

Shell hosts first global lecture series in India



L-R: Dr C Watson, GM, Lubricants Tech OEM & direct sector, Shell; Dr Tim Leverton, Head of Advanced & Product Engineering, Tata Motors; Professor Gordon Murray; Rick Finn of Infineum; Dr Selda Gansel, VP, Shell Global Commercial Technology; and Nitin Prasad, Country Head, Shell Lubricants India.

By Kiran Bajad

On February 25, Shell Lubricants and IIT Madras hosted India's first 'Lubricants Technology Lecture' in Chennai. The day-long event saw academia and industry experts debate on 'Technological Innovations - Pathway to Improving Fuel Efficiency' along with understanding the role lubricants can play in addressing the global energy challenge.

Various speakers emphasised cross-industry co-engineering as the fastest route to optimise fuel efficiency in lubricants for vehicles. Professor Gordon Murray, renowned designer of Formula One race cars, the McLaren F1 road car, the T25 and Yamaha Motiv urban cars, and the CEO and technical director of Gordon Murray Design (GMD), said: "At GMD, we are developing innovative cars that challenge every aspect of car design concepts, including lubrication. A lubricant is a vital engine component that has more potential than most for improving a

vehicle's fuel economy and cutting its CO₂ emissions. That is why we have been working closely with Shell as technical partners since 2010. We share the same drive for fuel efficiency and innovation in an energy challenged world."

Dr Selda Gansel, VP, Shell Global (Commercial Technology), said, "We believe lubricants - alongside new fuel and engine technologies - have a unique and vital role to play in meeting the global energy challenge. Fuel economy can be improved by using the most suitable quality lubricant for an engine, and that even higher savings can be achieved when the lubricants provider and the OEM work together to develop bespoke products for a particular vehicle."

Speaking to *Autocar Professional*, Nitin Prasad, country head, Shell Lubricants India, said: "Energy requirement globally is doubling. In India it would be even more and we need to innovate and develop new technologies to solve this challenge through collaboration."