

Extension of partnership between Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and Politecnico di Torino

Today the Chairman of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA), John Elkann, and the Rector of Politecnico di Torino, Marco Gilli, signed a memorandum of understanding for the extension, until 2018, of the collaboration agreement first established in 1999 and extended in 2010.

The central focus of the agreement is the degree program in Automotive Engineering and related research activities. Over the next 4 years, FCA will contribute funding and other resources (e.g., teaching, services, etc.) representing a total commitment of €7.4 million, or €1.85 million a year.

The joint FCA-Politecnico committee, which coordinates activities falling within the scope of the agreement, also presented results for the 2010-2014 period. Out of a total 621 students that enrolled in the degree program (with foreign students representing half), 402 completed the *Laurea Magistrale* and 16 received a dual Master's from Politecnico and the University of Windsor in Canada. FCA personnel conducted 25% of the training and collaborated on a number of joint research programs, in addition to being involved in workshops, summer courses and student projects.

The program has also produced excellent results in terms of employment. In fact, just one year after completing the program, 96% of new graduates were employed, with 86.4% working in the industrial sector and the remainder in the service sector.

Marco Gilli, Rector of Politecnico di Torino, commented: *"The extension of the agreement with FCA continues a more than decade-long partnership in advanced, interdisciplinary research, technology transfer through knowledge sharing and a degree program in Automotive Engineering that is one of just a handful of such programs in Europe, and probably the world, resulting from the collaboration between industry and academia. This program already offers students the opportunity to obtain a dual degree from Politecnico and the University of Windsor, a leader in the automotive sector, together with practical training at FCA. In the future, the program will continue to benefit even further from the international development of FCA and expansion of Politecnico's network of international partnerships."*

John Elkann, Chairman of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, said: *"Based on the very positive results achieved to date, we have decided to extend the collaboration until 2018. The academic and applied research programs prepare students to enter the professional world and have brought significant benefits to the Italian auto industry by providing skills and know-how in support of its continued development. In addition, the internationalization of Politecnico di Torino, a well-respected and progressive institution, is important to FCA as it continues to develop globally."*

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