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## **YK Auto Group Expands Chuck Hutton Toyota EV Charging Capabilities Using State of the Art Solar Farm**

**MEMPHIS, Tennessee, August 13, 2024** – YK Auto Group, a Memphis-based auto dealership management company, today announced the expansion of Chuck Hutton Toyota's electric vehicle (EV) charging capabilities with the introduction of a state-of-the-art solar farm. This innovative solar installation will power the auto dealership, 12 ChargePoint stations, and a new YK Lounge, where drivers can relax while their vehicles recharge.

With the escalating demand for electric vehicles, Chuck Hutton Toyota and YK Auto Group's commitment to enhancing EV charging infrastructure underscores their dedication to meeting the needs of environmentally-conscious consumers. This initiative aligns with Toyota Motor North America's sustainability goals to promote eco-friendly practices within the automotive industry. The newly implemented solar farm has been designed, installed, and monitored by Freedom Solar Power. Freedom Solar is the #1 installer of solar on all U.S. automotive dealerships and the preferred supplier for several OEM automobile manufacturers.

"YK Auto Group's investment in sustainable infrastructure reflects our shared company ethos of environmental responsibility," said Toyota Motor North America Sustainability Strategy Manager Mark Yamauchi. "Harnessing solar power to fuel Chuck Hutton Toyota's operations and support EV charging sets a precedent for innovation and eco-conscious practices in the automotive sector."

The YK Lounge will be home to the first fast-charging stations at a Toyota dealership nationwide and be powered by Freedom Solar's technology. EV owners will have a comfortable, welcoming space to relax and recharge. The facility will include restrooms, office cubes, a play area for children, and a turfed dog park.

Under YK Auto Group's ownership, Chuck Hutton Toyota's initiative demonstrates a collaborative effort with Toyota Motor North America to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable mobility solutions. As a participant in Toyota's Innovative Dealer Environmental Excellence Program (D.E.E.P.), Chuck Hutton Toyota has played an important role in reducing energy, water, waste, carbon emissions, and operational costs.

"A shared vision of serving both the planet and our customers better is part of what propelled this idea forward – from plan to reality," said Young Kim, YK Auto Group owner and Chuck Hutton Toyota dealer principal. "Our solar powered dealership, ChargePoint stations, and YK Lounge will be unique to the region. We're grateful for the support of Toyota Motor North America as Chuck Hutton Toyota works to bring these initiatives to fruition on a local scale with substantial plans for growth and expansion over the next few years," said Kim

Toyota is committed to becoming carbon neutral across the vehicle life cycle by 2050. To meet that goal, the company aims to reduce and offset GHG emissions to achieve net zero carbon emissions across operations, manufacturing, logistics, use and recycling of its products.

"We're proud to work with organizations like YK Auto Group and Toyota Motors, who are leading the transition to sustainable infrastructure solutions for a brighter future," said Ryan Ferrero, Freedom Solar Power's National Director of Automotive Industry Electrification. "With our installation, executives will be able to monitor the

system's solar generation on an ongoing basis, from lifetime savings to percentage of electricity offset. Gathering and tracking this information will support expanding EV charging infrastructure charged by solar energy solutions.”

With a focus on enhancing eco-friendly infrastructure and embracing sustainable infrastructure solutions, YK Auto Group and Chuck Hutton Toyota are shaping a more sustainable automotive landscape for the future. More information will soon be available at [chuckhuttontoyota.com/sustainability](http://chuckhuttontoyota.com/sustainability).

### **About YK Auto Group**

YK Auto Group is a pioneering auto dealership management company located in Memphis, Tennessee, committed to advancing electric vehicle (EV) technology and promoting sustainable practices. With a visionary approach, YK Auto Group integrates cutting-edge solutions such as solar-powered EV charging stations and community-centric lounges, setting new standards in both innovation and environmental responsibility. As experts in EV technology, charging infrastructure, and solar power, YK Auto Group is leading the way in transforming the automotive industry, beginning at Chuck Hutton Toyota. For more information, visit [www.ykautogroup.com](http://www.ykautogroup.com).

### **About Freedom Solar Power**

Founded in 2007, Freedom Solar is an industry leader in turnkey solar installations, providing high-quality, cost-effective, reliable solar solutions for residential and commercial markets. Headquartered in Austin, Texas, Freedom Solar has commercial operations nationwide and has installed more than 281 megawatts of solar panels since 2007. Freedom Solar has completed projects for numerous national and multinational corporate clients, including Whole Foods Market, Office Depot, Public Storage, and The University of Texas at Austin. The company is the #6 commercial solar installer in the U.S. according to Solar Power World magazine and the #1 installer of solar on automotive dealerships including Group 1, Volkswagen, BMW, Chevrolet, Ford, Subaru and Toyota. For more information, visit <https://www.freedomsolarpower.com>.

### **About Toyota Motor North America**

Toyota (NYSE:TM) has been a part of the cultural fabric in the U.S. for more than 65 years, and is committed to advancing sustainable, next-generation mobility through our Toyota and Lexus brands, plus our nearly 1,500 dealerships.

Toyota directly employs more than 49,000 people in the U.S. who have contributed to the design, engineering, and assembly of more than 34 million cars and trucks at our nine manufacturing plants. By 2025, Toyota's 10th plant in North Carolina will begin to manufacture automotive batteries for electrified vehicles. With more electrified vehicles on the road than any other automaker, Toyota currently offers 29 electrified options.

Through its Driving Possibilities initiative, the Toyota USA Foundation has committed to creating innovative educational programs within, and in partnership with, historically underserved and diverse communities near the company's U.S. operating sites.

For more information about Toyota, visit [www.ToyotaNewsroom.com](http://www.ToyotaNewsroom.com).

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