



# I.M.R.C. NEWS

AURORA INTERNATIONAL MINIATURE RACING CLUB NEWS

Volume 1, Number 1

JUNE, 1970

## IMRC NEWS — YOUR THING

Over the years, Aurora has received millions of letters from Model Motoring fans across the nation and around the world. You wanted to know more about the development and the mechanics of miniature racing machinery — and where we're going from here — and you wanted a reliable source of this inside info which would give it to you straight, almost as soon as we knew about it. The International Miniature Racing Club was Aurora's response to this growing desire for greater communication with the people who make Model Motoring what it is.

With this first edition of IMRC News, we wish to extend a warm and hearty welcome to our thousands of charter members. In a way, we consider each of you a part of Aurora; a most important part — an extension of our eyes and ears...For, with your continued help, our Model Motoring Men will know, better than ever, what YOU want for Miniature Racing.

Aurora is here to serve you — and IMRC is a great new way to serve you better. The advance information, numerous contests and exclusive services offered in IMRC News, for club members only, are what we know you wanted from your recent letters...It's your thing.

But don't stop now! Keep those letters coming — unless you can't think of anything you'd like to see changed or improved, either in IMRC News — or in Model Motoring.

We like praise as much as the next guy — and we'll earn it by keeping you ahead of the crowd; up-to-date on the latest equipment and well-informed on all facets of Miniature Racing...But praise doesn't tell us anything we don't already know. Likewise, a letter that's just a put-down doesn't tell us anything. We want constructive criticism; we want your questions; we want your suggestions and your new ideas.

We want you to tell us what YOU want!

If anything at all is bugging you about IMRC or Model Motoring, let us know about it by writing to IMRC News. We'll do our best to make the improvements or changes you want; or at least explain why, if it isn't possible at that time. We'll answer all of your questions as thoroughly as we can, even if it means setting up new experimental and/or testing facilities. And we'll be more than glad to try your suggestions and explore all the possibilities of your new ideas.

And, if you've got something to say, but you think it's sort of unusual and so you're not quite sure who you should write to, don't just sit and wonder. Write directly to me, c/o IMRC News, and I'll follow it up personally; or see that the matter is put into the right hands.

Derek Brand  
Director of Research & Development

## LET'S TALK "TUFF"

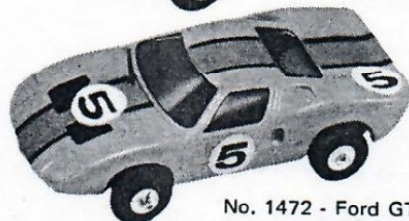
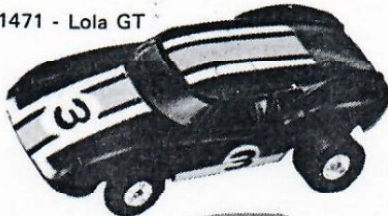
Anyone who hasn't heard about the TUFF ONES?

Yes?!

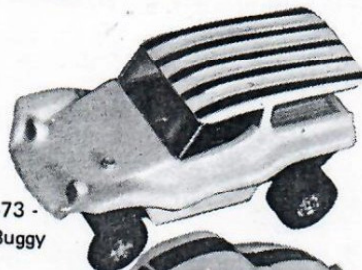
Well, then you just haven't been reading magazines like *Car Model* and *Model Car Science*...Or you haven't been down to see your hobby dealer for the past few months.

### THE "TUFF ONES"

No. 1471 - Lola GT



No. 1472 - Ford GT



No. 1473 -  
Dune Buggy  
Coupe

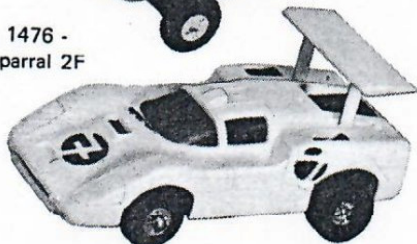


No. 1474 -  
Willys Gasser

No. 1475 -  
Cheetah



No. 1476 -  
Chaparral 2F



Time you did, for the Tuff Ones are already making their mark in competition around the country.

