

Press Release

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Volvo next-generation AWD system expands appeal for 2006

For immediate release

TORONTO (July 4, 2005) – Volvo Car Corporations' all-wheel drive system, available with every Volvo vehicle as optional or standard equipment, has undergone an upgrade for the 2006 model year to improve performance and further reduce the likelihood of wheel spin.

The Volvo electronically-controlled all-wheel drive system now features Instant Traction. This new technology improves the scope for quick getaways and provides enhanced traction on slippery surfaces. It has been developed by the Swedish company Haldex.

A non-return valve in the hydraulic control system prevents the AWD system from being completely drained of hydraulic fluid (and pressure) as the vehicle slows to a stop. When starting from standstill, 59 lb.-ft (80 Nm) of torque is pre-charged in the system. As a result, the pre-charged torque engages the rear wheels much faster than previous AWD systems, which required wheel spin of a one-seventh turn of the front wheels before power was redistributed.

"The 2005 model year demonstrated to us that Canadians appreciated the all-weather benefits of all-wheel-drive," said Paul Cummings, President and CEO of Volvo Cars of Canada Ltd. "Nearly two-thirds of all Volvo vehicles sold were equipped with the technology and demand never seemed to waver. With this next-generation all-wheel-drive system for 2006, we believe the drivetrain will become even more appealing to Canadians."

Volvo Cars of Canada Ltd. is part of the Volvo Car Corporation of Göteborg, Sweden. The company provides marketing, sales, parts, service, technology and training support to the 43 Volvo automobile retailers across the country. The company's product range includes the flagship S80 luxury sedan, the versatile V70 wagon, the S60 sports sedan, and the completely redesigned S40 sports sedan and V50 sportswagon. For buyers looking for more rugged versatility, the Volvo XC-line of vehicles that includes the XC70 and the award-winning XC90 sport utility vehicle.

- 30 -

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