

WHEELS

Camaro based on owners' design preferences

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The GM St. Catharines Powertrain plant is one of North America's largest engine and transmission plants, where it produces a range of V6 and V8 engines as well as transmissions for a wide range of GM products.

"We're proud that GM Canada continues to play an important role in the sixth-generation of the Chevy Camaro, with the LT1 V8 small-block engine being built right here at St. Catharines Powertrain," Carlisle said.

"Everything about the 2016 Camaro is focused on a fun, engaging driving experience, and the Canadian built V8 at the heart of the SS model delivers on that promise."

At 455 hp and 455 lb/ft of torque, the 6.2-litre LT1 makes it the most powerful SS model ever, with better lap times than the track-focused 2015 Camaro 1LE.

All rear-drive, Camaros will offer a choice of a rev matching six-speed manual transmission or the new GM-built eight-speed automatic. All Camaros will offer Brembo brakes which are standard on the SS that debuted in St. Catharines.

The 2016 Camaro is also available with a 335 hp 3.6-litre V6 engine or a 275 hp 2.0-litre turbo four-cylinder.

While production of the new Camaro is now based in Michigan, GM Canada in Oshawa also played a major role in the aerodynamics of the car.

"Meticulously tuned in the wind tunnel, the exterior contributes to the performance through reduced aerodynamic lift for better handling and enhanced efficiency," Carlisle said. He noted design and planning of the new Camaro took into account the wishes of a wide range of Camaro owners.

"We have had the incredible opportunity to meet literally thousands of Gen 5 Camaro owners, who provided direct feedback on what they loved about their car and what they wanted for the next-generation Camaro," he said. After a number of interviews and when the crowd had subsided a bit, Carlisle got into the driver's seat of the new SS, remarking on how much he's already enjoyed driving it.

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