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INDUSTRY INSIGHTS:

Here's to Growth

- Jack R. Nerad, executive editorial director and executive market analyst, Kelley Blue Book's kbb.com

December is typically a time for reflection on the past year, and as I write this in a hotel room off the Ginza preparing for the Tokyo Motor Show, there has been plenty of time for reflection. Twelve-hour-long plane rides offer that benefit. However, this is more than just a look back at the year 2011; it also is a look at what we can expect in 2012 and a hope that next year we set out on a new course that will return us to the growth Americans are accustomed to.

...IT WILL NOT PROMPT MANY TO DON PAPER HATS AND TOSS CONFETTI. AN APT TITLE FOR 2011 MIGHT BE 'NOT THE WORST YEAR EVER.'

- JACK R. NERAD

First, a quick examination of 2011: If one simply looks at the year-over-year comparisons with 2010, this year looks like a pretty good one. Cars sales are up more than 8 percent versus last year and light-truck sales are up more than 10 percent. The upward trend seems to have accelerated in November, resulting in a seasonally adjusted sales rate of more than 13 million units. So things must be good and getting better, right? Well, getting better yes, but good? Not so much. When all is said and done 2011 light-vehicle sales will undoubtedly be higher than in 2010, but to put that in context, 2010 was a miserable year. And though 2011 will turn out somewhat better than 2010, it will not prompt many

to don paper hats and toss confetti. An apt title for 2011 might be "Not the Worst Year Ever."

But doesn't the November surge indicate that the consumer is finally ready to come out of her cocoon and start buying again? After all, it wasn't just auto buyers who re-entered the market in November. Holiday season retail sales were up more than 15 percent versus last year, too. Yes, but remember last year was, well, last year – a dismal economic year all around. What is most troubling in this supposedly post-Great Recession era is that the Great Recession seems to linger on... and on... and on.

Unemployment is still dreadfully high at nearly 9 percent. Despite the holiday sales, consumer confidence in the future is at a low ebb and many auto analysts share the pessimism regarding next year. In light of the on-going economic malaise here – reflected principally in continued high unemployment plus diminished home values – and the very real possibility of an economic meltdown in the Euro zone, that pessimism is likely well-informed. Though the seasonally adjusted auto sales rate (SAAR) topped 13 million in November, few are predicting that United States auto sales will top 13 million next year.

That begs the question, is a 12 million SAAR the "new normal?" Are we in the first few years of what will be a no-growth decade? Will unemployment linger above the 8 percent level for years to come? Some would say yes to all three of these questions, but I for one think the American people will say no. Most Americans embrace growth and economic progress; in fact, they feel as if it is their birthright. So despite the dismal, gray, status quo predictions that confront us regarding our future, I'm convinced that Americans will find a way to do better, to do what needs to be done to return to a growing economy that enhances the lives of all.

LATEST NEWS STORIES ON KBB.COM:

Check out the very latest news stories by visiting <u>kbb.com</u> and clicking the the <u>Kbb Top Picks</u> tab on the home page. The following latest news stories by kbb.com's editorial staff went live on the site or were updated during November 2011.

Videos Posted to kbb.com:

BMW i3 and i8 Concepts Interview - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2013 Cadillac XTS interview - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2012 Chevy Camaro ZL1 Convertible - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2013 Chevy Spark - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2013 Chevy Spark interview with Ken Parkinson

2012 Fiat 500 Abarth - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2013 Ford Flex - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2013 Ford Mustang and Shelby GT500 - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2012 Honda CR-V - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

Honda Fit Video Review

2012 Hyundai Azera - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2013 Infiniti JX - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

Maserati GranTurismo MC and Convertible Sport - Video Review

2013 Mazda CX-5 Preview - Kelley Blue Book

2012 Mazda CX-5 - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2012 Mercedes-Benz ML63 AMG - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