For those of you who have missed all the noise, the Tuff Ones are six new Model Motoring cars that can out-corner and out-speed *anything* to come down the pike. And most important, they drive like any Model Motoring car — just faster (track tested at over 760 scale mph), and better.

How did we track test them before we announced their release? First, we used a high speed oval, about 20 feet long — 20 feet down a straight two-lane track, into a high banked Monza curve; 20 feet back to a second Monza bank; and down the first straight again.

To start with, we took *every* other car we could get our hands on, regardless of who manufactured it. One at a time, we placed them on the track in front of a Tuff One and gave them full power. Each pair was run 50 laps. Not one car tested could pull away, even as little as one inch, from a Tuff One.

Then we reversed the cars to see how long it would take for a Tuff One to pull away and come around behind the second car. In some cases, it took only 5 or 6 laps. In one, it took the Tuff One 26 circuits to lap the other car. But, in every case, the Tuff One pulled away and consistently ran faster lap times.

Enough?

Not for our engineers! All-out speed is one thing; but cornering is another problem, entirely.

So, a second layout was constructed, using every possible track section in the catalog. Different radius turns, banks, wiggles, cobblestone, bumps — all were included!

Side-by-side runs were discounted immediately, as the engineers wanted to eliminate driver ability and the effect of differing inside and outside radii. Instead, they worked with predetermined and constant voltage.

The results were impressive; even more impressive than the speed trials. There wasn't a single non-Aurora car that could stay on the track for one lap...At the same time, the Tuff One sample cars were running lap after lap without spinning out or coming off.

But even more important than the ability of the Tuff Ones to out-corner and out-run anything else available — they drive like any other Model Motoring car. And this is where our engineers made an important point... "Unlike the competitors' cars, which either stopped dead when power was shut off, or kept rolling without power, the Tuff Ones handled in a proportional manner to the standard Model Motoring vehicles."

That's it. Just thought you'd like to know the results of our lab tests.

**IMRC MEMBERS ONLY** — You can win a complete set — all six of these fabulous new Tuff Ones can be yours — by entering the "Odd Places" Contest in this issue of IMRC News!

IMRC NEWS is published by Aurora Plastics Corporation exclusively for the membership of the Aurora International Miniature Racing Club.

Address all inquiries and comments to:

IMRC NEWS, AURORA PLASTICS CORP., P.O. BOX 250, HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK 11801



## MODEL MOTORING Q & A

Our Model Motoring Experts selected a number of questions most often asked by Miniature Racers in the past few months to answer in this first column. Hereafter, only questions from IMRC Members will be answered here (see IMRC Spotlight).

### Q. How many feet and inches make a scale HO Quarter-Mile Dragstrip?

A. Based on the following method, you should be able to figure any scale distance. Since HO scale is 1/87th, first divide 5,280 ft. (1 actual mile) by 87; the resulting 60.7 is the number of feet in a scale HO mile.  $1/4 \times 60.7 \text{ ft.} = 15.175$ , or approximately 15 ft. 2 1/8 in. That's your scale Quarter-Mile.

### Q. Where can I get Model Motoring trucks, like the International Truck Trailer, the Box Body Trailer and the Van that Aurora used to make?

A. Three trucks are presently available from Aurora - No. 1362 Mack Dump Truck, No. 1363 Mack Stake Truck, and No. 1364 International Wrecker Tow Truck. They should be available, at \$3.50 each, wherever Aurora Model Motoring products are sold. If your dealer doesn't have them, ask him to order them for you.

### Q. Can I still get a Russkit controller, or the 45 and 60 ohm resistors to convert my old 814 model?

A. The Russkit controller is now available from Aurora West, at about \$4.00; and the resistors for the 814 at about \$2.00 each. Ask for them where you get your Model Motoring equipment.

### Q. Some Aurora armatures have plain green wire; others have red and green wire. What is the difference? Which is faster?

A. There is no difference. Both are stock 7 1/2 ohm armatures and run at about the same speed. There may be a slight variation, as there is in all armatures, especially if one is older than the other; but not enough to make a real difference.

