

CASE STUDIES

DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS

Sailors aboard a ferry, a cargo ship and a yacht misread each others' manoeuvring intentions, nearly figuring in a collision as they approach in close quarters along a TSS.

FACTS

A passenger ferry, on a southerly heading in daylight and good visibility, was crossing a TSS. With OOW on the bridge was a cadet and a lookout. A cargo ship was transiting the westbound lane of the TSS. The OOW had acquired her radar echo by ARPA, which predicted that the passenger ferry would cross ahead of the cargo ship at a range of one mile. The lookout reported two yachts ahead: one fine to starboard and one fine to port; both were on westerly courses. The OOW acquired the radar echo of the yacht to port by ARPA, which predicted a CPA of 0.3 mile to starboard. He decided to maintain course and speed with the intention of crossing ahead of the cargo ship and then altering course to port to increase the CPA with the yacht. After the ferry had crossed ahead of the cargo ship, the yacht altered course to starboard. The cadet reported this to the OOW, who then altered the ferry's course to starboard to increase the yacht's passing distance to port.

FINDINGS

- The ferry company's instructions required its masters to accept a CPA of at least one mile when passing ahead of another vessel. A closer CPA needs approval from the master.
- Assuming a risk of collision with the yacht, the ferry's OOW correctly interpreted that his was the give-way vessel in accordance with Rule 18(a)(iv) of the COLREGs. His plan to alter course to port around the yacht's stern would have been appropriate if executed at an early stage. However, his decision to first cross ahead of the cargo ship meant that he was unable to take early avoiding action as required by Rule 16.
- Considering a possible collision with the ferry, the yachtsman initially maintained course and speed in accordance with Rule 17(a)(i). Unaware of the ferry's intentions, he then took avoiding action himself, in accordance with Rule 17(a)(ii) when it became apparent that the ferry was not taking action.
- The circumstances required the ferry's OOW to think "outside the box" and to view the developing situation from the yachtsman's perspective. Consequently, he should have aborted his plan to cross ahead of the cargo ship. Source: UK MAIB

IMO unveils 2014 priorities

Clamping down on sea piracy and upholding maritime safety will be among the International Maritime Organisation's (IMO) priorities for this year.

In unveiling the organisation's 2014 goals, IMO Secretary-General Koji Sekimizu said the bloc remains committed to addressing piracy-related woes, as well as preventing casualties and accidents among seafarers.

Speaking at the first meeting of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction, Sekimizu expressed optimism on the developments of the accident zero campaign launched last year, as well as the continued implementation of the Djibouti Code of Conduct alongside the organisation's partners.

The IMO is also keen on stepping up co-operation with the United Nations in discouraging would-be refugees whose lives

could be at risk when they travel by sea to their destination using unsafe small vessels.

Among other things, the organisation will likewise focus on ongoing investigations regarding maritime-related mishaps over the past years, including the grounding of the Costa Concordia in 2012 and the structural failure of a containership in the Indian Ocean in 2013.

In the meeting, the IMO chief also reiterated his call for the establishment of a new concept aimed at further enhancing safety standards onboard maritime vessels that he says could be enshrined in a new Safety of Life at Sea Convention set to be adopted in 2024.

Other priorities for 2014, according to Sekimizu, are the adoption of a mandatory polar coding and the implementation of goal-based standards for construction of tankers and bulk carriers.

Angola says Greek oil tanker 'faked' hijacking

A Greek oil tanker that disappeared off the coast of Angola last week faked its hijacking and has been located in Nigerian waters, the Angolan navy said Sunday.

The Liberian-flagged oil tanker had just loaded a shipment of diesel belonging to a subsidiary of Angola's state oil company Sonangol, when it went off the radar on January 18.

Its owners said earlier last week they suspected "pirates had taken control" of the vessel, which was carrying a crew of 27 Indians and Filipinos.