Nissan Juke Video Review

Subaru BRZ Concept STI - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

2013 VW CC - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

VW Beetle R Concept - 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show

Volkswagen Passat Video Review

Written Stories Posted to kbb.com:

2011 LA Auto Show

2012 BMW M3 Competition Edition revealed

2012 Dodge Challenger SRT8 392 Yellow Jacket

2012 Dodge Challenger SRT8 392 Yellow Jacket - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Dodge Charger SRT8 Super Bee - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Fiat 500 Abarth - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Fiat Abarth 500 - Los Angeles Auto Show preview

2012 Ford Focus Electric to start at \$39,995

2012 Honda CR-V - First Drive

2012 Honda Ridgeline Sport - First look

2012 Hyundai Azera - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Jaguar XKR-S Convertible - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Jeep Wrangler Arctic Edition - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Lamborghini Gallardo LP 550-2 Spyder - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Lincoln MKT - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Mastretta MXT - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Mercedes-Benz ML63 AMG - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Mini Cooper Roadster revealed

2012 Porsche 911 Carrera Cabriolet revealed

2012 Porsche Panamera GTS - 2011 LA Auto Show

2012 Volvo C70 Inscription - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Audi A4/S4 - First look

2013 Cadillac XTS - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 Convertible - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Chevrolet Spark - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Chevrolet Spark - Los Angeles Auto Show preview

2013 Ford Escape - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Ford Flex - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Ford Mustang - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Ford Shelby GT500 - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Honda Fit EV - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Infiniti IPL G Convertible - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Infiniti JX - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Lexus GS First Drive

2013 Lincoln MKS - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Mazda CX-5 - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Mazda CX-5 - An impressive impression

2013 Nissan GT-R revealed - adds power, gains suspension refinements

2013 Volkswagen CC - 2011 LA Auto Show

2013 Volkswagen CC - Los Angeles Auto Show Preview

A Quick Tour of the 2011 LA Auto Show

Buick LaCrosse GL Concept - 2011 LA Auto Show

Cadillac Ciel Concept - 2011 LA Auto Show

Chevy Turns 100, Celebrates Around the World

Doking XD - 2011 LA Auto Show

Five 2012 minivans earn IIHS Top Safety Pick honors

Ford upgrades and simplifies MyFord Touch for 2013

Future Vision: smart 341 Parkour Concept

Infiniti teases range-extended electric sports car concept

KBB announces Best Resale Value Awards for 2012

NHTSA names 74 vehicles to be rated in 2012 crash-testing program

Next-gen Mercedes-Benz SL-Class spied testing Nissan PIVO 3 Concept - 2011 Tokyo Motor Show

Subaru Advanced Tourer Concept - Tokyo Auto Show Preview

LATEST NEWS STORIES ON KBB.COM (CONTINUED):

Written Stories Posted to kbb.com:

Subaru BRZ Concept - STI - 2011 LA Auto Show

Top 10 Family Cars of 2011

Toyota 86 - 2011 Tokyo Auto Show

Toyota Prius C - 2012 Detroit Auto Show preview

Volkswagen Beetle R Concept - 2011 LA Auto Show

NEW-VEHICLE REVIEWS ON KBB.COM:

The following new-vehicle reviews written by kbb.com's editorial staff went live on the site or were updated during November 2011. To see any new-vehicle review from kbb.com's editorial staff, please visit kbb.com and click on the Car Reviews tab, then select the make and model.

2012 Audi A4

It's been three years since Audi last changed the A4; a period of time that typically sees a vehicle's exterior age a bit as newer competition hits the scene. But the 2012 Audi A4 continues to look just as fresh and compelling as ever. With a lightweight aluminum space-frame chassis, efficient and powerful engines and generous interior room...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Audi A5

The 2012 Audi A5 and its more sporting counterpart, the 2012 S5, deliver comfort, performance, handling and luxury, all wrapped in a package that is stunningly gorgeous on the outside, beautifully sumptuous on the inside and crafted with impeccable fit and finish...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click *here*.