### Q. What's the best way to remove the gear from Aurora's armature shaft?

A. First, cut off the plastic ridges on the top plate; then, using two thin screwdrivers, slip them under the gear from opposite sides and gently pry it off. It can be done with one screwdriver, working from side to side, but it's quite a bit easier with two.

### Q. Which Model Motoring car is faster - the Wild One or the Tuff One?

A. The Wild one has a regular 7 1/2 ohm Speedwound armature; the Tuff One, Aurora's newest car, can out-run and out-handle just

about anything, including the Wild One. For the inside story, read "Let's Talk Tuff" in this issue - these six are "Wild" AND "Tuff"!

### Q. How do I hook up two power packs for a big layout?

A. Hook up the second power pack right next to the first, connecting the lead wires to the terminal track section just as you did with the wires from the first pack. With this method of hook-up, your voltage remains the same as it was with only one power pack; but your amperage is doubled.

### Q. Where can I get instructions on rewinding Model Motoring armatures?

A. The June 1968 issue of Car Model Magazine features an article on how to rewind Aurora armatures. It is available, at 50¢ a copy, from CM Back Issue Dept., 615 Ridge Road, North Arlington, N.J. 07032.

### Q. Is there a complete book on hopping up HO cars? Where can I get it?

A. Auto World HO Speed Secrets, written by Jerry Broz; the section on rewinding Aurora armatures includes recommended footage and suggested wire sizes; also included are tips from HOCCI Champions, like Ted Johnson, Bert Haas, and HOPRA Co-Director Carl Dreher, '69 Car Model HO Champion. The book is available, at 50¢, from hobby shops and departments and newsstands.

## MODEL MOTORING QUIZ No. 1

Fill in the answers to the questions asked below. When completed correctly, and when read from top to bottom, the first letters of the answers will spell out the name of the latest Model Motoring cars released. As soon as you've completed it (and no later than July 15, 1970), mail your official answer blank (or a reasonable facsimile) to: MODEL MOTORING QUIZ No. 1, IMRC NEWS, AURORA PLASTICS CORP., P.O. BOX 250, HICKSVILLE, N.Y. 11801.

The first 25 correct answers will receive one of the new cars FREE. Judges' decisions will be final. The correct answers and the names of those lucky IMRC Members will appear in the next issue of IMRC News.

### OFFICIAL ANSWER BLANK MODEL MOTORING QUIZ No. 1

(Number of dashes indicates number of letters in each word; spaces between series of dashes indicates separate words.)

- 1.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 2.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 3.) [ ] \_ \_
- 4.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 5.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 6.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 7.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 8.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 9.) [ ] \_ \_ \_
- 10.) [ ] \_ \_ \_
- 11.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 12.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 13.) [ ] \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

IMRC No. \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JULY 15, 1970

- 1.) A new Model Motoring release, the most popular car ever for customizing, is the '32 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 2.) The new Aurora set introduced in January was the "24 Hours of \_ \_ \_ \_ \_".
- 3.) Lots of letters about this one, the last of the pony cars introduced: American Motors' \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 4.) Along with number 1 and 3, this Ford design is among the last four Model Motoring cars released. Not quite Boss, but close to it, is the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 5.) Model Motoring runs on \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ . No gravity or batteries here.
- 6.) No. 1387, \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ , the only one of its kind in all of Model Car Racing.
- 7.) Aurora makes two styles of these, a coupe and a roadster. Have you tried either of the Model Motoring \_ \_ \_ \_ \_?
- 8.) A big one introduced in November was the Alfa \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- 9.) Six of the fastest, best cornering cars ever made are the "Tuff \_ \_ \_ \_ \_".
- 10.) Better ask your dealer the name of this new Model Motoring Set, the "Formula I \_ \_ \_ \_ \_".
- 11.) \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ is the name of the Model Motoring Pick-up truck with the surf boards.
- 12.) No question about it, Model Motoring is the closest thing to \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ there is. Every one of the new set packages mentions it.
- 13.) For years, \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ , one of the greatest racing drivers in history, has endorsed Aurora's Model Motoring equipment.



