

DaimlerChrysler to host 21st ESV conference in Stuttgart in spring 2009

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The organiser of the 21st Enhanced Safety of Vehicles (ESV) Conference, to be held in spring 2009 at Stuttgart, Mercedes-Benz will also be celebrating the 70th anniversary of its safety department, which was formed in August 1939 under the management of Béla Barényi.

It was he who invented the principle of the crumple zone, which first entered series production at Mercedes-Benz in 1959.

On the basis of its in-house accident research activities, which commenced in 1969, Mercedes engineers developed the airbag, belt tensioner, window bag and other milestones in passenger car safety. DaimlerChrysler says Mercedes-Benz also developed driver assistance systems such as ESP® and Brake Assist on the basis of accident research.

The ESV programme was called into being by the U.S. NHTSA traffic safety authority in 1968. The conference is held regularly every two years.

Source: DaimlerChrysler

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