However Augusto Alfredo, spokesman for the Angolan navy, told AFP on Sunday "there has not been a hijacking of the vessel, but a faked hijacking."

Alfredo said the tanker been at the entrance to the Luanda bay last Saturday when it was approached by a tugboat.

"It then cut off its communication system and followed the tugboat to Nigeria," said the spokesman.

"Sonangol and the Angolan state will now work to recover the cargo and establish exactly what happened."

Sonangol has chartered the vessel since 2009 and its contract was due to end on February 12.

Angolan experts such as maritime security agency Dryad Maritime, feared the hijacking, if confirmed, would signal a spread of piracy from the Gulf of Guinea.

Tanker rates to remain low this year - report

The year 2014 will likely not be a good one for tanker owners as freight rates will remain low due to several factors, according to Mcquilling Services.

In a report, the marine services company said that although new tanker contracting slightly went up last year, freight rates are forecast to trend lower in 2014 on the back of limited demand growth and an excess in the current fleet.

Mcquilling also noted that with new tankers being added to the trading fleet, rates will likely be pressured this year. This goes the same for the crude tanker market, which is currently facing an abundance of tonnage that is being exacerbated by owners' employment of voyage triangulation - resulting in the reduction of vessels required to meet global demand.

As for floating storage demand, Mcquilling said it will rely on ongoing development in North America. The marine services company also disclosed in its report that newbuilding prices plunged by 1.8% last year while costs of second-hand vessels remained flat. This occurred despite a renewed interest of investors into the industry, particularly in the MR2 product tanker market.

YOUR CREWTOO

The latest from crew around the world

Thursday, January 23, 2014

Crewtoo | The maritime community, at sea and at home

YOUR PROUDEST MOMENTS

This week's question is: Let's be proud! What's the story of the your proudest moment? What are you most proud of in your life? What's the moment that always makes you happy when you remember it? The moment that inspires you to do well? Email us your thoughts today! We'll print your message in next week's 'Your Crewtoo' for 9000 vessels to read! If you're new to Crewtoo, simply send your name, rank, nationality and home e-mail address to join@crewtoo.com. It's free and fun to join in!

YOUR JOKES

A man sees a sign in front of a house: "Talking Dog for Sale". He rings the bell and the owner tells him the dog is in the backyard. He goes into the backyard and sees a black mutt just sitting there.

"You talk?" he asks. "Yep," the mutt replies. "So, what's your story?"

The mutt looks up and says: "Well, I discovered this gift pretty young and I wanted to help the government. I told the CIA about my gift and in no time they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies eight years running. But the jetting around really tired me out. I knew I wasn't getting any younger and I wanted to settle down. So, I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security work, mostly wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings there and was awarded a batch of medals. I had a wife, a litter of puppies, and now I'm just retired."

The man is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. The owner says: "Ten dollars." The guy says: "This dog is amazing. Why are you selling him so cheap?" The owner replies: "He's such a liar. He didn't do any of that stuff."

Can you do better? E-mail your jokes to us!

YOUR SHOUTS!

This is where we will print your short 15 word messages. Simply e-mail your message to us. We will print your message here next week for other seafarers around the world to see.

• Mabuhay and safe voyage to all BSM seafarers sailing E.R. ships. Especially to all Faust crewmembers. Seven weeks and I'm homeward bound, Mabuhay ka Dcdtofficer Jun Infante.rodsmags

Your Proudest Moment

Good day all!

Thank you so much to everyone that sent in food stories last week. It's fun to read about your experiences of food on board. You can read some of your messages below!

This week's question is: let's be proud! What has been your proudest moment? What are you most proud of in your life? What's the moment that always makes you happy when you remember it? The memory that inspires you to

do well? Send me your replies today and we will print them in Your Crewtoo next week for everyone to read! Hopefully it will be a really upbeat issue to read.

If you're new to Crewtoo, simply send your name, rank, nationality and home e-mail address to join@crewtoo.com. It's free and fun to join in!