**ALL NEW SETS FOR 1970!**  
**...WELL, ALL BUT ONE**

At the big Toy Fair in New York City, early in March, Aurora took the wraps off their NEW line of Model Motoring Sets. With one exception — the 4-lane Championship 500 — every set is new for 1970!

Two of these sets feature a spanking new innovation — the SPEED CONTROL CONSOLE, which combines two controls, a terminal track and a lap counter, in one compact unit. . . No more wires all over the place. The only thing to hook up is the power pack. The rest is automatically taken care of; and the lap counter is right in front of the drivers, for easy observation.

The CONSOLE 8 Set (No. 1301) heads the list of the new Aurora line and features, in addition to the new Speed Control Console with integral lap counter, a wiggle track and 8 curves.

Number two set in the line is the new CONSOLE TWISTER (No. 1303), also featuring the compact Speed Control Console. In addition, this set includes squeeze tracks, wiggle track, cobblestone, and 13 more straights and curves.

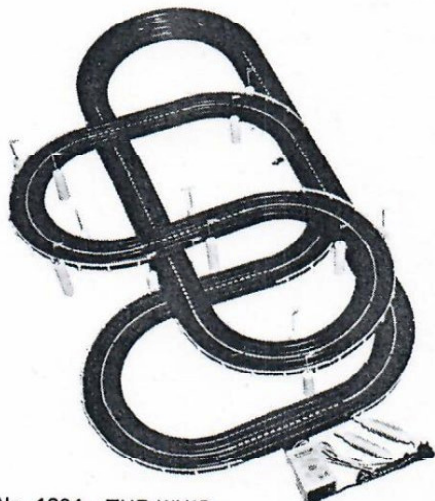
Two exclusive Grand Prix cars are the big plus in the "FORMULA 1 WHIP" Set (No. 1304), which also includes a high bank Monza curve. 24 sections of track make hundreds of different layout combinations possible.

Set number four in the new series is the "24 HOURS of LEMANS" (No. 1323), with special Flamethrower cars for day and NIGHT racing. Headlights are the big feature here. . . for racing in a pitch black room. And don't forget the 20 feet of track in the set — lots of flexibility.

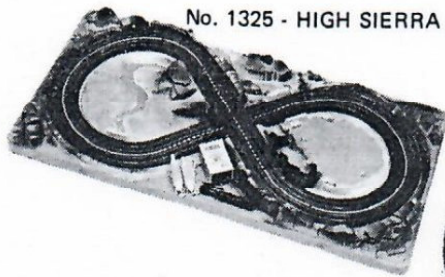
The only hold-over from 1969 is the time-proven CHAMPIONSHIP 500 Set (No. 1324) for four-lane racing. For big families or clubs, it's perfect.

And for the man or boy who doesn't want to spend time assembling a Model Motoring set, Aurora is introducing "HIGH SIERRA" (No. 1325). Get this — it comes pre-assembled, on a pre-formed and pre-painted layout. All you do is slide it out of the box, hook up your wires, and you're running. And, for future expansion, Aurora used standard Model Motoring track, so all you have to do is take it off the 3-D layout, pull out a couple of locks and joiners, and fit in any regular accessory track sections available.

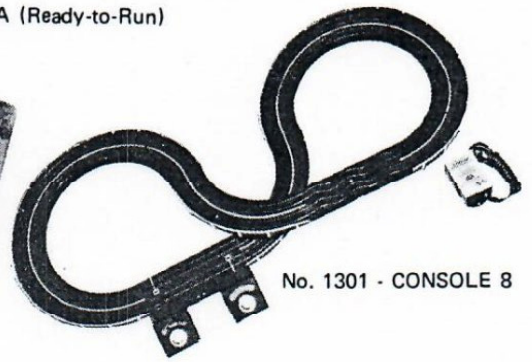
That's it — the 1970 line of Aurora Model Motoring Sets. . . And you've got the word on it before anyone else in your neighborhood.



