

# The Virginian-Pilot

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Hampton Roads, Pages 1 and 3, April 21, 2009

## hampton roads

### NEW FACILITY FOR AUTO STUDENTS

Tidewater Community College  
dedicates a \$10.1 million  
automotive training center.  
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## TCC'S NEW AUTOMOTIVE CENTER DEDICATED



HYUNSOO LEO KIM | THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

**Bud Brueggeman demonstrates how a camera can be used to show work being done on an engine on the screen on the wall.**

New state-of-the-art facility is 10 times the size of the previous building

By Larry Printz  
*The Virginian-Pilot*

#### CHESAPEAKE

Tidewater Community College dedicated on Monday a 30,690-square-foot Regional Automotive Center.

But college officials skipped the typical ribbon cutting, opting instead to drive a 2009 Acura through the ribbon.

The facility, located in Oakbrooke Business and Technology Center, just north of Great Bridge, replaces the previous center that was about one-tenth the size, a building that TCC was renting in the Greenbrier section of Chesapeake.

#### automotive center

The center has 15 garage bays, nine classrooms, conference facilities and a showroom to display student projects. It serves 404 students enrolled in the automotive program.

The new center cost \$10.1 million, including equipment and furnishings. The city of Chesapeake provided 6.1 acres and some funding.

The center has 15 garage bays, including one large

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TCC Regional Automotive Center student Evan Whitesell checks out the undercarriage of a local monster truck that was displayed in front of the new TCC building prior to its dedication ceremony.

## AUTOMOTIVE | *Classes have been held at the new site since Thursday*

*Continued from Page 1*

enough to handle a tractor-trailer. It has nine classrooms, conference facilities and a showroom to display student projects. It serves 404 students enrolled in the automotive program.

"We can actually teach the students without compromise," said Bud Brueggeman, head of TCC's automotive technology program. "There's nothing that we don't have or can't do."

The center has the support of the Hampton Roads automotive community, and several dealerships serve on the program's 32-member advisory board.

Scott Smith, president of the Hampton Roads Automobile Dealers Association, presented a check for \$20,000 to the program, the first installment of a \$100,000 donation the organization has pledged to the school.

TCC president Deborah DiCroce noted the new school won the 2009 Design Excellence for Architecture Award from the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The building was



designed by Clark Nexsen Architecture & Engineering of Norfolk.

Classes have been held in the new school since Thursday.

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TCC president Deborah DiCroce drives a 2009 Acura through the ribbon-cutting ceremony. The center's automotive program has 404 students enrolled.

“ We can actually teach the students without compromise. There's nothing that we don't have or can't do.”

*Bud Brueggeman, head of TCC's automotive technology program*

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### CORRECTIONS

A story ("TCC's new automotive center dedicated") about Tidewater Community College's new Regional Automotive Center on the front of Tuesday's Hampton Roads section stated classes have been held in the school since Thursday. TCC has been using the building since September.