Have a great week!

Dan @ Crewtoo

Your Favourite Foods Onboard

Hello Crewtoo! I am D-C Vil from Libra Trader. It's my first time on board. Regarding my favorite dish, I would say that every dish that our 2nd Cook prepares is my favorite - this is not flattery. In the Philippines, our food usually has the same taste, especially with fast food (karinderya in Fil.) Probably because of the seasonings mixed in with the food. (Magic Sarap)

Our family is very particular over eating food. My father even threatened me during my younger years that if I was not able to finish the fish served on the plate, I would sleep with the fish beside my bed. That's why I don't complain much about food. At the same time, as a Christian, any kind of food that is shared and blessed through thanksgiving to God is delicious. P.S: In order not to spoil the topic, I am really amazed by the taste of salmon!

Thank you for asking. Well, there are several good dishes on board, especially on cruise ships. You can't really expect much from the cook as they depend on an Exec chef menu list. They sometimes really overlook the preparation, as they are always in a rush. The food is mostly prepared at our table and is rich in fat. As for my favorite meal at sea, it's roast chicken and spaghetti. I am health conscious, so I've started eating veggie dishes such as Caesar salads and steamed veggies. After eating, I enjoy a cup of tea such as green tea or raspberry-cranberry tea.

At home, I love to eat seafoods. I love every kind of seafood - prawns, crab, fish etc. I love steamed fish with sweet and sour sauce. It is splendid, especially when being prepared by your lovely wife. Well, until next time, and thank you for your email. I wish a safe journey for everyone always, and as for Crewtoo - a job well done and more power! Bye. Aries

The best meal that I have had so far at sea is beef T-bone steak, French fries, vegetable salad and ice cream. This is usually served on Sundays because this is the only day of the week where we can relax and rest as the crew don't have any work on deck. It is like our day off on board. I also eat snacks on board after my watch on the bridge. I usually eat sliced bread with peanut butter, sometimes corned beef with rice, sometimes fried egg and sometimes noodles.

I always eat snacks after my 2000-2400 watch on the bridge is finished. This is so there's no need for me to go down to the officer's mess during breakfast time in the morning before I start my 0800-1200 watch on the bridge. My favorite dish at home is vegetable soup. We used to call it "Laswa" in the Philippines and we eat it together with fried dried fish. It is so delicious and the best meal you could ever have at home. 3-O Tabz of MV Pac Alkaid "The PaccrZ"

I love seafood, I love the taste of a freshly-caught fish. I love the sweetness and unique taste of a fresh shrimp. It's something I would never swop for any western delicacy. I'm a cook on board and seafood always plays a big part of my daily menu. Whether it's in a European or Filipino recipe, seafood is always the best. My all time favorite meal is shrimp tamarind (sinigang na hipon, man!) This is a simple meal but it will rock you. It is a rice buster for the crew. Nothing compares to it.

There is nothing like it. Seafood is always my favorite and with fresh vegetables it has a heavenly taste. I don't snack much. Only a simple sandwich or biscuits sometimes, but most of the time I drink lots of water and green tea. I eat fresh apples or pears from time to time. Healthy and responsible eating is always important as this is needed so our bodies work well. Rodsmags (Faust)

TECH TALK



A unique service from KVH Media Group

Monday, January 27, 2014

Your monthly magazine dedicated to science & technology

NSA EYES ENCRYPTION-BREAKING 'QUANTUM' MACHINE

The US National Security Agency is making strides toward building a "quantum computer" that could break nearly any kind of encryption, The Washington Post reported Thursday.

The Post said leaked documents from fugitive ex-NSA contractor Edward Snowden indicate the computer would allow the secret intelligence agency to break encryption used to protect banking, medical, business and government records around the world.

Quantum computing has been a goal among commercial firms such as IBM because it could harness the power of atoms and molecules, vastly increasing speed and security of computers and other devices.

