



# ADVENT RESOURCES, INC.

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## IN THE NEWS

Data from  
*Powergram*®

### Toyota's Cho Sees Changes

Toyota President Fujio Cho recently discussed hybrids and major changes in the global automotive outlook during the opening of a new Australian headquarters in Port Melbourne. Although Cho expects global vehicle demand to be strong in the long term due to growth in China, India, Eastern Europe and Russia, he sees a few obstacles, according to Australia's new.com.au.

Production of hybrid gasoline/electric-powered vehicles has reached 5% of output, but Cho said Toyota's target of 20% to 30% by 2010 may be overly optimistic and will depend on capacity. He also said that unless there is a major change in the global oil market, it will be impossible to achieve long-term sales growth without hybrids. Already China's increased demand has been a factor in higher oil prices. Cho expressed surprise at recent oil price rises, but said rises are driven more by events in the market and the Middle East than by demand in China. He said the dramatic growth in hybrid vehicle production will take the pressure off future oil demand, but it will swing the emphasis to demand for copper and electricity. But pressure from oil prices may be the biggest driver of the technology. Currently, all of Toyota's hybrid production is in Japan.

### 05 Dakota Under \$20,000

The 2005 Dodge Dakota compact pickup will debut this fall for under \$20,000, the Chrysler Group reports. The ST Club Cab version will start at \$19,210 and the most expensive 4WD Dakota Laramie Quad Cab will list for \$29,394.

Data for this column is courtesy of The PowerGram, published by J.D. Power and Associates. Copyright 2001 by J.D. Power and Associates. All rights reserved. A free subscription to the daily PowerGram is included with your participation in the Power Information Network. Contact Tim Gill @ (310) 241-1500.

## Advent Welcomes



We have two new additions to welcome to our client family. First, from sunny Southern California is **Nissan Rancho Santa Margarita**, a part of the Asbury Automotive Group, one of the largest automobile dealer groups in America. And from the metropolitan Chicago area we welcome aboard **Fields Dodge Glenview**.

We are delighted to have two such outstanding additions to our roster, and look forward to a long and mutually rewarding collaboration. 🌴

## We Have A Theory

### *It Sounded Reasonable at 3 AM*

When a cat is dropped, it always lands on its feet, and when toast is dropped, it always lands buttered side down. It is proposed to strap giant slabs of hot buttered toast to the back of a hundred tethered cats; the two opposing forces will cause the cats to hover, spinning inches above the ground. Using the giant buttered toast/cat array, a high-speed monorail could easily link New York with Chicago. 🌴

## Pavlov's Birds

### *Practical Science Project*

An MIT student spent an entire summer going to the Harvard football field every day wearing a black and white striped shirt, walking up and down the field for ten or fifteen minutes throwing birdseed all over the field, blowing a whistle and then walking off the field. At the end of the summer, it came time for the first Harvard home football game, the referee walked onto the field and

blew the whistle, and the game had to be delayed for a half hour to wait for the birds to get off of the field. The guy wrote his thesis on this, and graduated. 🌴

## Rigid Rules in Academia *Why God Never Got a PhD*

- 1) He had only one major publication.
- 2) It was in Hebrew.
- 3) It had no references.
- 4) It wasn't published in a refereed journal.
- 5) Some even doubt he wrote it by himself.
- 6) It may be true that he created the world, but what has he done since then?
- 7) His cooperative efforts have been quite limited.
- 8) The scientific community has had a hard time replicating his results.
- 9) He never applied to the ethics board for permission to use human subjects.
- 10) When one experiment went awry he tried to cover it by drowning his subjects.
- 11) When subjects didn't behave as predicted, he deleted them from the sample.
- 12) He rarely came to class, just told students to read the book.
- 13) Some say he had his son teach the class.
- 14) He expelled his first two students for learning.
- 15) Although there were only 10 requirements, most of his students failed his tests.
- 16) His office hours were infrequent and usually held on a mountain top.
- 17) No record of working well with colleagues. 🌴

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## Protect Your Business

### *CREDCO Screen Alerts*

**A**uto Dealers have been drafted in the War on Terrorism and penalties for non-compliance are harsh.

Dealers are required to satisfy federal customer screening requirements on every transaction. Failure to screen customers against the Office of Foreign Assets Control's (OFAC) list of Specially Designated Nationals leaves dealerships vulnerable to fines of up to \$10 million. And regulatory agencies are intensifying surveillance of the automotive industry to insure compliance.

