



## News

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### **Cadillac Escalade: Luxury and Refinement, new 2-Mode Hybrid Version**

- **6.2L all-aluminum V-8 engine with variable valve timing**
- **Elegance and Sport Luxury trim levels**
- **Fully integrated DVD navigation and rearview camera available**
- **Escalade 2-Mode Hybrid can deliver a 50% improvement in fuel economy**

**GENEVA** – The latest generation of the Cadillac Escalade luxury SUV went on sale in Europe last year, offering a new level of refinement, style, performance and an instantly recognizable shape. The Escalade features a 409 hp (301 kW), 6.2L aluminum V-8 with VVT (variable valve timing), an efficient six-speed automatic transmission, a feature-packed and spacious interior and distinctive Cadillac exterior styling.

Based on GM's full-size SUV architecture, the Escalade features new powertrain, chassis, safety and interior systems. All-new sheet metal gives the vehicle sleek, clean styling and improved aerodynamics, yet it remains instantly identifiable as an Escalade.

At the front, the signature Cadillac “egg-crate” grille is flanked by tri-element HID headlamps and is matched by equally distinctive rear-end styling, highlighted by chrome accents. Seven-spoke 18-inch wheels are standard.

A 6.2L, V-8 engine with all-aluminum construction and variable valve timing technology delivers 409 hp (301 kW) and 565 Nm of torque through a six-speed automatic transmission. Handling and active safety is enhanced with the standard Road Sensing Suspension, which uses electronically controlled shock absorbers to make nearly instantaneous damping adjustments. The system “reads” the road to anticipate the best damping rates.

The launch of the original Escalade in 1999 has helped to attract younger, more diverse customers to the Cadillac portfolio. For example, 35 percent of Escalade buyers in the U.S. are women.

“Since its inception, Escalade has been an icon – the vehicle customers aspire to own. The current model raises the bar with exceptional exterior style, interior refinement, increased performance and enhanced ride and handling smoothness,” said Jim Taylor, Cadillac general manager.

### **Trim level details**

The Escalade is available in two trim levels: “Elegance” and “Sport Luxury.” The extensive standard equipment on Elegance models includes a power-assisted rear tailgate, rear parking assist function, plus comfort-adding items such as a tri-zone climate control, an audio system with DVD and six-CD changer, 10-speaker Bose 5.1 Discrete Surround Sound System, leather-covered seats (heated on first and second rows) and power-adjustable front seats with two-position driver-seat memory.

Sport Luxury models have additional standard features including a sunroof, cooled front-row seats and a heated steering wheel. A roof-mounted rear DVD entertainment console with 8-inch screen and power release “fold and tumble” second-row seats are also standard on Sport Luxury models.

Fully integrated touch screen DVD navigation and a rearview camera are available on the Sport Luxury model. This optional package also includes an AM/FM radio with RDS, 6-CD changer, DVD player, TMC and voice control.

In addition to the active safety provided by traction control, StabiliTrak and the standard Road Sensing Suspension, the Escalade features a 360-degree perimeter safety system of occupant protection and crash-avoidance technologies. It is designed to be among the industry's safest and most secure vehicles.

Other protection features are roof-mounted head curtain side air bags with rollover protection for all seating rows and front-seat safety belt pretensioners that are linked to the vehicle's sensing system to provide segment-exclusive deployment in rear impacts. All these features are integrated into a stronger vehicle structure that is also designed for improved compatibility with other vehicles.

The Cadillac Escalade is built at GM's award-winning facility at Arlington, Texas, USA.

## **Cadillac premieres the first hybrid in a large luxury SUV**

The Cadillac Escalade Hybrid is the world's first fuel-saving hybrid applied to a large luxury SUV. Powered by an innovative, fuel-saving 2-Mode Hybrid system, Escalade Hybrid will deliver a 50-percent improvement in fuel economy in city driving – while maintaining the same distinctive style, segment-leading features and full-size capability that have made the Escalade an icon.

“Escalade now adds the desirability of a fuel-saving, technically advanced hybrid system,” said Jim Taylor, Cadillac general manager. “The arrival of Escalade Hybrid means that consumers can now use less fossil fuel, reduce emissions and still enjoy the benefits of a full-size luxury SUV.”

The Hybrid goes on sale in the US in the summer of 2008 and is the newest example of Escalade's technology leadership. The potential for sales of the Hybrid in Europe are currently being evaluated with a decision expected within months.

“No other manufacturer offers a hybrid than can seat eight luxuriously while simultaneously carrying or trailering a lot of cargo comfortably,” Taylor said. “And no other hybrid delivers the dramatic presence that is synonymous with Escalade.”

Escalade Hybrid is available in 2WD and 4WD configurations. It delivers up to 2,722 kg of usable towing capacity on 2WD models and 2,565 kg on 4WD models. All of Escalade's standard comfort and convenience features are included. This includes an eight-inch, touch-screen navigation system that displays performance readouts of the 2-Mode Hybrid system on the screen.

### **Patented 2-Mode Hybrid technology**

The Escalade's 2-Mode Hybrid system allows it to return exceptional fuel economy in both the city and on the highway while delivering the capabilities of a true luxury SUV. In city driving, this advanced hybrid power system enables Escalade to launch and drive low speeds on electricity alone. As additional power is demanded, the system blends output from the battery and gas engine smoothly.

GM's patented 2-Mode Hybrid system consists of an advanced electrically variable transmission (EVT) and 300-volt nickel-metal hydride Energy Storage System (ESS). These systems work in concert with the standard 6.0L V-8 Gen IV gasoline engine with Active Fuel Management (AFM) and late-intake valve closing (LIVC) technology. AFM enables the V-8 engine to seamlessly shut off half of its cylinders when less power is needed, such as during highway cruising. This new hybrid system not only enables the Escalade Hybrid to drive low speeds on electricity alone, it also allows the 6.0L V-8 engine to operate in its more economical four-cylinder mode for longer periods.

The key to Escalade's 2-Mode hybrid system is that the electric power used to propel the vehicle is generated by the hybrid system itself. When the brakes are applied or the vehicle is coasting, the electric motors within the hybrid system create electricity that is stored in the 300-volt battery. This stored energy is used to move the vehicle and the regenerative braking cycle is renewed.

The 2-Mode Hybrid system provides seamless, dependable power on demand in an efficient package. In fact, its electric motor is less than half the size of those in single-mode hybrid systems. This technology was developed and is still used in fleets of hybrid transit buses on the streets today in dozens of major North American cities. Scaled-down for use in full-size SUVs, the 2-Mode system delivers fuel savings where it is needed most – in large vehicles with high levels of capability. It is a core part of GM's energy diversity efforts, which are centered on reducing dependence on petroleum, improving fuel economy, reducing emissions and minimizing the automobile's impact on the environment.

### **Cadillac's smooth and quiet power**

Acoustic details specific to the Hybrid model ensure it delivers the superior luxury that has been an Escalade hallmark since its inception. The details include:

- A new exhaust system and resonator specially tuned for the 6.0L engine's Active Fuel Management operation. It ensures comfortable interior acoustics and a pleasant exhaust note during both V-4 and V-8 operation
- An electrically driven, 300-volt air conditioning compressor reduces vibration and allows the HVAC system to cool the passenger compartment even when the gasoline engine is shut off. It includes the standard tri-zone climate system

- An electrically driven, 42-volt variable-assist power steering system reduces vibration and provides up to a 0.5-mpg fuel economy improvement by reducing parasitic losses common in belt-driven hydraulic systems
- The Energy Storage cooling system's internal fan is tuned to be quiet at low vehicle speeds, when the fan could more easily be heard by the occupants.

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