But experts cited by the newspaper said it was unlikely that the NSA would be close to creating such a machine without the scientific community being aware of it.

"It seems improbable that the NSA could be that far ahead of the open world without anybody knowing it," Scott Aaronson of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology told the daily.

The NSA declined to comment on the report.

ORACLE TO BUY CLOUD FIRM

Business software giant Oracle announced plans on Friday to boost its cloud services with a USD 1.5 billion acquisition of Responsys.

Responsys, which like Oracle is based in California, was formed in 1998 to provide software that would enable marketers to design, execute and manage email campaigns.

The group claims more than 450 clients in a range of sectors and had 2012 revenues of USD 163 million. Oracle said in a statement the deal "creates the world's largest modern marketing cloud".

The deal, approved by both boards, calls for Oracle to pay USD 27 a share - about 38% higher than the previous closing price for Responsys.

Oracle will combine the new acquisition with Eloqua, which it bought a year ago for USD 871 million. (AFP)

DO YOU KNOW?

Test your tech knowledge!

1. Restarting a computer may also be called what?
2. What is information stored or processed by a computer called?
3. MMS is an extension of what service?

Google Glass users can snap pictures by winking

Google Glass announced updates to the software in its Internet-linked eyewear to allow users to snap pictures by winking.

The new feature, which promises to escalate privacy concerns already being voiced about the high-tech gadget, came as one of an array of improvements.

"We've got a new setting that lets you quickly and easily capture the moments you care about with a simple wink of the eye," Google Glass posted on its Google+ social network page on Tuesday.

"We're starting with pictures, but just think about what else is possible," the message continued.

Notions put forth included Glass wearers someday paying for cab rides by winking at meters or buying something in a shop with blink.

Updates included letting owners lock eyewear

so it can't be used unless a person knows the right "handshake" of swipes and taps.

The "Glassware" code powering the eyewear was also modified to upload video directly to Google-owned video-sharing venue YouTube.

"Glass is about helping you look up and experience the world around you without getting bogged down by technology," Google said.

The high-tech accouterment lets wearers take pictures, record video, send messages or perform other tasks with touch controls or by speaking commands. It connects to the Internet using Wi-Fi hot spots or being wirelessly tethered to mobile phones.

Facebook, Twitter and major news organisations have already tailored applications for Google Glass, which has only been made available to developers and a limited selection of "explorers" who paid USD 1,500 each for the eyewear. (AFP)

Twitter restores ability to block unwanted followers

Twitter has restored the ability to **block unwanted followers** from peering at posts, quickly reversing a policy change that triggered a barrage of criticism.

"Earlier today, we made a change to the way the 'block' function of Twitter works," Twitter's Michael Sippey said in a blog post late Thursday in California.

"We have decided to revert the change after receiving feedback from many users - we never want to introduce features at the cost of users feeling less safe. Any blocks you had previously instituted are still in effect," he added.

The turn-around came just hours after the San Francisco-based company modified its blocking mechanism so that users would not be able to see unwanted followers who would still be able to re-tweet, like, or peer at messages in public accounts of people who block them.

The move was met with criticism by many who worried about being harassed by stalkers or abusers.

The tactic came with what Twitter portrayed as the advantage of not alerting unwanted followers to being blocked. (AFP)

Apple, China Mobile sign iPhone deal

Apple has unveiled a long-anticipated deal with **China Mobile**, the world's biggest wireless carrier, to bring the iPhone to customers in a market dominated by low-cost Android smartphones.

The deal gives Apple a bigger entry into the huge Chinese market and China Mobile's estimated 760 million subscribers. The network is also rolling out the world's biggest 4G network.

Under the agreement, iPhone 5s and iPhone 5c phones will be available at China Mobile and Apple retail stores across mainland China starting January 17, Apple said in a statement. Pricing details were not announced.

