

**Toyota recalls electric car for faulty wheel that may detach**

Toyota is recalling 2,700 bZ4X crossover vehicles globally for wheel bolts that could become loose, in a major setback for the Japanese automaker's ambitions to roll out electric cars.

Toyota Motor Corp. said Friday the cause is still under investigation, but the whole wheel could come off, risking a crash. "Until the remedy is available, no one should drive these vehicles," the company said in a statement.

Among the vehicles subject to the latest recall, about 2,200 were destined for

Europe, 270 for North America, 112 for Japan, and 60 for the rest of Asia, according to Toyota. They were produced between March and June.

The bZ4X, which went on sale about two months ago, is a key model in Toyota's plans to strengthen its electric lineup.

Toyota is planning to have 30 EV models by 2030, selling 3.5 million electric vehicles globally that year. Toyota is also investing 2 trillion yen (\$17.6 billion) in battery research and development to

achieve such goals.

The "bz" in the recalled model's name, as well as others in the works, stands for a "beyond zero" series, including sport-utility vehicles of all sizes, pickup trucks and sports cars, according to Toyota.

The maker of the Prius hybrid and Lexus luxury models has been seen by some critics as a straggler in pushing electric vehicles, partly because it has been so bullish, and successful, in other green technology, such as hybrids and fuel cells, as well as efficient gas engines. (AP)



In this undated photo released by Toyota Motor Corp., its bZ4X vehicle is shown during an online presentation at an unannounced place. Toyota is recalling 2,700 bZ4X crossover vehicles globally for wheel bolts that could become loose, in a major setback for the Japanese automaker's ambitions to roll out electric cars. (AP)



Two of the offshore wind turbines which have been constructed off the coast of Virginia Beach, Va. are seen on June 29, 2020. The White House is launching a formal partnership with 12 East Coast governors to boost the growing offshore wind industry. It's a key element of President Joe Biden's plan for climate change. (AP)

**Biden, East Coast governors team up**

**US moves to boost offshore wind**

WASHINGTON, June 25, (AP) — The White House recently launched a formal partnership with 11 East Coast governors to boost the growing offshore wind industry, a key element of President Joe Biden's plan for climate change.

Biden, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and other top administration officials met with governors, wind industry officials and labor leaders Thursday at the White House. The session focused on ways to expand important segments of the offshore industry, including manufacturing facilities, ports and workforce training and development.

"Together we're stepping up. We're about to build a better America," Biden said. "It's not just about the future. It's about right now."

The partnership comprises governors of both parties from Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island.

**Carbon-limiting**

Missing from the compact is Virginia, where Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin has moved to withdraw the state from a regional carbon-limiting initiative meant to combat climate change.

Spokesperson Macaulay Porter said Youngkin supports the offshore wind industry, and his administration has participated in calls with the White House on the topic.

"The commonwealth is already a leader in offshore wind, and the Youngkin administration is focused on ... this emerging sector in a way that is consistent with promoting jobs for Virginia and its right-to-work philosophy," Porter said, referring to a state policy that promotes a worker's right not to be required to join a labor union.

Youngkin is "fully committed to Virginia's current offshore wind project" and will continue to support any future project "that meets Virginia's economic needs and protects ratepayers from high energy costs," Porter said.

In working with states and the private sector, the White House said it will "provide Americans with cleaner and cheaper energy, create good-paying jobs and invest billions in new American energy supply chains," including construction of wind turbines, shipbuilding and servicing.

Biden has set a goal of deploying 30 gigawatts of offshore wind power by 2030, enough to provide electricity to 10 million homes, support 77,000 jobs and spur \$12 billion per

year in private investment in offshore wind. Offshore wind is a key component in the Democratic president's plan to make the nation's electric grid carbon free by 2035.

The Biden administration has approved two large-scale wind projects, Vineyard Wind in Massachusetts and South Fork Wind off New York and Rhode Island. Both are under construction with union labor. The Interior Department has begun reviews of another 10 offshore projects that, if approved, would produce 22 gigawatts of clean energy.