2012 BMW 1 Series

Good enough to even to make some 3 Series buyers think twice, the 2012 BMW 1 Series Coupe and Convertible remain relevant to any number of BMW enthusiasts, as well as younger buyers wanting an easier entrée into the joy of driving...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 BMW 3 Series

On the cusp of an all-new, sixth-generation 3 Series, which lands at the Detroit Auto Show in January, 2012 and in U.S. showrooms by February or March of 2012, demand for the current generation shows no signs of abating. From its introduction in 1975, BMW's 3 Series has morphed into more variations than one might have imagined...

2012 Chevrolet Equinox

In the 2012 Chevrolet Equinox compact SUV, Chevrolet stretched the boundary of what is considered "compact" to create a small SUV priced and equipped like the segment-leading Honda CR-V, but with more power, more features and more style...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Chevrolet Malibu

Many critics believed GM could never build a mid-size sedan to compete with the Honda Accord and Toyota Camry. But, the 2012 Chevrolet Malibu sedan has made believers out of the most strident GM-bashers and given the entire mid-size segment a loud wakeup call. Chevy's Malibu is a stylish sedan with a handsome...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 Chevrolet Silverado 1500

In the world of half-ton pickups, the 2012 Chevrolet Silverado rules supreme. Granted, the Ford F-150 pickup can lay claim to being the best-selling pickup in America but, if you combine the sales of the Silverado with its identical cousin, the GMC Sierra, GM walks away with the best-selling title, no questions asked...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Chevrolet Tahoe

America's favorite full-size SUV, the 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe, continues to impress with its power, its capabilities and its reputation for reliability and owner satisfaction. Slightly shorter than the big Suburban, the 2012 Chevy Tahoe SUV can still seat up to nine passengers...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Chevrolet Traverse

The family vacation is an integral part of American life, which is why having a family vehicle that is big, comfortable, safe and fuel-efficient is paramount. The 2012 Chevrolet Traverse is such a vehicle, a 7-passenger CUV (Crossover Utility Vehicle) that embodies the best attributes of a car (ride, handling, fuel economy and safety), with a cavernous passenger compartment...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Chevrolet Avalanche

The 2012 Chevrolet Avalanche truck is part pickup, part SUV and entirely practical. Its big, roomy cabin is virtually identical to the Chevy Tahoe and Suburban-at least from the second-row seat forward. What makes the 2012 Chevy Avalanche so much more versatile...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 GMC Acadia

The 2012 GMC Acadia crossover SUV represents the best in GMC styling, engineering and American know-how. Sharing a common platform with the Chevrolet Traverse and Buick Enclave, the 2012 GMC Acadia bridges the gap between the Traverse's family-oriented packaging and the Enclave's highly stylized luxury image...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 GMC Sierra

While many rightly consider the 2012 GMC Sierra 1500 pickup to be the twin of the Chevrolet Silverado 1500, there are a few subtle differences in styling and equipment. For the most part, the two share identical mechanical and interior layouts, making them essentially the same vehicle. And, while Ford may lay claim to the F-150 being the best-selling pickup in America, combined Sierra and Silverado sales actually beat out the F-150...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 GMC Terrain

The 2012 GMC Terrain crossover SUV straddles the fence between a compact and mid-size SUV. Although it does not offer a third-row seat, the 2012 GMC Terrain is intended to lure away customers looking at the RAV4, as well as the Honda CR-V, Hyundai Santa Fe and Ford Escape. Riding on the same platform as the Chevy Equinox, the Terrain displays a decidedly more truck-like appearance...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Honda Insight

When Honda reintroduced the Insight hybrid in 2010, the company was sure the car's 5-door hatchback configuration coupled with its sub-\$20,000 price tag would be all that was needed to knock the Toyota Prius from its lofty perch. But, for whatever reasons, sales still haven't boomed, which is why the 2012 Honda Insight hybrid has been given a refreshed look, revised interior styling...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Kia Soul

Since its debut in 2009, the Kia Soul has enjoyed brisk sales and rave reviews that have helped the Soul get off to a good start, but questions remain about its popularity in the long-run. Of course, an impressive array of standard features...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click *here*.