"We know there are many China Mobile customers and potential new customers who are anxiously awaiting the incredible combination of iPhone on China Mobile's leading network," said China Mobile Chairman Xi Guohua.

Apple Chief Executive Tim Cook stressed that "China is an extremely important market for Apple and our partnership with China Mobile presents us the opportunity to bring iPhone to the customers of the world's largest network." (AFP)

PUZZLE PAGE

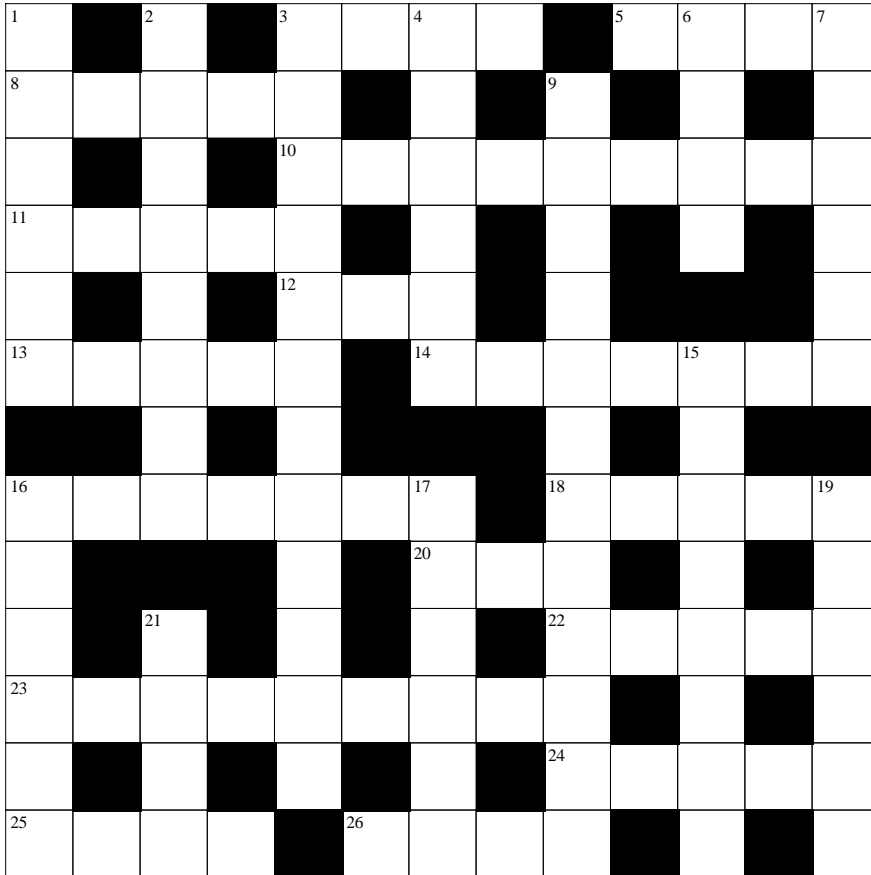


A unique service from **KVH Media Group**

Monday, January 27, 2014

KVH Media Group | NEWSlink

Headland SatNews CROSSWORD No. 127



ACROSS

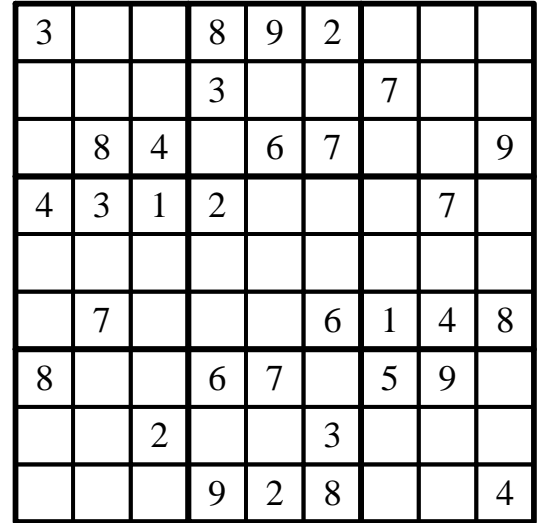
3. Corpse (4)
5. Slightly open (4)
8. Coral reef (5)
10. Not harmed (9)
11. Portion (5)
12. Female pig (3)
13. Toy with affections (5)
14. Distinguished (7)
16. Swindled (7)
18. South Israel resort (5)
20. Navy drink (3)
22. Court official (5)
23. Medical assessment (9)
24. Daft (5)
25. Sloping passage (4)
26. Synchronisation (4)

