CHEAR Lab Opening Welcome

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• Good afternoon and welcome to the campus of Western Michigan University. It is my distinct pleasure to have all of you with us today to talk about topics that are at the core of this university's existence—**discovery, sustainability and partnerships with the communities we serve.**

• Welcome to all of our guests and partners from Eaton who are here today—particularly Dimitri Kazarinoff [kaz ARE enough], who is vice president and general manager, Hybrid Power Systems, and Rudy Smaling, Eaton chief engineer, Hybrid Electric Powertrains. You'll hear from them in a moment.

• And a special welcome to Congressman Fred Upton who was so critical in securing federal funding ($2 million) for Eaton to use for research and development work aimed at building better military vehicles.

• We last gathered in December to talk about this when we met at Eaton's Galesburg facility to sign a memorandum of understanding to outline the partnership that would build the Eaton/WMU CAViDS Hybrid Electric Applied Research Lab. Here we are 10 months later with a facility that will lead to better commercial and military vehicles.

• This is a lab that will utilize the best of WMU's engineering talents--undergraduate and graduate students and faculty members--working hand in hand with Eaton's engineering staff to discover system integration solutions and test battery and hybrid electric vehicle drivetrains.
• Thank you for being here and thank you for working with us on these important issues and entrusting this university with the work that will lead to better and safer products.

(FYI--Order of go--seven speakers in 20 minutes per schedule)

• Dr. John Dunn, WMU president;
• Dimitri Kazarinoff, Eaton vice president and general manager, Hybrid Power Systems;
• Rudy Smaling, Eaton chief engineer, Hybrid Electric Powertrains;
• Dr. Daniel Litynski, WMU vice president for research;
• Dr. Tony Vizzini, WMU dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences;
• Congressman Fred Upton; and
• Dr. William W. Liou, WMU CAViDS and CHEAR Lab director)