2012 Kia Sportage

The first Kia Sportage was a rugged, but not terribly reliable, compact SUV with a body-on-frame chassis that made it a good low-cost alternative to the Jeep Wrangler. But, while the Jeep Wrangler has grown larger and less fuel-efficient, the 2012 Kia Sportage SUV has transformed into something altogether different...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Lexus IS

Roughly 10 years after its initial launch, Lexus' IS still struggles – at least in many markets – for its footing in the sport-sedan segment. And although it is in the seventh year of its second generation, and while offering V6 and V8 powertrains, capable suspension and a niche-oriented hardtop convertible...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Lexus LS

This, some 20 years after the launch of the franchise, is the evolution of the car that established the tone for that franchise. And rarely has one model better defined a brand's mission, with craftsmanship, comfort and composure wrapped in a structure constructed by artisans...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Lexus RX

Lexus helped craft the luxury-crossover segment when it debuted the RX 350 SUV more than 10 years ago, and today nearly every high-end automaker offers at least one viable alternative to the vehicle that started it all. Even so, the 2012 RX 350 still counts itself as one of the most popular models in the segment, and with good reason...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Lincoln MKZ

The mid-size 2012 Lincoln MKZ sedan shares its platform with its corporate sibling the Ford Fusion, and they are both coming due for a freshening. However, that doesn't detract from the Lincoln MKZ's reliable service history, class-leading efficiency with the Hybrid model and reasonable transaction prices within its category...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Mazda Mazda3

Mazda's Zoom-zoom tag line isn't just a hollow advertising gimmick. It really does describe the attitude behind every car they build. Perhaps the best example of Zoom-zoom can be found in the 2012 Mazda3, a fun and efficient vehicle that's available as either a 4-door sedan or a 5-door hatchback, as well as a high-performance turbocharged terror dubbed the Mazdaspeed3...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Mercedes-Benz GL Class

The 2012 Mercedes-Benz GL-Class is a full-size SUV that provides seating for seven. It offers elegant style, solid performance, technology and safety. The 2012 GL-Class is fairly comparable in size with other vehicles in its class...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Mercedes-Benz SLK

The original Mercedes-Benz SLK was a big hit, largely on the basis of its retractable hardtop roof, something the auto industry hadn't seen since the Ford Skyliner of the 1950s. Each successive version of the SLK has been given a more serious edge, and this time around a new V6 engine and muscular styling make the 2012 Mercedes-Benz SLK the most aggressive SLK ever...

2012 Nissan Altima

In the crowded mid-size family sedan segment, Nissan's 2012 Altima remains a viable alternative to the Honda Accord, Chevrolet Malibu and Volkswagen Passat. Although starting to show its age, the 2012 Altima Sedan still has much to offer. While it's not as sleek or modern as the Kia Optima or Hyundai Sonata, the Altima is still an attractive car with a very sporty side that makes it a favorite among enthusiast-oriented drivers who need four doors...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Nissan Altima Coupe

In the crowded mid-size family sedan segment, Nissan's 2012 Altima remains a viable alternative to the Honda Accord, Chevrolet Malibu and Volkswagen Passat. Although starting to show its age, the 2012 Altima Sedan still has much to offer...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click *here*.

