

CHICAGO AUTO SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS | FEBRUARY 2016



• 2017 Ram Power Wagon



• 2017 Hyundai Santa Fe and Santa Fe Sport



• 2017 Kia Niro Hybrid Utility Vehicle



• 2016 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Worker



• Nissan Winter Warrior concepts



• 2017 Toyota Tacoma TRD Pro

Chicago was at least as wintry as Detroit this year, with subzero temps to keep the mood brisk and excited—the perfect climate for some tough and ready reveals, including:

- Three-row 2017 **Hyundai Santa Fe** and two-row **Hyundai Santa Fe Sport** utilities have fresh fascias front and rear, brushed-finish grilles, new lights and dual exhaust outlets. Restyled alloy wheels come in three sizes. There are new Sport, Eco and Normal drive modes, and expanded creature comforts include a standard 5-inch LCD audio display and 7-inch (or available 8-inch) touchscreen with Android Auto, plus standard rear camera with available Multi-View. Standout Infinity audio is available. (Some availabilities vary by model.) With demand high, Santa Fe Sport build moves to Alabama's Sonata and Elantra plant.
- The 2017 **Kia Niro HUV (Hybrid Utility Vehicle)** subcompact broadens Kia's EcoDynamics sub-brand—which aims to triple Kia's green lineup by 2020. With a new dedicated eco-car platform, Niro is conceived to avoid any alt-vehicle stigma—in which Kia has already proven its skills with its hybrids—with the brand's usual comprehensive feature inclusions, all within a long, low, wide, athletic and aerodynamic package that aims for fuel economy in the 50 MPG range. A plug-in hybrid version will arrive mid-cycle.
- The 2016 **Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Worker** will be the most affordable in the lineup, starting at \$32,495. The Sprinter Worker comes as a simplified configuration, ready for tradesmen to put to hard work. Sprinter Worker is a one-flavor machine, based on the most popular 144-inch wheelbase standard-roof-height model and available only in white. Interior cargo floor length is 137.4 inches (more than 11 feet) and headroom is 66.5 inches. Diesel-powered, the Sprinter Worker has a 7-speed automatic and 20,000-mile service

intervals. Standard equipment includes 4-speaker AM-FM radio with several inputs including Bluetooth, six standard airbags, cabin partition prep and Sprinter's impressive Crosswind Assist and Load-Adaptive Traction Control. Sprinter Worker goes on sale this spring.

• As temperatures dipped below zero outside, the **Nissan Winter Warrior concepts**—based on Pathfinder, Murano and Rogue—turned quite a few heads as they shined a spotlight on record sales for Murano and Rogue. Nissan also introduced a new half-ton Nissan Titan pickup with V6 engine, for lighter duty than the Titan XD, and the new and more luxurious full-size Nissan Armada 7-passenger SUV based on the same Nissan Patrol global platform as the Infiniti QX80.

• The 2017 **RAM Power Wagon** is the latest iteration of a model that goes back to 1945, when Power Wagon was the first mass-production 4x4 built. The new model is presented as a super-sized Ram Rebel, which suggests great built upon great. Based on the Ram 2500 Heavy Duty 4x4 Crew Cab, the Power Wagon has off-road-specific enhancements including unique suspension with more than two inches of lift, locking differentials and a 12,000-lb winch. Also revealed was a new Ram 2500 4x4 Off-road Package.

• The new 2017 **Toyota Tacoma TRD Pro**, due next fall, is a second-gen model based on the Tacoma TRD Off-Road 4x4 Double Cab Short Bed, with off-road emphasis: 16-inch TRD black alloy wheels with kevlar-reinforced Goodyear Wrangler All-Terrain tires, TRD Pro aluminum front skid plate, Rigid Industries LED fog lights, black-bezel projector beam headlights, LED DRLs, black-bezel taillights, black TRD Pro badging and other distinctive trim. With a choice of 6-speed manual or 6-speed automatic, the Tacoma TRD Pro will be distinguished by Cement, Barcelona Red Metallic or Super White paint. ■

