

The Next Big Thing from Lexus Is Not a Car

October 11, 2010

Luxury Automaker's Latest Ad Campaign Features the World's Most Advanced Driving Simulator

TORRANCE, Calif. (Oct. 11, 2010)—Lexus' latest innovation in its pursuit of perfection isn't a new vehicle. It's an idea...the idea that a car that will never have an accident may be possible. The automaker is using the world's most advanced driving simulator to enable its engineers to design technology that will help make driving safer.

"In our latest television spot, we are inviting consumers into our state-of-the-art testing facility for a behind-the-scenes look at the Lexus driving simulator to see this revolutionary machine in action," states Dave Nordstrom, vice president of marketing for Lexus. "It's a real-life example of our innovation and dedication to bringing customers the future first."

World's Most Advanced Driving Simulator

In a large, unassuming building on the company's research campus in Higashifuji, Japan, sits the largest and most advanced driving simulator ever built. A series of complex, interlocking full motion tracks span the interior of a room the size of a football field. On top of the tracks sits a round domed structure, approximately 15 feet high and 56 feet in diameter, supported on a full three-axis hexapod system.

Inside the dome, a real Lexus vehicle is mounted to a turntable, allowing drivers to test and experience actual vehicle controls. A high-definition imaging system provides a full 360-degree environment of roads around the vehicle. Drivers can see and hear traffic and the city around them, including receding scenery viewable in the side- and rear-view mirrors.

This is no video game. The pod is able to tip forward or backward and side-to-side to create sensations of acceleration. Coupled with the track system, which moves the pod in all directions, the simulator creates realistic feelings of cornering and handling, and can mimic speeds of up to 186 miles per hour with a turn angle of 330 degrees.

This highly advanced simulator allows Lexus to conduct ongoing testing to learn about driver behaviors and reaction times, to engineer active safety features that will help protect people on the road like never before.

Not only does Lexus test for traditional traffic incidents, but they also conduct testing that determines driver response while distracted by technology such as text messaging, navigation systems and car warnings and displays. Testing is also conducted on drowsy driving and poor visibility. Simulation of driving scenarios allows the engineers to analyze driver reactions before an accident to determine what technology could assist in helping to prevent future accidents.

What is the result of all of this testing? Lexus hopes it will help move us toward a future where there are no accidents.

Show, Don't Tell

The new TV spot featuring the simulator titled, "[It's Out There](#)," debuts today and is the latest in a long-standing tradition from the automaker of creatively demonstrating product attributes and brand philosophy in a way that's entertaining and impactful. From the brand's launch commercial featuring the hybrid line, to the more recent

brand spot “Pitch” and vehicle campaign “Music Track,” which showcased the LFA and IS, respectively, such demonstration commercials have become a Lexus hallmark.

The commercial can be viewed at [YouTube.com/lexusvehicles](https://www.youtube.com/lexusvehicles) and will air on network and cable outlets, including DirecTV NFL Sunday Ticket and online full episode players. The campaign will also be featured in an outdoor, print, mobile, emerging media and online banner campaign, as well as partnerships with Yahoo!, The New York Times, CNN, Pandora, YouTube and Facebook.

About Lexus

Lexus is the leading luxury automaker in the United States. With its reputation for high-quality products and exemplary customer service from its 228 dealers, Lexus has been the top-selling luxury automaker for ten years in a row. In addition, Lexus is the luxury hybrid leader, now offering four hybrids that provide the best in innovative technology and first-class luxury. When Lexus was established in 1989, it offered two models of vehicles. Now, more than 20 years later, Lexus offers variations of 11 vehicles, from the entry-level IS 250 to its first V10 supercar, the LFA.

#

CONTACTS:

Daphne Adair

(310) 615-2109

daphne.adair@teamone-usa.com

Alyssa Jones

(310) 615-2179

alyssa.jones@teamone-usa.com