2012 Nissan Armada

Despite the constant calls of its pending doom or complete abolition, the full-size SUV will likely always have a place in the American garage – at least as long as there are large families with large toys to tow behind them. The 2012 Nissan Armada is an excellent example of the full-size quarter-ton SUV families like the ones mentioned above can't live without...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 Nissan Frontier

Unless you work in construction or have a need to tow massive objects, a mid-size pickup is preferable over a full-size model and will likely fill most of your moving and hauling requirements. While there are a number of options from which to choose, in the world of mid-size pickups...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 Nissan Maxima

Every car company needs a flagship car that represents the company's core values and true automotive heart and soul. For Nissan, that car is the 2012 Maxima Sport Sedan. While the GT-R may be the superstar of the Nissan lineup, it's not a car for the masses, nor is it very practical. The 2012 Maxima Sedan, on the other hand, has room for four adults, delivers Z-car-like performance...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Nissan Pathfinder

Although getting a bit long in the tooth, the 2012 Nissan Pathfinder SUV is still a good value, especially for those who still need a rugged body-on-frame vehicle that can tow heavy loads and venture off-road...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Nissan Rogue

Nissan's second-smallest Crossover Utility Vehicle (CUV) is designed to take on the popular Honda CR-V and Toyota RAV4. The 2012 Nissan Rogue crossover departs from the traditional quasi-SUV look popular with so many competitors and replaces it with a curvaceous carlike design...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Nissan Sentra

The Sentra has been one of Nissan's most successful cars year after year, decade after decade. The 2012 Nissan Sentra sedan continues to appeal to buyers for one reason: value. Available in four trims (2.0, 2.0 S, 2.0 SL and 2.0 SR), the Sentra runs the gamut from simple and affordable to quite nicely equipped but still very affordable...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 Nissan Versa Hatchback

While the 2012 Nissan Versa Sedan is all-new this year (reviewed separately), the 2012 Nissan Versa Hatchback remains relatively unchanged. This review covers only the 5-door hatchback, and while it is not new, the 2012 Versa Hatchback still represents an excellent value...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 Nissan Xterra

Unlike so many SUVs that have moved to a more carlike unit-body design, the 2012 Nissan Xterra retains its traditional body-on-frame architecture, which is just fine by us and most off-road enthusiasts. Although its following is not as populous as that of the Jeep Wrangler, Xterra loyalists are nevertheless a dedicated bunch. They've stuck with this trusty SUV since its inception mainly because its mission has never changed...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 Scion tC

If you live in a city or close-by suburbs, try a little experiment: Look around when you're on the road and keep an eye out for Scion tC drivers. The 2012 tC coupe isn't even the most recognizable Scion on the road (that would be the "roundy-boxy" xB); let alone a standout among other cars...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 Scion xB

The 2012 Scion xB hatchback is the rolling box that starting the rolling box craze in America. Once looked at with raised eyebrows and quizzical glances, the 2012 Scion xB appears downright main stream, especially when placed next to such competitors as the Nissan Cube and Kia Soul...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

2012 Subaru Outback

The 2012 Subaru Outback wagon is the perfect anti-SUV and one of the best-selling wagons in America. It's as agile and efficient as most mid-size sedans, but offers much of the off-road and cargo capability of a larger vehicle...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click <u>here</u>.

2012 Volkswagen Jetta

The new-in-2011 Volkswagen Jetta took the automotive media aback, while taking the U.S. consumer (seemingly) by storm. In its second model year, and with Jetta sales up some 70 percent in the first nine months of 2011, VW's strategy of lower prices, less content and more volume would seem to be the right one for a company hell-bent on tripling U.S. sales...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click here.

WHAT'S NEW:

Kbb.com Releases 2012 Best Resale Value Awards Infographic, Highlighting Top Brands, Individual Models

IRVINE, Calif., Dec. 1, 2011 / PRNewswire / -- In recognition of the individual cars and entire lineups that best retain their value after five years of ownership, Kelley Blue Book's kbb.com created an infographic of this year's Best Resale Value Award winners. Kelley Blue Book highlights this year's best brand and overall vehicle, as well as the performance of electric and Korean models... MORE

Behind the Scenes with Kelley Blue Book at the Los Angeles Auto Show

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 30, 2011 / PRNewswire / -- With more than 50 vehicles debuting at the Los Angeles Auto Show, the latest advancements in automotive technology and design are sure to find their way into driveways across the country very soon. Micah Muzio, editor for the car-shopping website Kelley Blue Book, www.kbb.com, provides a wrap-up of what was hot from the first auto show of the 2012 season... MORE

