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The 42 volt Road Show continues – next stop Newcastle/Sunderland, South Wales and London

After the success of **The Higher Voltage Automotive Systems Seminar at the University of Bath** in October, and the one at **TRW Conekt, Birmingham**, in November, plans are in progress for three more regional events in 2004. The Northwest seminar will be held at the **University of Sunderland on 19 February**. A Welsh event will take place at the **Welsh Automotive Forum in Bridgend on 25 March**, and a Southwest seminar will occur at the **SMMT in London on 29 April**.

There were over 40 delegates at the Southwest event, and more than 70 delegates attended the Birmingham seminar. The great majority of delegates were very pleased the relevance of information to their future business.

These seminars will assist you in managing the transition from the current **12/14volt standard to the 36/42volt standard**, as well as adapting to the changes imposed by drive-by-wire systems. The theme is to build an intelligent supply chain that is aware of the impending changes to the automotive power systems.

The Higher Voltage Automotive Systems seminars are being supported by the Department of Trade and Industry (**DTI**) in recognition of the implications for UK suppliers of higher voltage systems, and have also been endorsed by the SMMT, the IEE and various regional development agencies. The seminars will identify threats and opportunities to suppliers of automotive electronic, electrical, mechanical and hydraulic components and systems. For example, steer-by-wire and brake-by-wire systems will challenge traditional mechanical and hydraulic systems. Insulating and housing materials made of plastic will also have to be specified to a higher level of thermal and electrical durability.

As well as presentations given by specialists in higher voltage technology, the seminars will provide an opportunity to see a 42volt demonstrator vehicle, which will be on display at each location.

Presenters at the seminars include; Alan G. Williams, Electrical Systems Manager, TRW Conekt; Dr Gordon Smith, Projects Manager, Warwick Manufacturing Group; Chris Quigley, Managing Director, Warwick Control Technologies, and Dr. Paul Faithful, Managing Director of Potenza Technology. More details can be found on www.42volt.org.uk.

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