



Contacts: Robert McNeill 321.946.7404  
[Bob@bdcotsrus.com](mailto:Bob@bdcotsrus.com)  
Douglas Hungerford 321.438.7866  
[Doug@bdcotsrus.com](mailto:Doug@bdcotsrus.com)  
Carrie Fox 202.255.9214  
[Carrie.Fox@xprize.org](mailto:Carrie.Fox@xprize.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Orlando, Florida-Based BDCOTSRUS Announces Status as Registered Team in the Progressive Insurance Automotive X PRIZE**

*Progressive Automotive X PRIZE Welcomes First Registered Teams in Multimillion Dollar Competition to Develop 100 MPGe Vehicles*

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**Orlando, Florida November 6, 2008** — BDCOTSRUS today announced its acceptance into the multimillion dollar Progressive Insurance Automotive X PRIZE, a competition designed to inspire a new generation of viable, super fuel-efficient vehicles to offer more consumer choices.

BDCOTSRUS was among the first to submit its registration application, an important step towards ensuring that it is at the starting line when the cross country stage race competition kicks off next year. Final confirmation of BDCOTSRUS's Registered Team status is pending their signature of a Master Team Agreement (MTA) upon its release later this year.

*The two founding members of the BDCOTSRUS team are Robert McNeill and Douglas Hungerford. Robert McNeill is a Mechanical Engineer and is the team leader while Douglas Hungerford is an Electrical Engineer. The BDCOTSRUS team will take a standard production vehicle and convert it to a diesel electric hybrid vehicle that will achieve 100MPGe or better. The plan is to utilize diesel electric technologies that are currently available and combine the best of what they have to offer to meet or exceed the 100MPGe goal. In addition to the teams two founding members there are Engineers, Consultants and Friends that will help in various forms towards achieving the team's goals. We are thrilled to be a part of the Progressive Insurance Automotive X PRIZE.*

To date, more than 120 companies from 28 states and 17 countries have signed letters of intent to compete for their share of the \$10 million prize purse, funded by Progressive, which will be awarded to those that can design and build production-capable, 100 MPGe (miles per gallon energy equivalent) vehicles that people will want to buy and that meet market needs for price, size, capability, safety and performance.

With registration into the competition now officially open, many of those 100+ companies are actively working on their applications to become official competitors of the Progressive Automotive X PRIZE. Those who pass this first round of qualification, as BDCOTSRUS now has, will move into the next phase of competition, which includes a dramatic cross country stage race set to begin next September.

“We congratulate this first group of competitors on their continued commitment to developing super fuel efficient vehicles,” noted Julie Zona, Director of Team Development and Relations for the Progressive Automotive X PRIZE. “While there’s still much to be accomplished before reaching that starting line in New York City, we’re pleased to see that they have taken this important step in the process.”

Once registration closes at the end of this year, and the field of competition is in place, qualified competitors will begin preparing for a rigorous cross country stage race that will combine speed, distance, urban driving and overall performance. The race is set to kick off in New York City in September 2009, and will continue in up to nine other major markets throughout the U.S. Winners will be announced in 2010.

## ABOUT BDCOTSRUS

BDCOTSRUS is a horizontally integrated group of engineers, consultants, and friends that share a common goal of increasing the efficiency of an existing design. This is an exciting opportunity to be a part of a competition to further promote changing the way people and corporations view, produce, and utilize automobiles. We have all become increasingly aware of the necessity to reduce our consumption of fuel. Increasing the efficiency of our cars is a start.

We want to promote a design for personal transportation that is safe, environmentally friendly, fuel efficient, and cost effective. We believe that a car that achieves one-hundred miles per-gallon does not need to be prototypical because, the technology is currently available. Towards that end, we intend to use off-the-shelf components that are currently available in the market. Our plan is to convert an existing compact car to meet the fuel efficiency requirements while not re-inventing the production process.

For more information about BDCOTSRUS, please visit [www.bdcotsrus.com](http://www.bdcotsrus.com) or email [Bob@bdcotsrus.com](mailto:Bob@bdcotsrus.com) and or [Doug@bdcotsrus.com](mailto:Doug@bdcotsrus.com).

### **About the Progressive Automotive X PRIZE Competition:**

The goal of the Progressive Automotive X PRIZE, a project of the X PRIZE Foundation, is to inspire a new generation of viable, super fuel-efficient vehicles that offer more consumer choices. Ten million dollars in prizes will be awarded to the teams that win a stage race for clean, production-capable vehicles that exceed 100 MPGe.

The Progressive Automotive X PRIZE will place a major focus on affordability, safety, and the environment. It is about developing real, production-capable cars that consumers want to buy, not science projects or concept cars. This progress is needed because today’s oil consumption is unsustainable and because automotive emissions significantly contribute to global warming and climate change.

For more information about the Progressive Automotive X PRIZE, please visit [www.progressiveautoxprize.org](http://www.progressiveautoxprize.org) or email [progressiveautopress@xprize.org](mailto:progressiveautopress@xprize.org).

### **About Progressive:**

Progressive, founded in 1937, is a leading insurer of cars, motorcycles, recreation vehicles, boats and commercial vehicles. The Company offers competitive rates and innovative products and services that meet drivers’ needs throughout their lifetimes as well as 24/7 online and in-person customer and claims service.

One of Progressive’s Core Values is Excellence. To the Company’s more than 27,000 people, it simply means seeking constant improvement. Over time, this has meant introducing revolutionary ideas that make car insurance easier to shop for, buy and use. It’s this same innovative spirit that’s behind the Company’s sponsorship of the Progressive Automotive X PRIZE. The Progressive Automotive X PRIZE will inspire innovation that will produce more fuel efficient vehicle choices, helping to make a difference in people’s lives.

Progressive's products and services are available locally through more than 30,000 independent insurance agencies in the U.S., online at [www.progressive.com](http://www.progressive.com) and by phone at 1-800-PROGRESSIVE (1-800-776-4737).

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