Kbb.com: Used-Car Shoppers Encouraged to Buy Before Year-End

Kelley Blue Book Expects Used-Vehicle Values to Increase up to 6 percent in Early 2012

IRVINE, Calif., Nov. 29, 2011 / PRNewswire / -- Kelley Blue Book www.kbb.com, the leading provider of new car and used car information, today reports that car shoppers are encouraged to buy their next used vehicle before the end of the year, as values are expected to increase 4 to 6 percent in early 2012...

Kbb.com Announces 2012 Best Resale Value Awards Sweepstakes on Kelley Blue Book Page on Facebook, All-New Badge Program

IRVINE, Calif., Nov. 21, 2011 / PRNewswire / -- In honor of the 2012 Best Resale Value Awards, Kelley Blue Book is running a sweepstakes to help consumers get in on the winning spirit. With three \$200 gas cards up for grabs, fans can enter (once per person, per day) on the Kelley Blue Book page on Facebook until midnight on Sunday, December 4, 2011. The winners will be announced on December 7, 2011... MORE

Kelley Blue Book's kbb.com® Releases 2012 Residual Value Analysis

Toyota Reclaims Top Spot for Best Retained Value; Compact SUVs Rise as Hybrids Fall in Residual Rankings

IRVINE, Calif., Nov. 16, 2011 / PRNewswire -- Kelley Blue Book www.kbb.com, the leading provider of vehicle values and forecasts, today announces the availability of its 2012 Residual Analysis Report. Kelley Blue Book's Best Resale Value Awards are based on projections from the Kelley Blue Book's Official Residual Value Guide, determined by a skilled staff of automotive analysts... MORE

Kelley Blue Book Announces Winners of 2012 Best Resale Value Awards

Kbb.com Offers Advice on Choosing New Cars Predicted to Maintain Value over Five-Year Ownership Period

IRVINE, Calif., Nov. 16, 2011 / PRNewswire/ -- Kelley Blue Book www.kbb.com, the leading provider of new and used vehicle information, announces the all-new 2012 model-year vehicle winners of its annual Best Resale Value Awards, recognizing current and forthcoming vehicles for their projected retained value throughout the initial five-year ownership period. Since depreciation (or loss of value) is typically a car buyer's primary expense during ownership, these awards, like all of kbb.com's new- and used-vehicle information, are designed to help consumers make more informed car-buying decisions... MORE

Kelley Blue Book Launches Used-Car Values Specific to 51 Regions in U.S.; Company to Provide More Specific Valuations to Consumers, Industry

'Very Good' Condition Added to Offer Value Adjustments for Today's Most Common Vehicle Sets

IRVINE, Calif., Nov. 10, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- In an effort to provide the most market reflective and granular used-car values in every state, Kelley Blue Book www.kbb.com, the leading provider of new car and used car information, announces it will provide values for 51 regions, delivering some of the most comprehensive values available to consumers and the automotive industry today. Regional values are now updated weekly for all of Kelley Blue Book's used-car values, including; lending, auction, trade-in, private party, certified pre-owned and suggested retail... MORE

About Kelley Blue Book (www.kbb.com)

Founded in 1926, Kelley Blue Book, The Trusted Resource*, is the only vehicle valuation and information source trusted and relied upon by both consumers and the industry. Each week the company provides the most market-reflective values in the industry on its top-rated website www.kbb.com, including its famous Blue Book* Trade-In and Retail Values and Fair Purchase Price, which reports what others are paying for new cars this week. The company also provides vehicle pricing and values through various products and services available to car dealers, auto manufacturers, finance and insurance companies as well as governmental agencies. Kbb.com provides consumer pricing and information on minituals., pickup-trucks, seedan, hybrids, electric cars, and SUVs. Kelley Blue Book Co. Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of AutoTrader.com.