

# AUTO IMAGE



Don Wales is seeking to top 160 km/h on a Countax brand lawnmower!

By attempting to break the current world record of more than 128 km/h, set by Bob Cleveland from the USA in 2006, Don is following in the footsteps of his uncle Donald Campbell and grandfather Sir Malcolm Campbell, who between them broke more than 20 land and water speed records.

Now called "Team Countax Runningblade", the aim is to break the world record home by a margin of more than 25 percent, on Pendines Sands, in South Wales.

A Countax spokesman said: "Making a machine light enough and stable enough to achieve 100 mph (160 km/h) is a huge challenge and one that Don's team and the Countax R&D department have risen to magnificently - safety naturally being of paramount importance."

"The hope is that this specially made Countax will be travelling down Pendine Sands at a rate of at least 147 feet per second (44.8 metres), and will cover the measured mile in less than 36 seconds."

Despite its racetrack-like aspirations, the Countax machine still has to be capable of cutting grass,

which it will demonstrate on the very same day its operator hopes to take the record in February.

Pendine Sands, is located in Camarthen Bay, and is noted for its 11-kilometre long, smooth yet hard sand surface. The record challenge will also raise funds and awareness for Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children and Wessex Heartbeat.

To read more about the challenge visit, [www.fastest-lawnmower.com](http://www.fastest-lawnmower.com)

## DETAILING

# Pamper your vehicle with a day at the spa

Auto-detailing is something you should intergrate in your vehicle maintenance routine

**MELISSA GUILLERGAN**  
MISSING PARTS



Perhaps hitting the gym is on your list of New Year's resolutions. Or maybe managing a vice like smoking is on your list of things to change in 2010. But what will your New Year's resolution be for your vehicle?

One of the items on the "To Do" list for your car in 2010 should be to get your car detailed. Whether you do it

yourself or go to a professional to do it, detailing your vehicle is something you should integrate into your vehicle maintenance routine, if you don't do so already. One of the biggest trends in automotive care is taking your vehicle to a car spa, and with the increased number of these specialized detailing businesses popping up in the Lower Mainland, the trend of pampering your vehicle at a specialized car spa is growing.

Farhan Bhimji, manager and owner of Showroom Auto Spa in Vancouver, has been in the car detailing business for over five years. According to Bhimji, detailing is "the thorough cleaning, polishing and waxing of an automobile, both inside and out, to



produce a show quality level of detail. He adds, "detailing is very broad. It can be anything from a thorough vacuuming to a full shampooing (of the interior). Detailing is really based on the preference of the customer and their needs." Bhimji explains that there are numerous advantages to detailing your car: "In (my) professional opinion, a vehicle is the second biggest investment someone makes. (When you get your car detailed), you get the best out of the vehicle and maintain the resale value. It's more than just a car wash."

Probably the biggest advantage of getting your vehicle detailed at a professional shop is having your car thoroughly cleaned with professional

equipment done by experienced professionals. "Especially with polishing, you can do a lot of damage of the paint if you don't know what you're doing," says Bhimji. He also advises would-be detailers to make sure that you have "a layer of wax or protective layer. It will give your paint a deep shine and protect it from the elements."

Another piece of advice is to shop around if you decide to detail your car professionally. A lot of spas offer "exterior packages" and "interior packages," and you want to ensure that you know the complete list of jobs that falls into that package before you invest your money. Always go to a shop that has a good reputation and research their work online. Look to see if the shop has show room pictures of the work they have done; that way you can gauge the quality of their work.

The cost of getting a professional detailed job done starts out at about \$150.

Of course, for many automotive buffs, detailing your car is not only a hobby but a labour of love as well.

For more information on Showroom Auto Spa, visit [www.showroomautospa.com](http://www.showroomautospa.com).

Melissa Guillergan works for the Laura Ballance Media Group and loves looking for those Missing Parts that manufacturers fail to install in your ride. [melissa@lbmg.ca](mailto:melissa@lbmg.ca)

## 2010 F-350 4x4 XLT Supercab



## 2009 FORD ECONOLINE VAN



## 2010 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT



ALL COMMERCIAL VEHICLES \$499/MONTH\*

**OCEAN PARK FORD SALES LTD.**  
3050 King George Hwy., South Surrey  
Call today Toll Free  
**1-800-605-8633**

**COMMERCIAL**

IT'S EASY BEING GREEN!

Eliminate unwanted paperwork by switching to The Vancouver Sun's new electronic billing option and receive your subscription renewal notices by email. Sign up today! Visit [vancouver.sun.com](http://vancouver.sun.com) and click on Subscriber Services to make the switch or call us at 604-605-7381.

# YEAR END SALE

ALL CHRYSLER DODGE JEEPS REDUCED!

Marine Chrysler's prices - \$1000's less than imports!

See us or you'll pay too much!

Over 90 used at [marinechrysler.com](http://marinechrysler.com)

**Example of the HUGE SAVINGS!**

★ BRAND NEW ★  
From \$139/pmt \$0 Down  
**2010 GRAND CARAVAN**  
Stow n' go, power group, a/c. MSRP \$28,945  
Reduced to **\$19,997**  
Stk. #42AS865

BRAND NEW 2010 WRANGLER 4x4 Auto From \$149/pmt SALE PRICE \$21,661 Stk. #67AD073

2.25% Prime Rate Loans!!! Marine Chrysler has the lowest rates anywhere!

**ONLY AT Marine Chrysler Dodge Jeep**  
1-866-385-3087  
450 SE MARINE DRIVE, VANCOUVER  
[www.marinechrysler.com](http://www.marinechrysler.com)

84 mos. bi-weekly payment at 2.25% APR, incl fees & taxes. Prices net of all rebates, plus neg. fees, levies & taxes. D#9121

**vancouver.sun.com**

GET UP TO THE MINUTE NEWS FROM B.C.'S #1 LOCAL NEWS WEBSITE.



**THE VANCOUVER SUN**  
SERIOUSLY WESTCOAST  
(604) 605-READ  
[subscribe@vancouver.sun.com](mailto:subscribe@vancouver.sun.com)