

GM, Chrysler, Ford to Share in U.S. Battery Grants

By Daniel Whitten

(Bloomberg) -- **Ford Motor Co.**, **General Motors Co.** and **Chrysler Group LLC** are among the recipients of \$2.4 billion in federal grants President Barack Obama will announce today to encourage the use of hybrid and electric vehicles.

The grants include \$1.5 billion for makers of batteries and \$500 million for companies making electric motors and drive components. Another \$400 million will be used to purchase vehicles for testing, training and creating battery-charging infrastructure.

The grant money is part of the \$787 billion stimulus measure passed earlier this year.

Dow Chemical Co., which is to get a share of the grant funds, is “excited to begin using our expertise in chemistry to help overcome the technical challenges of developing and commercializing the next generation of advanced automotive batteries,” **Andrew Liveris**, Dow’s chief executive officer said in a written statement. He said the funds will help “ensure that the next generation of advanced battery technology is developed and built right here in America.”

Among the companies receiving grants, **Johnson Controls Inc.** will get \$299.2 million, A123 System is slated for \$249.1 million, Detroit-based General Motors will get \$240 million, Midland, Michigan-based Dow is getting \$161 million, Dearborn, Michigan-based Ford is getting \$92.7 million, and Chrysler, in Auburn, Michigan is getting \$70 million.

The \$2.4 billion in federal funds is being matched by an equal amount from the grant recipients, and requests for funds totaled three-times the size of the program, said Matt Rogers, a senior adviser to Energy Secretary **Steven Chu**.