

Beat: Automobiles

First High-Speed Quadski

Quadski capable 45MPH on land and water

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USPA NEWS - The GIBBS Quadski, the world's first high-speed sports amphibian, went into production at a new 54,000-square-foot Detroit-area assembly plant here today. The product of millions of research dollars and 15 years of development work at Gibbs Technologies and Gibbs Sports Amphibians.

The Quadski is capable of reaching speeds of 45 mph on both land and water and can transition between the two in about five seconds.

Gibbs Sports Amphibians Chairman Neil Jenkins said the company plans to build approximately 1,000 Quadskis through October of next year. They initially will be sold at major power sports dealerships throughout the Midwest and eastern United States, in addition to locations in the Great Lakes region and along the Gulf Coast.

Jenkins pointed out that GIBBS has implemented a flexible manufacturing system at its Auburn Hills plant that will support the production of a range of high-speed-sports amphibian products in addition to the Quadski.

A core group of GIBBS manufacturing personnel, including members from the company's engineering, manufacturing, purchasing and quality-control staffs, began work on the system more than four years ago.

"A primary objective was to create product designs and manufacturing processes that would allow a variety of vehicle types to flow off assembly lines at relatively low volumes," explained Tina Shaheen, the company's chief operating officer. "Today we have more than four new sports-amphibian products under development that can be assembled on two lines."

The new GIBBS assembly facility at 50 Corporate Drive in Auburn Hills, features high ceilings, large open areas and docking facilities to handle supplier-built sub-assemblies.

"The GIBBS Quadski is a quality product that has been specially designed for families and individuals who enjoy the outdoors, watersports, off-road travel, hunting and fishing. It offers premium powersports buyers a combination of power, comfort, versatility and freedom that has never been available before.

Jenkins added that Quadski already has generated positive reviews from a variety of publications. The Associated Press predicted "Amphibious vehicles could soon be zooming out of James Bond's garage "" or pond "" and into yours." Time Magazine Online said "Zipping across terrain at 45 miles per hour, the Quadski cuts across the bay as fast as it can dig treadmarks in your backyard."

For more information on Quadski: www.gibbssports.com.

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Editorial program service of General News Agency:

United Press Association, Inc.

3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168

Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA

(702) 943.0321 Local

(702) 943.0233 Facsimile

info@unitedpressassociation.org

info@gna24.com

www.gna24.com