


CAPC Innovation Working Group

April 2007

Priority	Action Plan Item	Owner	Timing	Status
<p>Priority 1</p> <p>Strengthen Support for Industry Based Innovation Activities</p>	<p>The IWG recommends strengthening and/or establishing new government supports (Federal and Provincial) focused on accelerating private company based research and development activities in advancing the innovation of products and manufacturing processes/productivity in both vehicle and auto parts companies. Furthermore, governments must recognize that companies do not have all the needed innovation resources to respond effectively/profitably to broad range of new government environmental policies.</p>	<p>Fed/Prov/ Auto</p>	<p>ST/ MT</p>	



Addressed / Implementation underway and on-time.

Fed - Federal Government
 Prov - Provincial Government
 Auto - Auto Manufacturers, Suppliers



Plans, commitments and timelines not clear - attention needed.











Immediate Attention


Timing
 MT - Medium Term
 ST - Short Term


CAPC Innovation Working Group

April 2007

Priority	Action Plan Item	Owner	Timing	Status
Priority 2 Continued & Expand Support for Effective Existing Innovation Support Programs	Ontario Automotive Investment Strategy (OAIS)	Prov	ST	
	AUTO21 NCE – renew in 2008 with expanded funding to enable enhanced commercialization	Fed/Auto Academe	ST	
	NSERC's research partnership programs	Fed/Auto/ Academe	ST	
	Ontario Research Fund (ORF)	Prov/Auto /Academe	ST	
	Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) research partnership programs	Prov/Auto /Academe	ST	
	Effective & Accessible Replacement for TPC	Fed/Auto	ST	
	Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) – need to increase focus on industry-led grants	Fed/Auto Academe	ST	

 Addressed / Implementation underway and on-time.

 Plans, commitments and timelines not clear - attention needed.

 Immediate Attention




Fed - Federal Government
 Prov - Provincial Government
 Auto - Auto Manufacturers, Suppliers

Timing
 MT – Medium Term
 ST – Short Term

Data as of: 29-04-07

CAPC Innovation Working Group

April 2007

Priority	Action Plan Item	Owner	Timing	Status
Priority 2 Continued & Expand Support for Effective Existing Innovation Support Programs	CANMET – move of Materials Technology Labs to Hamilton, Ontario – implement quickly	Fed	ST	
	National Research Council (NRC) research institutes - recommend that the NRC personnel receive training on the nature and structure of the auto industry and its R&D priorities.	Fed	ST/MT	
	SR&ED Tax Credit Program – broaden applicability & eligibility to auto sector product and process development; appoint scientific advisors with thorough knowledge of the auto industry R&D; appoint ombudsperson to review denied claims	Fed	ST	



Addressed / Implementation underway and on-time.



Plans, commitments and timelines not clear - attention needed.




Immediate Attention

Fed - Federal Government
 Prov - Provincial Government
 Auto - Auto Manufacturers, Suppliers

Timing
 MT – Medium Term
 ST – Short Term

CAPC Innovation Working Group

April 2007

Priority	Action Plan Item	Owner	Timing	Status
<p>Priority 3</p> <p>Lightweight Materials Development & Support</p>	<p>Breakthroughs resulting from both public and private research have positioned the Canadian lightweight materials industry up to global reference status.</p> <p>The Lightweight Materials Sub-Committee (LMSC) issued a final report at the end of 2006 and the IWG is pursuing the key strategic actions recommended therein, including enlarging the role and mission of CLiMRI to ensure maximum coordination of all industry-based R&D activities in this area including new work in magnesium as well as aluminium.</p>	<p>Fed/Prov/ Auto</p>	<p>ST/ MT</p>	<p></p>



Addressed / Implementation underway and on-time.

Fed - Federal Government
 Prov - Provincial Government
 Auto - Auto Manufacturers, Suppliers



Plans, commitments and timelines not clear - attention needed.




Immediate Attention

Timing
 MT - Medium Term
 ST - Short Term

CAPC Innovation Working Group

April 2007

Priority	Action Plan Item	Owner	Timing	Status
<p>New Priority</p> <p>Climate Change Innovations</p>	<p>This is the newest of the CAPC-IWG priorities and it will be the focus of considerable discussion at our next couple of meetings to identify the challenges facing the auto sector from this perspective and to identify strategies and priorities in the context of recent federal and provincial climate change initiative and programs announced.</p>	<p>Fed/Prov/ Auto</p>	<p>MT</p>	<p></p>



Addressed / Implementation underway and on-time.

Fed - Federal Government
 Prov - Provincial Government
 Auto - Auto Manufacturers, Suppliers



Plans, commitments and timelines not clear - attention needed.



Immediate Attention

Timing
 MT - Medium Term
 ST - Short Term

CAPC Innovation Working Group (IWG) Status Report

April 23, 2007

Given the hyper-competitive nature of the Global Automotive Industry, accelerating Canadian auto sector innovation in products and manufacturing processes is essential to the industry's future success. With that in mind, the IWG, with input from the APMA Technology Committee, has identified four priority areas. Each of these is a work-in-progress at various stages of development – more specific recommendations are imminent in each case (by the next meeting of CAPC after May, 2007).

1. Strengthen Support for Industry-based Innovation Activities

The IWG recommends strengthening and/or establishing new government supports (Federal and Provincial) focused on accelerating private company based research and development activities in advancing the innovation of products and manufacturing processes/productivity in both vehicle and auto parts companies. Furthermore, governments must recognize that companies do not have all the needed innovation resources to respond effectively/profitably to broad range of new government environmental policies.

2. Continuing and Expanded Support for Effective Existing Innovation Support Programs

The following programs are important to supporting innovation within auto industry companies and deserve renewed and enhanced support.

- a) Ontario Automotive Investment Strategy (OAIS)
- b) AUTO21 Network of Centres of Excellence - renew and increase funding to increase the rate of commercialization of leading technologies for the benefit of the auto industry
- c) NSERC's research partnership programs
- d) Ontario Research Fund (ORF)
- e) Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE)
- f) Effective and accessible replacement for the Federal TPC program
- g) Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) - encourage a stronger industry orientation by funding industry-led research infrastructure investments
- h) CANMET's move of the Materials Technology Laboratory from Ottawa to Hamilton as a key piece of a technology cluster created at McMaster University
- i) SR&ED tax credit system - Enhance SR&ED system to broaden its applicability and eligibility to auto sector product and process development activities; appoint scientific advisors with thorough knowledge of the auto industry R&D; appoint an ombudsperson to review denied claims

3. Lightweight Materials Development and Support

Breakthroughs resulting from both public and private research have positioned the Canadian lightweight materials industry up to global reference status. The Lightweight Materials Sub-Committee (LMSC) issued a final report at the end of 2006 and the IWG is pursuing the key strategic actions recommended therein, including enlarging the role and mission of CliMRi to ensure maximum coordination of all industry-based R&D activities in this area.

4. Climate Change

This is the newest of the CAPC-IWG priorities and it will be the focus of considerable discussion at our next couple of meetings to identify the challenges facing the auto sector from this perspective and to identify strategies and priorities in the context of recent federal and provincial climate change initiative and programs announced.