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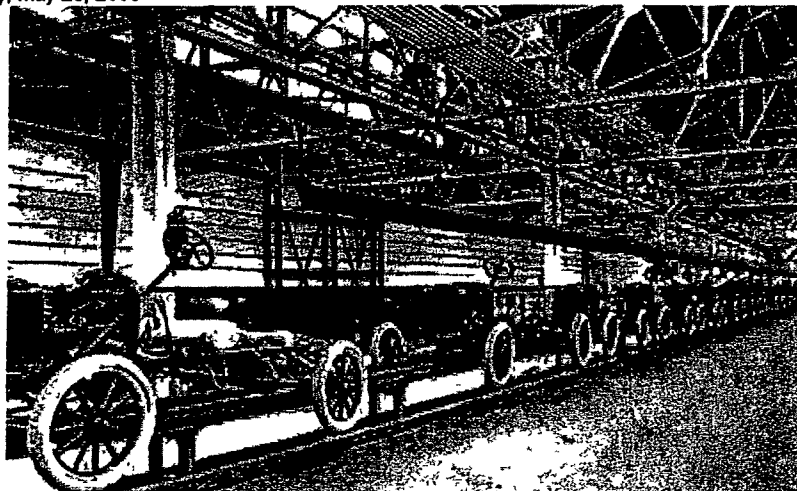
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Monday, May 26, 2003



Ford Motor Co

Henry Ford built Chicago Assembly in 1924, and the plant begins churning out 600 Model T's a day.

Chicago Assembly: A timeline

By The Detroit News

Building everything from Model T's to the upcoming Five Hundred sedan, Ford's Chicago Assembly plant has been a vital cog in the automaker's 100 year history. A look back at the plant's manufacturing milestones:

March 3, 1924

Production of Model T's begins at massive new Chicago Assembly Plant on the city's South Side.

1928

Chicago Assembly begins building popular Model A sedan.

July 1931

Henry Ford closes 25 plants during Great Depression but keeps Chicago Assembly plant



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►How Ford family saved dynasty
►New generation rallies to put a Ford back at top

►Ford family keeps dynasty alive through five generations

May 26, 2003: The Factories

►Ford ties hopes for the future to historic plant

►Chicago Assembly: A timeline

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June 1941

Ford becomes the last major automaker to sign labor contract with the United Auto Workers union.

1942-45

Civilian production stops during World War II. Chicago Assembly builds M-8 armored cars and M-20 armored reconnaissance vehicles.

1945

Civilian production resumes with the two-door Mercury sedan

1949

Chicago Assembly produces 1949 Ford.

1953

Production of Ford F-100 pickup begins.

1964

After 40 years of production, Chicago Assembly shuts down its truck operations.

1974

Production begins on Torinos.

1976

First Torino comes off the line.

1981

Chicago Assembly plant begins Ford Grenada and Mercury Cougar production.

September 1983

First Ford LTD and Mercury Marquis come off production line.

1985

Ford spends \$205 million to modernize Chicago factory to build the Ford Taurus and Mercury Sable.

Jan. 1986

First Taurus and Mercury Sable models come off the line. The mid-size car becomes a huge success that fuels Ford's comeback.

March 9, 2003: The Celebration

►Ford's 100th is big party: Beyonce Knowles, Toby Keith to perform during 5-day gala

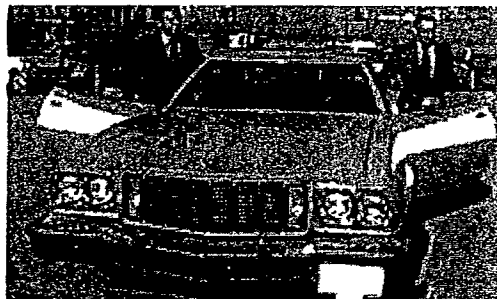
►Dearborn plans for Ford fest: 100,000 expected; parking will be tight

►The Henry Ford aims high: Dearborn landmark to spend \$200 million to become No. 1 U.S. historical attraction



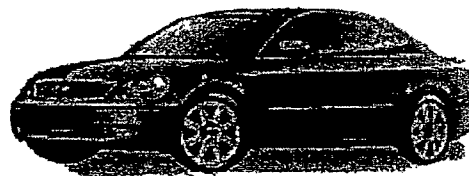
Ford Motor Co.

During World War II, the plant produces M-8 armored cars and M-20 reconnaissance vehicles.



Ford Motor Co

A limited number of Torinos, the car "Starsky & Hutch" drove to fame, roll off the line in 1976.



Ford Motor Co.

Ford Five Hundred

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1995

Second-generation Taurus/Sable debuts to mixed reviews and lukewarm sales. Its oval-themed design turns off many buyers.

September 1999

Ford reaches \$17.5 million deal with federal government to settle sexual harassment suits at Chicago Assembly plant and a nearby stamping factory.

2000

Ford, local and state governments and a private developer agree to spend \$250 million to create new automotive supplier manufacturing campus in southeast Chicago to support Chicago Assembly. Nine suppliers will create up to 1,000 jobs in the 155-acre park starting in 2003.

2004

Ford Five Hundred and Mercury Montego set to debut, followed by Ford Freestyle crossover.

Sources. Ford Motor Co. and Detroit News research

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