

GM, LG partner on electric vehicles

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The Chevy Volt is displayed during a media preview event for the 2010 Los Angeles Auto Show, California. General Motors and LG Group will jointly design and engineer electric vehicles, the companies said Thursday.

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LG is already the battery supplier for GM's plug-in electric hybrids the [Chevy Volt](#) and Opel Ampera.

The companies said the new partnership will help the top US automaker expand the number and types of [electric vehicles](#) it produces and will allow the Korean conglomerate to expand its portfolio.

The announcement comes days after Ford and Toyota unveiled plans to jointly develop a new hybrid system for [light trucks](#) and sport utility vehicles.

Automakers are ramping up their development of alternative technologies ahead of stringent new emissions and [fuel economy standards](#) being imposed around the world.

Electric and hybrid vehicles are expected to play a major role in helping them reach recently announced US standards of 54.5 mpg (23.2km/l) by 2025.

"Many solutions for tomorrow's transportation needs may be available more quickly by building on our partnership strategy," GM Vice Chairman Steve Girsky said in a statement.

"Consumers benefit by getting the latest fuel-saving technology faster if we work with the best suppliers and we save time and money in the development process."

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