Sure, you can access the publicly available OFAC list on the U.S. Department of Treasury website. But the list contains over 5,000 individuals who pose a potential threat to U.S. national security, including known drug traffickers, money launderers, and terrorists. And the list is updated regularly. Checking this list is an on-going, labor-intensive process. Do you really want to invest the time and risk the errors of a manual check?

First American CREDCO's Automotive Services offer you an alternative. Customers of CREDCO can order fraud detection and/or OFAC screening to aid in identity verification.

Features include:

**OFAC Screening** – Screening information is delivered automatically with every credit report.

**Separate Tear Sheet** – OFAC information is delivered on a separate tearsheet at the end of the credit report.

**Warning Message** – A warning message appears at the top of the credit report indicating a "hit."

**Archived Reports** – OFAC screening is electronically archived to aid in proof of compliance.

For more information, contact First American CREDCO today:  
(800) 694-1414

[www.credco.com](http://www.credco.com)  
[scmc@firstam.com](mailto:scmc@firstam.com) 

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## Gender Wars


### *Well Played*

**D**ue to inherit a fortune when his sickly, widower father died, Charles decided he needed a woman to enjoy it with.

Going to a singles bar, he spotted a woman whose beauty took his breath away.

"I'm just an ordinary man," he said, walking up to her, "but in just a week or two, my father will die and I'll inherit 20 million dollars."

The woman went home with Charles, and in four days she became his stepmother.

Men will never learn. 

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## Calculated Risk

**T**he new inmate at the mental hospital announced in a loud voice that he was the famous British naval hero, Lord Nelson. This was particularly interesting, because the institution already had a "Lord Nelson."

The head psychiatrist, after due consideration, decided to put the two men in the same room, feeling that the similarity of their delusions might prompt an adjustment in each that would help in curing them. It was a calculated risk, of course, for the two men might react violently to one another, but they were introduced and then left alone and no disturbance was heard from the room that night.

The next morning, the doctor had a talk with his new patient and was more than pleasantly surprised when he was told, "Doctor, I've been suffering from a delusion. I know now for a fact that I am not Lord Nelson."

"That's wonderful," said the doctor. "Who are you?"

Smiling coyly, the patient replied, "I'm Lady Nelson." 

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## Bagle Virus Wreaking Havoc

**N**ow that we have your attention... Yet another major computer virus is infecting PCs worldwide via the Internet. This one is a mass-mailing virus – variously dubbed Bagle.ab, Bagle.ac, Bagle.af, Beagle.ag and Bagle.ai – by different security firms. This type of virus, known as a worm, works by opening a path for intruders to relay bulk e-mail messages through the infected computer and attempts to contact one of almost 150 German Web sites to let the attackers know of their latest conquest.

It resembles the first worm in the

Bagle line that started infecting computers in January. What makes this one so difficult to fight is the large number of variations. What makes this one so difficult to fight is the large number of variations, requiring anti-virus software makers to tailor their "vaccine" to each variation.

Bagle arrives in email as an attachment and infects computers running the Windows operating system (not LINUX, UNIX or Macs) – but only if the user opens the attachment. Worse still, the program attempts to halt more than 250 security applications from running on the computer, then mails itself to any email address it can find on the computer, and contacts one of those German Web sites. Because Bagle does not render the computer inoperable, the user may not even realize they are infected.

Most anti-virus software makers have published updates to detect and remove the worm. There is also a free program that does the same thing called Stinger.exe from download.nai.com. If you think you may be infected, contact your network administrator or install anti-virus software. But the most important lesson to learn from this is: Do not trust email attachments from people you do not know or messages that look suspicious, even from people you do know. That's why worms continue to be a threat; they depend on our tendency to trust what we should not. **When in doubt, delete suspicious messages or attachments without opening them.** Otherwise, your PC may be the next one infected. 

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## Daily Affirmations for the Unstable

- ☞ A good scapegoat is nearly as welcome as a solution to the problem.
- ☞ As I let go of my feelings of guilt, I can get in touch with my Inner Sociopath.
- ☞ I have the power to channel my imagination into ever-soaring levels of suspicion and paranoia.
- ☞ Today, I will gladly share my experience and advice, for there are no sweeter words than "I told you so."
- ☞ Joan of Arc heard voices too.
- ☞ As I learn to trust the universe, I no longer need to carry a gun. 