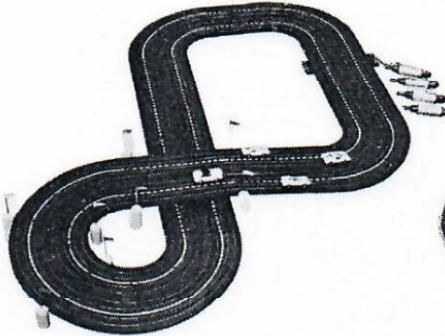
No. 1304 - THE WHIP



No. 1325 - HIGH SIERRA (Ready-to-Run)



No. 1301 - CONSOLE 8



No. 1324 - CHAMPIONSHIP 500



No. 1303 - CONSOLE TWISTER

**ODD PLACES FOR MINIATURE RACES**  
**A DIFFERENT KIND OF MODEL MOTORING LAYOUT CONTEST**

Certainly, you've seen or heard of lots of Model Motoring layouts in dens, basements, attics, or bedrooms. . . But would you believe there is one Model Motoring layout in a U.S. Navy submarine? And another in a house trailer? How about one in the area under the rear window of a 4-door sedan?

Well, if you don't believe it, you're wrong. Model Motoring Layouts exist in all of these locations.

But we still have a feeling that we haven't begun to find all of the odd and unusual

locations for Miniature Racing. And so, we're offering five complete sets of Tuff Ones (6 cars in a set) — one set for each of the five IMRC Members who can show us the most unusual locations of operating Model Motoring Set-ups.

Send us a photograph and a description of the location of the set and you'll be eligible for one of the five prizes, valued at \$24.00 each. Entries must be received by August 1, 1970 and judges' decisions will be final. All photos and descriptions become the property of IMRC News and Aurora Plastics Corp.; and none will be returned.

Winners will be announced in the next issue; and winning entries will be featured in future issues of IMRC News.



Aurora's Dick Schwarzchild explains Model Motoring to Miss Universe, Maria Vargas, in the pits during Speed Week (Feb. '64) at Florida's Daytona International Speedway — an "Odd Place"? Maybe. . .



. . . But even with the Real Thing so close at hand, Miss Vargas wasn't the only one fascinated by the Aurora Model Motoring setup — Miniature Racing stole the show between runs!

**OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK "ODD PLACES" MODEL MOTORING CONTEST**

Here's my entry for the IMRC "Odd Places" Model Motoring Contest. Enclosed are photos and a description of a most unusual location for a Model Motoring layout. I understand that the photos and descriptions I submit become the property of IMRC News and Aurora Plastics Corp.; may be used for editorial or promotional purposes; and none will be returned.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

IMRC No. \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Your entry and this Official Entry Blank (or a reasonable facsimile) should be mailed to: "ODD PLACES" CONTEST, IMRC NEWS, AURORA PLASTICS CORP., P.O. BOX 250, HICKSVILLE, N.Y. 11801. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 1970.



## IMRC SPOTLIGHT

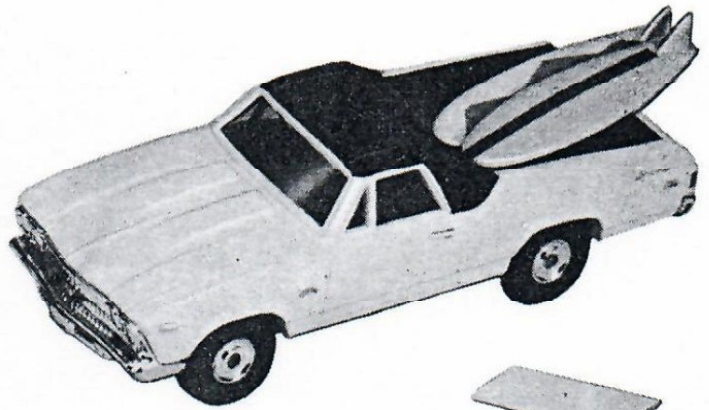
Last-minute comments on the latest word from Big A; Model Motoring People and Products; IMRC Members; What's Coming in IMRC News; and What's Happening in the Miniature Racing World. . .

