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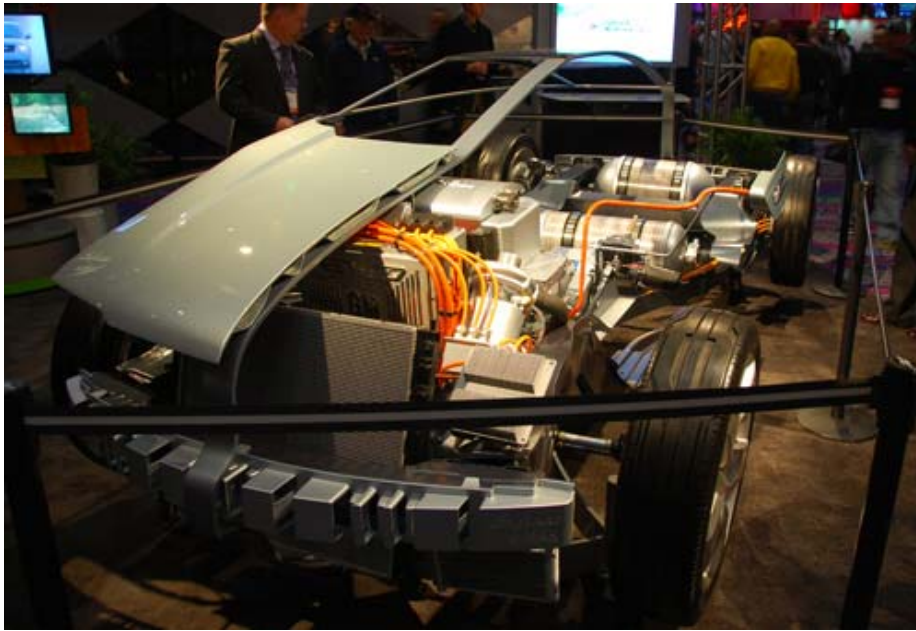
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[\[CES 2008\] In-Vehicle Tech](#)

By Evan Ackerman

I covered a lot of emerging automotive tech at the [LA Auto Show](#) back in November. Most of the stuff on display in the North Hall of the Las Vegas Convention Center wasn't really new or innovative; there was a lot (a lot) of audio systems, in-car [video](#), GPS, etc... But there were a few pretty cars around, and a couple interesting things. First, the interesting things:

General Motors Hydrogen Powertrain



The GM people I talked to didn't seem to have a clue about this, but [apparently](#) it's a hydrogen version of the Chevy Volt. Maybe we'll hear more tomorrow, after the GM keynote. [[Chevy Volt](#)]

FLIR Dash Cams



Thermal infrared cameras are good for more things than just taking [weird pictures](#) of hot people. Their ability to see in the dark makes them useful when you're driving way, way too fast at night. FLIR systems are already optional on some 5, 6, and 7 series BMWs (where it adds about \$2000 to the sticker price), and if you like the idea but don't like BMWs, you can buy a kit to install a small FLIR camera on your dashboard with an attached video screen. Seems like it might be distracting, but when I talked to some of the FLIR guys a little later that night, they described it like using a rearview mirror: you're peripherally aware of it until something shows up. In the case of the FLIR [system](#), it usually spots animals, which show up as bright white since they're warm. FLIR says they're working on a system to partially automate obstacle detection by looking for telltale thermal