

RDM

December 2010

AUTOMOTIVE

COMPONENTS AND SERVICES



Welcome to the December 2010 edition of the RDM Automotive newsletter. This month we feature RDM's year living with an EV (Electric vehicle) and our MD's work on the UK Automotive Council.

RDM welcomes enquiries for design work, production of customer existing products or new product development. We can design, develop and manufacture electronic control units, wiring harnesses, electrical systems, plastic vacuum parts, mechanical systems, vehicle OEM accessories etc and we are specialists in new emerging vehicle technologies such as EV and hydrogen fuel cell power.

The 11th of December marked a sad day at RDM as it was hand back day for our brilliant little Mitsubishi i-MiEV electric vehicle. We first collected the vehicle this time last year as part of our involvement in the UK government EV trials in the Coventry and Birmingham areas, interestingly called 'CABLED' 'Coventry And Birmingham Low Emission Demonstration'.

We used the vehicle everyday for 12 months and the journey data and other parameters of our usage patterns were recorded by an on-board data logger / telemetry system. This data was then transmitted along with other vehicle users data and collated by Aston University into reports detailing how people react to EV's and what driving styles and performances could be achieved with these zero rated CO2 vehicles. The 'CABLED' trial totals 110 vehicles and incorporates many well known names like Jaguar/Land Rover, TATA, Mercedes SMART etc.

RDM, with a track record in telemetry and in-vehicle electronics were selected to develop the data logging systems for all of these vehicles as well as a web based data portal and vehicle mapping / reporting system.

Following on from winning the 'CABLED' trial, RDM were also selected to provide systems for two further projects namely the Mercedes/SMART 60 vehicle trial in London and the 16 vehicle EV sports car trial run by AEA.

We are very pleased to report that our systems have worked extremely well and the data has been instrumental in allowing analysis of driver and vehicle performance.

We have subsequently gone on to win other EV trials both in the UK and in Europe and we are currently tendering for EV projects right around the globe. More on our EV developments will be released soon.

2010 has also been a very interesting year for the automotive industry with the formation of the 'UK Automotive Council'. The council is a selection of very high profile automotive industry figures and co-chaired by Vince Cable, secretary of state for BIS. Through this high level council a number of work streams have been initiated to promote and develop the UK automotive industry.

These include capitalising on the UK's strength in emerging technologies such as EV development, Hydrogen Fuel cell technology, ITS technologies etc.

RDM's MD, David Keene was asked to join the council at the formation and to represent the Niche Vehicle Network interests in his capacity of chair of that organisation.

For further information on both the council and the NVN please see: www.automotivecouncil.co.uk and www.nichevehiclenetwork.co.uk

And finally the team at RDM would like to wish all of our customers the very best Christmas and a happy New Year.....



Managing Director: David Keene