 1 Billion USD sales in 2007, EDAG, headquartered in Fulda, Germany, is a leading global supplier of engineering services and manufacturing systems to the automotive and aerospace industry. EDAG US is the fastest growing subsidiary of EDAG outside Germany and is headquartered in Auburn Hills.

Volker Amelung, President of EDAG US, is particularly gratified to see his award-winning company expanding into the mass-assembly sector. "I am delighted and honored that Tomcar had selected EDAG as its manufacturing & engineering partner. I believe we were selected because EDAG shares TOMCAR's core values. We intend to build the best Side-by-Side Vehicle in the market and we will do it with state-of-the-art technology and quality. Like Tomcar, we take a long-term view of our business and are ready, willing and able to do the required invest-



ments in this exciting product. The initial capacity of the plant is at a maximum of 10,000 vehicles per year, but in a fast growth sector of the industry forecasted to sell over 400,000 units by the end of the decade, the facility we are opening today is definitely just a start."

"The EDAG-Tomcar production agreement underscores again the importance of our Go Anywhere, Do Anything pursuit of good-paying jobs for Michigan," said Governor Jennifer Granholm. "Michigan is the ideal place for companies from around the globe to find success in manufacturing with our highly skilled workforce and friendly business climate."



## Classic Trophies on Auburn Celebrates 20th Anniversary!

**C**lassic Trophies owner Linda Blanchard is excited about celebrating her 20th Anniversary, which was April 8, 2008. Linda invested in Classic Trophies, located at 3345 Auburn Road, Auburn Hills, after a few years of her father's prodding and has not regretted it since. Reg Armstrong, Linda's father, had been employed in the trophy business for years and offered his expertise to Linda when she started her own business almost twenty years ago here in the City of Auburn Hills where she grew up.

Since opening her 1800 square foot business in the Village Center of Auburn Hills, it has been a family run operation. In the beginning, it was her father and herself, with some help from her husband Tim when he wasn't working his job at General Motors. Later on, other family members joined their team. Linda's daughters, Debbi and Beverly, have helped out at the

shop and also her grandson, Anthony Brown. At this time, Linda employs four (4) full-time employees and three (3) part-time employees. Linda's business serves a multitude of local area schools, cities, businesses, sports teams, residents, and out-of-state businesses as well by taking phone orders at 248.852.2130.

Linda gave a tour of her facility and was most proud of her three (3) state-of-the-art engravers that allow the copy to be typed into the computer and transferred on to the metal plates by diamond-head tipped needles. Mrs. Blanchard reminisced about the old way of engraving -- with a hand engraver which limited engraving to only one letter at a time and how time consuming and tedious that had been. Linda still keeps that hand engraving machine in her shop as a reminder of how technology has changed over the years.

If you are in need of any trophies, plaques, or engraving, please stop in and see Linda and her team.



Drop in and have a chat. They're great people and they do wonderful work.

## Protect Yourself from Identity Theft and Protect the Environment

On Saturday, July 19, 2008, please bring with you items you wish to have shredded to Cornerstone Community Financial

**D**o you have piles of papers sitting around that need to be shredded? On Saturday, July 19th from 9 am to 3 pm, the City of Auburn Hills and Cornerstone Community Financial will be accepting the following paper items you should be shredding:

Bank statements, credit card receipts and statements, cancelled checks, confidential letters, expired vehicle registration, financial records, expired credit cards, debit cards & ATM cards, federal and state tax returns, etc.

Identity theft is real. No one should dispose of paper documents with sensitive information by just tossing them in the trash. Names, phone numbers, social security numbers, credit card receipts, customer information, financial

and health documents are just some examples of paper you should shred.

Identity theft has become one of the fastest growing crimes in America. Identity Theft is a massive crime and it is virtually without risk to the perpetrator. Unbelievably, only 25 percent of Identity Theft victims actually report the crime to the authorities. The average victim loses over \$10,200, and that does not begin to include the cost needed to recover from the abuse.

Shredding paper is also better for the environment. By shredding paper and recycling it, you reduce the volume of waste, eliminating 40% of waste that goes to the landfill. Eliminating this paper from our waste would nearly

double the lives of current landfills. Consider these facts:

- Resources Saved Per Ton of Paper Recycled:
- 17 trees • 60,000 gallons of water • 463 gallons of oil
- 587 pounds of air pollution • 225 kilowatt hours
- 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space

Join us at Cornerstone Community Financial, located at 2955 University in Auburn Hills, on Saturday, July 19th from 9am to 3pm and protect yourself and our environment. Call CCF at 800-777-6728 or visit [www.ccfinc.com](http://www.ccfinc.com) for more information.



## Spring Has Sprung, So Too Will the Weeds

**E**ven though some had their doubts, spring is here again and with the change of season comes the change from snow blowers to lawn mowers. There has also been a change in the City of Auburn Hills' ordinance governing lawn cutting and maintenance. In the past, the time span in which the ordinance was enforced was from May 15th through October 15th. However, this year and from now on, the ordinance will be enforced beginning on May 1st and still extend through October 15th. This change will allow enforcement officers to get a head start on encouraging businesses and residents to maintain lawns throughout

the city if there is an early growth period like last year.

So, to review, Section 78-30 of the Auburn Hills City Code has been amended to read as follows: "...(I)t shall be the duty of...owners or occupants to keep all grass cut below a height of eight inches on improved properties and all grass, rank vegetation, and noxious weeds below 16 inches on unimproved property, for a depth of ten rods (165 feet), or the depth of the property, whichever is the lesser, between May 1 and October 15. All such properties shall include the abutting street right-of-way lying between the curb and the sidewalk or the drainage course paralleling the street where there is no such curb abutting

such properties. Cutting the grass and weeds at least once every four weeks shall be determined in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance. If the provisions of this ordinance are not complied with, the city shall cause such grass and weeds to be cut or destroyed, and the actual costs of such cutting or destruction plus 25 percent for inspection and/or other additional costs...shall be charged to the property owner and, if necessary, be collected as a tax lien as is provided by law against the property."

For questions or concerns regarding the ordinance and/or the changes, please feel free to contact the City of Auburn Hills Community Development Department at 248-364-6900 for clarification and information.

Together we can help make Auburn Hills a more beautiful city in which to work, live and play.