### AT YOUR DEALER'S NOW:

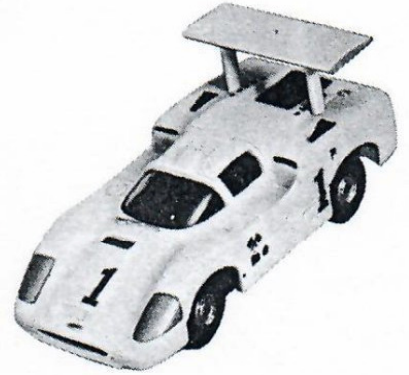
The Model Motoring **MUSTANG MACH 1** (Aurora No. 1415; \$3.50) — Ford and Aurora score again, this time with a street version of a hot Trans-Am competition car. Ford's sold out. Aurora will be, too.



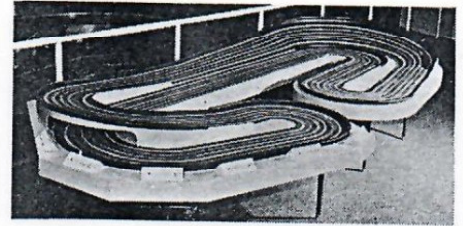
The Model Motoring **EL CAMINO** (Aurora No. 1429; \$3.50) — This sporty pick up is fast replacing the "Woody" as the favorite of California's beach set; over half the surfers have already made the switch, and Aurora's right with them — right with the times.



The Model Motoring **CHAPARRAL 2F** (Aurora No. 1410; \$3.50) — Topping the list of "Most Wanted" Model Motoring cars, the 2F is best known for "Bringing the Wing to Europe" as it led the American invasion of European race tracks at Le Mans, Nurenbergring and Targa Floria.



ON THE COMMERCIAL RACING SCENE, HO scale is gathering momentum daily, as witnessed by the recent introduction of the Car Model Official HO Competition Commercial Hi-Speed Race Track. Designed and built by Car Model Magazine, this 6-lane course features Aurora electric lap counters, smooth routed roadbed, wiring for dynamic brakes, and driver stations designed for either jack or conventional controller hook up. Model Motoring cars really fly on this set up. Next time you're in the neighborhood, drop into your local commercial raceway or hobby shop and check out what's new. . . If you're lucky, it's the Car Model Official HO Competition Hi-Speed Track.



### MODEL MOTORING PEOPLE

**MOST CHARMING HOSTESS** at the New York Toy Fair — Mrs. Chuck Diker, lovely wife of the Corporation's President; Aurora's First Lady. . .

**FROM OUT OF THE WEST** — Former President of Russkit, Jim Russell, recently came East (sans MESAC) to join the Big A Family as Aurora Product Manager, adding his inventive know-how to our Model Motoring Team. His famous Russkit Controller is now available from Aurora West.

### BEGINNING IN NEXT IMRC NEWSLETTER:

Want to exchange views with other Miniature Racing Club Members? Then get yourself an IMRC Pen Pal by writing to **IMRC PALS DEPT., IMRC NEWS**. "IMRC Pals" will appear regularly, starting next issue.

Got a problem, or some tough questions about Miniature Racing? Our experts are ready to tackle anything — just send your questions to **MODEL MOTORING Q & A, IMRC NEWS**. "Model Motoring Q & A" will also be a regular feature.

"M R Reports" will feature Miniature Racing News from our members. If you belong to a club which holds regular races, or you've attended an HO event at a commercial raceway, and would like to see the race story and results (or announcements of future races) published here, send your report or announcement to: **M R REPORTS, IMRC NEWS**.

Got a hot tip for Model Motoring? — Or want to comment on just about anything in the World of Miniature Racing? Send it to: **CORRESPONDENT'S CORNER, IMRC NEWS**.

What about that Model Motoring car you've detailed to near-perfect authenticity, or radically customized? Want to show it off? We'd sure like to see it! Send black & white photos and a description of your piece de resistance to: **SUPERDETAILERS SHOWCASE, IMRC NEWS**. In each future issue, we'll feature the most outstanding entry received from one of our members.

IMRC NEWS  
AURORA PLASTICS CORP.  
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If undeliverable do not return

