

AUTOMOTIVE



Resignation at Ford could signal changes

DETROIT ♦ Former U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin has resigned from the board of Ford Motor Co. citing a potential conflict of interest with his duties as a member of the chairman's office at the banking company Citigroup Inc. One analyst said the move is another sign that the Ford family will need financing to either form an alliance with another company or take the struggling automaker private.

The Associated Press

BREWERY



Coors boss didn't follow his own drinking advice

GOLDEN, COLO. ♦ Beer executive Pete Coors pleaded guilty yesterday to driving while impaired, and was sentenced to 24 hours of community service. The judge suspended a \$200 fine, but ordered Coors to participate on a panel sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving and to go through alcohol education courses. Coors issued a statement apologizing for not following his own advice to drink responsibly.

The Associated Press

AUTOMAKERS



Chrysler CEO takes on U.S. citizenship

AUBURN HILLS, MICH. ♦ The Chrysler Group is once again headed by a U.S. citizen. Chief executive Tom LaSorda, a native of Windsor, Ont., was sworn in as a U.S. citizen earlier this month after passing a 10-question test. LaSorda has lived in the United States since 1993. He took the helm of the Chrysler Group from Dieter Zetsche last year. "We've been talking about this a long time," LaSorda said.

The Associated Press

▲ DOLLAR 90.13 US +0.10	▼ EURO 1.42 Cdn -0.14	▼ TSX 12,119.83 -12.47	▲ TSX VE 2,685.42 +39.21	▼ TSX 60 687.15 -1.28	▼ DOW 11,284.05 -20.41	▼ S&P 500 1,295.09 -0.97	▲ NASDAQ 2,140.29 +3.18	▲ GOLD \$622 US +\$2.50 US	▲ OIL (West Tx.) \$72.17 US +\$0.15 US
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Mutual listings in Monday's Spectator

Harnessing the wind

■ Wind turbines consist of blades mounted on towers attached to a horizontal shaft. As the wind blows, these blades rotate, causing the shaft to turn. The shaft is attached to a generator located inside the head of the turbine, which creates electricity.

■ A single turbine on a wind farm typically produces 1.5 megawatts per hour and costs about \$3 million.

■ The towers stand 80 metres in height with 35-metre blades.

■ The current wind energy capacity in Ontario is 271 megawatts per hour. Projects for another 1,300 megawatts will come into service over the next three years.

■ Wind energy currently makes up about three per cent of the total energy produced in Ontario.

■ More than 60 per cent of all wind energy is generated by private companies or individuals.

■ Since 2003, wind energy has increased by 80 per cent in Ontario and brought in \$2.5 billion in new investments.



How much power?

A 1.5 megawatt per hour turbine can power:

- 310 homes
- 7,045 refrigerators
- 16,500 computers
- 47,692 TVs (14-inch)

SMALL TURBINE

A small turbine is any wind turbine that produces less than 300 kilowatts per hour. The most common is a small vertical wind turbine, which is designed for urban areas to be placed on rooftops or on a tower next to a home. The turbine produces 2.5 kilowatts per hour and is typically used by homeowners to offset hydro costs or by private companies to earn a profit by building a small windfarm on the roof of a building. The turbine is three metres high, 2.5 metres wide and 159 kilograms.

THE GOOD

- One vertical turbine produces 9,000 kilowatts annually. The average household consumes between 10,000 kilowatts and 11,000 kilowatts annually.
- Wind energy systems are one of the most cost-effective home-based renewable energy systems. Having a wind turbine makes you less susceptible to power interruptions.
- If you have a small turbine farm, it can be profitable. A provincial program set to be launched in the fall will allow you to enter into a 20-year contract and earn 11 cents per kilowatt hour produced. One vertical turbine will produce \$990 in profit.

THE BAD

- A vertical turbine costs \$12,000 U.S. and typically lasts between 20 and 30 years with maintenance and repairs.
- There are fees to hooking your wind turbine up to the power grid. There is an \$800 licensing fee and the cost for a meter can range from \$400 to \$1,500. You also must pay a fee for an account with your local hydro distributor.
- Small wind turbines can pose a danger to birds, but are far less of a hazard than buildings or household cats. Avoid placing the turbine on a migration route or where many birds nest and feed.
- Speak to your neighbours and city officials before installing a wind turbine. They do make a noise similar to a new air conditioner and can impact the view or change the landscape. Objections are more likely to occur in populated and tourist areas.
- You must have average winds of about 15 km/h for a wind turbine to be viable.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Ontario's incentives to purchase wind turbines are generating a whole lot of takers

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

A growing number of Ontarians are looking to make money off Mother Nature.

The wind energy industry has exploded over the past couple of years with both corporate giants and individual homeowners investing in the renewable resource.

Since 2003 wind energy use has increased by 80 per cent in Ontario and brought in \$2.5 billion in new investments.

Industry officials point to the government's recent commitment to buying wind energy and offering incentives to wind power producers as reasons for the surging attraction.

In the past, companies were reluctant to start up wind farms because there was no guarantee the province would buy the energy.

But the government has now set a goal to grow Ontario's wind energy capacity to 2,700 megawatts per hour by 2010 and 15,700 by 2025.

The current wind energy capacity is sitting at 271 megawatts per hour and the province already has another 1,000 megawatts per hour of capacity lined up for

Everyone wants to get into the grid, both big and small.

There is a tremendous amount of interest in self-generation right now.

TIM TAYLOR

development over the next two to three years.

"There is a growing demand to produce wind energy from a business perspective," said Sylvia Kovesfalvi, Ministry of Energy spokesperson.

Lars Moller, president of DMI Industries, a wind turbine tower manufacturing facility that just opened up this week in Fort Erie, said the government's commitment to wind energy is the reason for locating in the province.

DMI is the first turbine tower facility to set up in Ontario and can produce up to 200

towers a year for both Canadian and American customers.

The Ontario Power Authority plans to launch a new program in November aimed at people with small wind turbine farms or residents who want to have a single turbine on their property to help cover their own energy use.

"Everyone wants to get into the grid, both big and small," said spokesman Tim Taylor. "There is a tremendous amount of interest in self-generation right now."

Under the new Standard Program, energy producers can enter into a 20-year contract and receive 11 cents per kilowatt generated into the grid.

Despite the province's recent growth, Ontario is only in the middle of the pack when it comes to harnessing the wind. Alberta is the current leader, said Robert Hornung, Canada Wind Energy Association president.

"But in the next couple of years Alberta will be surpassed by Ontario."

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HAMILTON SPECTATOR FILE PHOTO

Cleanfield Energy of Ancaster is making windmills. That's Tony Verrelli with the egg-beater style windmill.