Delaware Technical Community College Receives Electric Car Donation

STANTON – When Tom Hawkins, Jr. of the organization Plug In Electric Vehicles Delaware (PIE Delaware), a meetup.com group based in Newark, DE, was looking for a place to donate his electric car, Delaware Technical Community College came to mind. He knew the school was interested in energy conservation and sustainability, and he was familiar with the Stanton Campus's automotive department. It seemed like the perfect fit. On October 12, 2012, he dropped off the car in person, to a group of Delaware Tech faculty and staff.

The electric car is a bright green Zap Xebra, an eye-catching vehicle with one front wheel and two back wheels that seats four people. The Zap Xebra is the only city-class electric vehicle in production, costs approximately 3 cents per mile to run, and can reach speeds up to 40 miles per hour. It runs on six 12-volt batteries.

Delaware Tech's automotive department will use the car in its automotive electrical training class to teach students theory and practice of electric vehicles, how to properly charge the batteries, and how to maintain safety around the high-voltage.

"The electric car will tie in very nicely with our commitment to sustainable energy management," said John Hoopes, department chair of the Delaware Tech Stanton Campus automotive department. "Our students will enjoy having a hands-on way to learn about electric cars."

To view WDEL's EducationWatch segment on the electric car, go to: www.wdel.com/eduwatch.php [1]

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