Danish wind developer Orsted signed a project labor agreement last month with a national union representing 3 million people in the building trades to construct the company's U.S. offshore wind farms with an American union workforce. Orsted currently has six offshore projects in five states.

A national agreement signed with North America's Building Trades Unions covers contractors working on those projects and future ones, with no termination date on the project labor agreement. It sets the terms and conditions for union workers to build offshore wind farms, with targets to ensure a diverse workforce. It contains provisions for training to ensure they can construct the complex infrastructure, which costs billions of dollars.

**Partnership**

"We recognize that states are huge players here," said David Hayes, a White House climate adviser. With a formal partnership, the Biden administration can "work with the governors on policies going forward and help ensure that there is an American-made supply chain for this brand-new industry," Hayes said.

New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy, a Democrat, said he and other East Coast governors "are united with our regional and federal partners not just by geography but by a shared commitment to clean and affordable energy, economic opportunity and a future in which all community members are shielded from the worsening impacts of climate change."

The federal-state collaboration comes as the Biden administration has announced a plan to conduct up to seven offshore wind auctions by 2025, including one held last month off North Carolina and earlier this year in a coastal area known as the New York Bight. Other sales are expected in the Gulf of Maine, the central Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico, as well as offshore in California and Oregon.

Environmental and clean energy groups hailed the federal-state collaboration.

**No major breakthrough**

**Granholt meeting sends 'positive signal': oil firms**

WASHINGTON, June 25, (AP) — An oil industry meeting with Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm to lower gas prices and boost domestic oil supplies was constructive, but did not produce a major breakthrough, administration and industry officials said Thursday.

The closed-door meeting came as President Joe Biden called on Congress to suspend federal taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel as a way to relieve high gas prices that have frustrated drivers and spurred inflation. The Democratic president also called on states to suspend their own gas taxes or provide similar relief, and he delivered a public critique of the energy industry for prioritizing profits over production.

"It doesn't reduce all the pain but it will be a big help," Biden said Wednesday, referring to the national average of \$5 per gallon for gas. Biden said he was doing his part and now wants Congress, states and industry to do their parts as well.

In a joint statement, the American Petroleum Institute and the American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers said the meeting with Granholm "should send a positive signal to the market that the US is committed to long-term investment in a strong US refining industry and aligning policies to reflect that commitment."

Challenges facing their industry are complex, the groups said, from Rus-

sia's war in Ukraine to "market imbalances" leftover from COVID-19 shutdowns that led to reduced demand and production. "Our industry will continue to ... work with policymakers to unlock American energy, fuel economic recovery and strengthen our national security," they said.

In a separate statement, the Energy Department said Granholm reminded the oil companies and refiners that their customers, workers and communities "are feeling the pain at the pump because of Putin's price hike," a reference to Russian leader Vladimir Putin's February invasion of Ukraine, which prompted a ban on Russian oil by the United States and many Western allies.

**Weapon**

"At a time when Putin is using energy as a weapon, oil companies must deliver solutions to ensure secure, affordable supply," the Energy Department said.

The meeting at the Energy Department included executives from Exxon Mobil, Chevron, Shell, Marathon and Phillips 66 and other large companies.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre called the meeting with oil executives "a productive dialogue" and said Granholm "made clear that the administration believes it's imperative that companies increase supply of gas."

Granholm also "reiterated that the president is prepared to act quickly and decisively using the tools available to him, as appropriate, on sensible recommendations," Jean-Pierre said. Biden has already released one million barrels of oil a day from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and rallied allies to release their own reserves.

Chevron CEO Michael Wirth, who

told Biden this week that the administration "has largely sought to criticize, and at times vilify, our industry," was conciliatory Thursday.

"Today's meeting was a constructive conversation about addressing both near-term issues and the longer-term stability of energy markets," Wirth said in a statement. "We appreciate Secretary Granholm's invitation to participate in the conversation, which was an important step toward achieving greater energy security, economic prosperity and environmental protection."

Shell US President Gretchen Watkins said she told Granholm that her company and others "have diminished refining capacity because we're busy converting century-old assets to produce biofuel," such as ethanol and biodiesel. US law requires billions of gallons of corn-based ethanol and other renewable fuels as a way to produce cleaner gasoline and slow climate change.

