

Beat: Automobiles

HONDA CLARITY FUEL CELL SEDAN MAKES NORTH AMERICAN DEBUT

AT 2015 LOS ANGELES AUTO SHOW

PARIS - LOS ANGELES, 19.11.2015, 17:43 Time

USPA NEWS - The Honda Clarity Fuel Cell sedan made its North American debut at the 2015 Los Angeles Auto Show, on November 18, as Honda announced additional details for its most advanced zero-emissions vehicle in the U.S. market...

The Honda 'Clarity Fuel Cell' sedan made its North American debut at the 2015 Los Angeles Auto Show, on November 18, as Honda announced additional details for its most advanced zero-emissions vehicle in the U.S. market.

Serving as the next evolution of Honda's fuel cell technology, the 'Clarity Fuel Cell' leverages two decades of advancement in Honda fuel cell technology, showcasing significant gains in packaging, interior space, efficiency and real-world performance.

Additionally, Honda announced that the platform underpinning the 'Clarity Fuel Cell' will also serve as the foundation for a next-generation Honda plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) that will launch nationwide by 2018, with more than triple the all-electric range of the Accord Plug-In Hybrid Sedan.

Honda will begin deliveries of the 'Clarity Fuel Cell' to customers in late 2016 through select fuel cell dealers in select California markets starting in Los Angeles and Orange Counties, the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento

Eventually, Honda will expand the scope of its marketing to additional California markets and other states, including the Northeast as hydrogen refueling networks expand. The 'Clarity Fuel Cell' will be priced competitively with others in the segment and Honda expects its new generation of environmental vehicles, which includes the Clarity Fuel Cell, to serve as a new volume pillar for Honda.

Technological innovations to the 'Clarity Fuel Cell' have created a fuel cell stack that is 33 % more compact than its predecessor with a 60 % increase in power density compared to the outgoing Honda FCX Clarity. The more compact fuel cell powertrain, comparable in size to a V-6 engine, fits entirely under the hood of the car, allowing for a spacious cabin with seating for five passengers. The new Honda Clarity Fuel Cell will feature a driving range estimated to exceed 300 miles, and an anticipated refueling time of approximately three minutes at a pressure of 70 MPa.

In addition, the platform underpinning the Clarity Fuel Cell also serves as the foundation for a next-generation PHEV Honda will launch in the U.S. by 2018. This will be a new volume production vehicle in the Honda line up available nationwide. Featuring a second iteration of the two-motor hybrid plug-in system offering significant improvements in battery capacity and power, the next-generation Honda PHEV will offer more than triple the 13-mile all-electric range of the Accord Plug-In Hybrid Sedan.

Source : American Honda Motor Co., Inc

Ruby BIRD

<http://www.portfolio.uspa24.com/>

Yasmina BEDDOU

<http://www.yasmina-beddou.uspa24.com/>

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-6431/honda-clarity-fuel-cell-sedan-makes-north-american-debut.html>

Editorial office and responsibility:

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Ruby BIRD & Yasmina BEDDOU (Journalists/Directors)

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Editorial program service of General News Agency:

United Press Association, Inc.

3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168

Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA

(702) 943.0321 Local

(702) 943.0233 Facsimile

info@unitedpressassociation.org

info@gna24.com

www.gna24.com