

Virginia Auto Law

Saab Off Life Support, Rx Is Loyalists

By: Bill Lehner. This was posted Wednesday, March 3rd, 2010

After our <u>last post</u> on the dying nameplates in the auto industry, alert reader AJ Murphy of <u>Just Saab of</u> <u>Cincinnati (www.justsaab.com)</u> pointed out that the Spyker Cars NV acquisition of Saab was consummated on February 23. Quite so, and this week's <u>Automotive News</u> (www.autonews.com/) carries additional details.

Mike Colleran of <u>Saab Cars North America</u> agrees in the piece that appealing to Saab loyalists may be the first priority in healing the brand's wounds, which grew during a six month "no supply" period that the 218 dealers were anxious to end. *AN* also reports that Saab will return to leasing after it finishes a financing agreement with <u>GMAC Financial Services</u>. This is necessary for inventory uptake in the face of two years of sharp sales drops (35 percent in 2008, 59 percent in 2009).

We wish a rejuvenated Saab the best of luck in this uncertain economic environment.

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