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Hybrid Power: Snap-on Offers Special Tools for Hybrid Vehicles

Composite Hand Tools Allow Techs to Work Safely in Electrically Charged Environments

KENOSHA, Wis. – November 12, 2008 – An ever-increasing number of hybrid vehicles on the road means more hybrid vehicles in the shop. Technicians have had to quickly learn what makes hybrids different and what that means when it comes to servicing and maintaining them.

One of the biggest differences techs take into consideration when working on hybrids is the issue of conductivity. Typical hybrid vehicles have multiple batteries – creating an electrically charged environment. Traditional steel tools, while offering exceptional strength and heat-resistance, are excellent conductors of electricity and must be used carefully with specially-designed, thick insulated gloves.

To meet the growing demand for safe, durable alternatives for these applications, Snap-on Tools has developed a broad line of non-conductive composite hand tools, allowing techs to safely and efficiently work on hybrid vehicles. Screwdrivers, wrenches, ratchets, sockets, pliers and cutters are just some of the composite tools available.

Easy-to-identify, the non-conductive tools from Snap-on stand out from their steel counterparts thanks to the high-visibility orange composite material from which they are molded. The tools feature an easy-to-grip design with rounded edges for comfort whether used with gloves or bare hands. In addition, the tools are individually tested to ensure protection up to 1,000 volts of alternating current and 1,500 volts of direct current and are Listed by Underwriters Laboratories, assuring compliance to stringent IEC 60900 regulations.

The composite tools from Snap-on are designed specifically for environments where conductivity is an issue and are made to stand up to a wide variety of applications and elements. Although slightly larger than steel tools, the composite tools are extremely strong, lightweight and resistant to most chemicals and water.

With high gas prices and concern over the environment, hybrids are more popular than ever – a trend that is expected to increase in the future, as researchers predict new hybrid vehicle sales will break one million in 2012 (in addition to the more than 3 million hybrids expected to be on the road by then). To meet the demands of techs working on those vehicles, Snap-on will offer additional composite tools and continue to provide innovative solutions as new vehicle technologies enter the marketplace.

Customers can find out more about hybrid tools from Snap-on by contacting their local Snap-on representative, visiting www.snapon.com or by calling toll free 877-SNAPON-2 (877-762-7662).

About Snap-on Tools

Snap-on Tools Company, LLC is a leading global innovator, manufacturer and marketer of tools, diagnostics and equipment solutions for professional users. Product lines include hand and power tools, tool storage, diagnostics software, information and management systems, shop equipment and other solutions which are used by technicians and professionals at vehicle dealerships and repair centers and in the marine, powersports and aviation industries. Snap-on is one of the largest non-food franchise companies in the world, selling its products through more than 4,000 franchisees worldwide and through company-direct sales and over the Internet. Snap-on Tools is a subsidiary of Snap-on Incorporated, which was founded in 1920 and is a \$2.8 billion, S&P 500 company headquartered in Kenosha, Wis. For additional information on Snap-on, visit www.snapon.com.

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