## **Cars.com Reveals the Real Story Behind American-Made Cars**

CHICAGO, Jan. 5, 2017 /<u>PRNewswire</u>/ -- What makes a car American-made? With recent pressure from President-Elect Donald Trump to manufacture more goods in the United States, including automobiles, Cars.com's annual American-Made Index, which ranks the "most American" vehicles, analyzes just how American today's automakers are based on parts, assembly location and total sales.

Cars.com's most recent index, which was first revealed in June 2016, resulted in just eight American cars. This is down from nearly 30 cars as recently as 2011, a sign that American auto manufacturing has dramatically decreased over the past decade. Even more surprising is that for the second consecutive year and sixth time overall, the Toyota Camry topped the list.

"After reaching an all-time low of just seven cars on the 2015 American-Made Index, this year's list is up one car, but still remains much smaller than earlier indexes, when the list included nearly 30 eligible cars," said Patrick Olsen, Cars.com editor-in-chief.

"The reason for the shrinking list continues to be the globalization of today's automakers. While building the same car for all markets is better for an automaker's bottom line, tracking just how American a car is has become more difficult because so few meet the criteria for our index."

The American-Made Index takes into account three key factors to determine how American cars are, including domestic-parts content<sup>i</sup> (percentage of a vehicle's parts considered to be domestic, meaning from the U.S. or Canada), final assembly point and overall vehicle sales.

Rank	Make/Model	U.S. Assembly Location(s)	2015 Rank
1	Toyota Camry	Georgetown, Ky., and Lafayette, Ind.	1
2	Honda Accord	Marysville, Ohio	-
3	Toyota Sienna	Princeton, Ind.	2
4	Honda Odyssey	Lincoln, Ala.	4
5	Honda Pilot	Lincoln, Ala.	-
6	Chevrolet Traverse	Lansing, Mich.	3
7	GMC Acadia	Lansing, Mich.	5
8	Buick Enclave	Lansing, Mich.	6

In a consumer survey conducted this month by Cars.com, when asked about reasons for they prefer to purchase from an American manufacturer, 53 percent of respondents indicated it was because they wanted to support the local economy. However, only 13 percent of consumers based their purchase decision on whether a vehicle is from an American manufacturer; that's down from 28 percent just one year ago.<sup>ii</sup>

"These cars have a significant impact on U.S. auto sales," Olsen said. "The eight cars on this year's list accounted for about 1.5 million U.S. sales in 2015, or about 8 percent of total U.S. car sales."

For more information on the 2016 Cars.com American-Made Index, visit <u>www.cars.com/news</u>.

## ABOUT CARS.COM

<u>Cars.com</u> is a leading online destination that helps car shoppers and owners navigate every turn of car ownership. A pioneer in automotive classifieds, the company has evolved into one of the largest digital automotive platforms, connecting consumers with local dealers across the country anytime, anywhere. Through trusted expert content, on-the-lot mobile app features, millions of new and used vehicle listings, a comprehensive set of research tools and the largest database of consumer reviews in the industry, <u>Cars.com</u> helps shoppers buy, sell and service their vehicles.

<u>Cars.com</u> companies include <u>DealerRater</u>, <u>Auto.com</u>, <u>PickupTrucks.com</u><sup>™</sup> and <u>NewCars.com</u><sup>®</sup>. The company was founded in 1998 and is headquartered in Chicago. It is owned by <u>TEGNA, Inc.</u>

<sup>i</sup> <u>http://www.nhtsa.gov/Laws+&+Regulations/Part+583+American+Automobile+Labeling+Act+(</u>AALA)+Reports

<sup>ii</sup> Cars.com American Made Study, Qualtrics, June 2016

To view the original version on PR Newswire, visit:<u>http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/carscom-reveals-the-real-story-behind-american-made-cars-300386099.html</u>

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