While acknowledging that "Americans are feeling a lot of price pain," Watkins said in an email that she asked Granholm to "look closely at accelerating the permitting process" to increase oil production in the Gulf of Mexico, "while clearing a path for future wind development" off the US East Coast.

Biden in recent weeks has criticized oil producers and refiners for maximizing profits and making "more money than God," rather than increasing production in response to higher prices as the economy recovers from the pandemic and feels the effects of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Responding to Wirth's criticism, Biden said Tuesday that the oil CEO is "mildly sensitive." Adding: "I didn't know they'd get their feelings hurt that quickly."

**MedX honored with ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System**



MedX Medical Care which boasts of highly skilled medical professionals, has for the first time in Kuwait grabbed the most coveted ISO certification for medical centers.

The ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System award was received by MedX President Mr. Muhammed Ali V.P. from Ms. Shruthi, Operations Manager at Tutis ISO Services during a ceremony which was held on June 22, 2022 at the MedX Medical Care Towers in Fahaheel.

MedX Medical Care provides the most advanced and state of the art medical facilities & treatment for all patients.

MedX has now a 50% discount on all doctor consultation fees and other related services following the grand inaugural ceremony which was attended by Tutis ISO Services Manager Ms. Dubari Das.

During the ceremony, which was attended by doctors & MedX Medical Care Staffs, Ms Das took the opportunity to explain the importance of Quality Management System in the health care sector.

She went on to say, "All our doctors are excellent and diligent with the patients. Our utmost care promises the patients and their loved ones a better today and every day.

MedX uses state of the art technology in all its departments

– Obstetrics, Gynecology, Dental, Internal Medicine, Emergency, General Medicine, Radiology, Laboratory, Pediatric, ENT and Ophthalmology

At MedX we have highly qualified medical professionals in Dermatology & Skin Care, Dental Clinic, and Radiology Clinic. We offer discount packages just tailored to suit your needs.

• In Dermatology & Skin we specialize in

- Skin peeling, Glutathione Injection, Derma Pen for Fair and Derma Pen for Face
- In Dental Clinic we take of
- Scaling, Root Canal Treatment (RTC), Home Bleach and Composite Filling
- And at the Radiology Clinic
- Our services include X-Ray Chest (Normal), Bone Mineral Density (BMD) Dexa Scan, Ultrasound Pregnancy and Ultrasound Abdomen

**Gulf Bank's General Assembly Delegates the Distribution of Semi-Annual Profits to the Board of Directors**



**Reem Abdullah Alsaleh was elected as Gulf Bank's first female Independent Board Member**

The Ordinary General Assembly of Gulf Bank, which was held today (yesterday) with a 73% quorum, has agreed to delegate the distribution of semi-annual profits among the Bank's shareholders to the Board of Directors, according to the Board's decision during the financial year ending on December 31, 2022. The General Assembly also agreed to task the Board of Directors with the determination and amendment of the appropriate schedule for distribution, provided that the distribution is from actual profits, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and does not affect the Bank's paid-up capital.

On another note, the General Assembly elected Ms. Reem Abdullah Alsaleh as an Independent Board Member on the Bank's Board of Directors, bringing the total number of independent members in the Board of Directors to four. Notably, Ms. Alsaleh is the first woman to become an Independent Board

Member on Gulf Bank's Board of Directors.

Gulf Bank's vision is to be the leading Kuwaiti Bank of the Future. The Bank is constantly engaging and empowering its employees as part of an inclusive and diversified workplace in recognition of every employee's role in delivering customer excellence and serving the community at large. With its extensive network of branches and innovative digital services, Gulf Bank is able to give its customers the choice of how and where to conduct their banking transactions, all while ensuring a simple and seamless banking experience.

Gulf Bank is committed to maintaining a robust sustainability program at the community, economic, and environmental levels through sustainability initiatives that are strategically selected to benefit both the country and the Bank. Gulf Bank supports Kuwait Vision 2035 "New Kuwait" and works with various parties to achieve it.