DOWN

1. Mountains group (6)
2. Definite (8)
3. Scholarly woman (12)
4. Reject (6)
6. Fourth Gospel (4)
7. Lessen (6)
9. Take the consequences (4,3,5)
15. Ship partition (8)
16. US bumper (6)
17. Elegant (6)
19. Tank tower (6)
21. Placid (4)

ACROSS: 3. Body, 5. Ajar, 8. Atoll, 10. Unscented, 11. Slice, 12. Sow, 13. Firt, 14. Notable, 16. Pileced, 18. Eilat, 20. Rum, 22. Usher, 23. Diagnosis, 24. Inane, 25. Ramp, 26. Sync. DOWN: 1. Massif, 2. Positive, 3. Bluesocking, 4. Disown, 6. John, 7. Reduce, 9. Face the music, 15. Bulthead, 16. Fender, 17. Dressy, 19. Turret, 21. Calm.

Headland SatNews SUDOKU



RULES & SOLUTION

The object is to fill in the squares so that each row, column & box contains the numbers 1-9. Numbers may not be repeated in the same column & row.

4	1	3	8	2	6	5	9	7
7	9	8	3	5	4	2	6	1
2	6	5	7	1	9	3	4	8
8	7	1	4	9	3	5	6	2
3	2	6	4	7	1	8	5	9
5	7	9	6	8	2	1	3	4
6	3	2	7	9	1	4	8	5
1	8	7	4	5	3	9	2	6
9	6	2	4	5	6	8	7	3

DO YOU KNOW?

MUSIC: Which opera with five letters in its title was composed by Handel?

FILM: Which flower did British actor Christopher Plummer sing about in the film 'The Sound of Music'?

GEOGRAPHY: Jakarta is the capital city of where?

MUSIC: The opera composed by Handel with five letters in its title is 'Xerxes'.
 FILM: The flower which Christopher Plummer sang about in the film 'The Sound of Music' was the edelweiss.
 GEOGRAPHY: Jakarta is the capital city of Indonesia.

AUTO BUZZ



A unique service from KVH Media Group

Friday, January 17, 2014

Your monthly magazine dedicated to cars, bikes & motorsport

Tech giants battle for control of the car

LAS VEGAS - As the car becomes a connected Internet device, the titans of the tech sector are battling for control of the wheel.

The war is shaping up a lot like the computer sector, with Google, Apple and Microsoft and others fighting to be in control of the vehicle's 'operating system' to deliver apps, navigation and other services.

Some of those battles were played out this week at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, which included a record nine auto manufacturers and scores of equipment makers, including software and related tech companies.

"People want consumer apps in their cars, they want to connect to their smartphones, they want to connect to the cloud," says Grant Courville, Director of Product Management at QNX, which makes the on-board systems used on tens of millions of cars.

But the battlefield is wide open because "there's no clear dominant app ecosystem in automotive," Courville told AFP from the CES floor.

At CES, Canadian-based QNX unveiled a partnership with Qualcomm to support the chipmaker's new automotive platform, which

connects to smartphones and offers apps for maps, speech recognition, geolocation, and vehicle analytics.

At the same time, Google unveiled a partnership with General Motors, Audi, Honda and Hyundai in a new partnership to bring the Android mobile system to vehicles in a new Open Automotive Alliance.

The moves come with Microsoft in a long-standing partnership with Ford, and Apple widely expected to expand its system for connecting the iPhone with automotive electronics systems.

"Carmakers are conflicted," said Tim Tang, an analyst with IDC attending the Las Vegas expo.

"They are trying to decide whether to build their own systems or partner with another company. If they partner, they mitigate a lot of the risk, but they give a lot away, looking at future services, like apps, pay- as you go insurance. No one is certain where it is going but carmakers don't want to be left out. The car is becoming a mobile accessory."

Tang said a key question for auto-makers is whether the cars should have a dedicated connection or use the smartphone.

Toyota unveils 'spiritual pace car'

DETROIT - Toyota has revved up its design credentials with a sexy new concept for a sports car aimed at helping to reshape the previously staid Japanese automaker's reputation.

A race car pit crew opened a shiny red box to reveal the curvaceous FT-1 sports concept - **Future Toyota 1** - to a cheering crowd of hundreds during the first day of press previews at the Detroit auto show.

"This is a symbol of Toyota's design future, a spiritual pace car," said Kevin Hunter, President of Calty Design Research which developed the concept.

"This provocative concept truly captures the passion, excitement, and energy of the Toyota we are evolving into and embodies elements of

the emotion and performance that Toyota will imprint upon future production designs."

Toyota had previously designed its vehicles so they would be "liked by everyone and as a result we took less risks and tried not to stray too far," Hunter said.

But Akido Toyoda, the grandson of Toyota's founder and a race car enthusiast who took over as chief executive in 2009, is determined to invigorate products with Waku-Doki: a palpable heart-pounding sense of excitement.

The aim is to move away from design by consensus and to build cars that spark an emotional reaction in order to connect more deeply with customers.

NEW ARRIVALS

BMW 4 SERIES CONVERTIBLE

BMW adds a convertible to its 4 Series line of two-door coupes, which debuted over the summer. The 4 Series replaced the 3 Series coupe; BMW is now reserving the 3 Series name for four-door sedans. The convertible has a three-piece retractable hardtop that can be automatically lowered in 20 seconds at low speeds. To keep away the chill, the car has optional neck warmers in the driver and passenger seats. As in the 4 Series coupe, there are two engine choices: a turbocharged 2.0-liter four-cylinder with 240 horsepower in the 428i and a 3.0-litre turbocharged inline six-cylinder with 300 horsepower in the 435i. Both have an eight-speed automatic transmission. The 428i is offered as a rear-wheel-drive or an all-wheel-drive, while the 435i is only offered as a rear-wheel-drive. The 428i starts at USD 49,675, around USD 8,000 more than the starting price of the coupe. The 435i starts at USD 55,825.

PORSCHE MACAN

Porsche is entering the fast-growing small SUV market with the Macan. The Macan is six inches shorter than its sibling, the Cayenne SUV, but features the same muscular look. It also uses some tricks to look more substantial, like a broad, wraparound hood that encompasses the headlights. Porsche designed two versions: The Macan S, with a new, 3.0-litre V6 engine that gets 340 horsepower and the Macan Turbo, with a new 3.6-litre V6 that gets 400 horsepower. Standard features include an off-road mode, which adjusts the torque, shifter and other functions for off-roading at the touch of a button. There's an optional air suspension chassis, which can set the vehicle's ground clearance at three different levels. Porsche says the feature is unique to the Macan among small SUVs. The Macan goes on sale this spring at a starting price of USD 50,895 for the Macan S and USD 73,295 for the Macan Turbo.

DO YOU KNOW?

Test your motor knowledge

- 1- On average, how many parts does a normal car have?
- 2- Which country has highest number of cars running on ethanol?
- 3- Which car maker has 75% of its aggregate production still on the roads?
- 4- Which company owns Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini and Porsche?
- 5- When was the first car radio invented?