

# 2020 Chengdu Auto Show highlights

RAHBAR AL HAQ

The pandemic has beer hard on us petrolheads, especially with the cancellation of various auto shows. However, it seems China has recovered enough from the pandemic to hold its annual auto show in Chengdu city. While the show doesn't hold a candle to the Geneva auto show, it does showcase some interesting local designs, some of which caught our eyes.



**Chery Arrizo Star concept**  
Made by Chery to “show the potential for personalizing cars,” this Arrizo GX is quite something to look at. The basic econobox sedan has been extensively modified, with redesigned bumpers, hood, trunk lid, fenders, spoiler and door delete. Chery didn’t mention doing anything to the engine, meaning the 154Hp 1.5 liter turbocharged four-cylinder has some extra work to do.



**ORA ES11 Haomao “Good Cat”**  
This small EV from Great Wall’s ORA division looks like an unwanted lovechild of the Beetle and Mini. The cute electric hatchback has around 148 Hp and a range of 350-400 km, and yet for some reason, Great Wall doesn’t bring it here!



**Skywell ET5**  
Skywell is a new name in the Chinese car industry, with a cheesy slogan of “Skywell: All is Well.” The ET5 is thing first car, a five-seat electric crossover. The car is nothing special, except for its 520km range and \$21,480 base price makes us wish they would sell it car here.

**WEY Tank 300**  
Moving from something that vaguely looks like a Bronco sport to something that is actually made to take on the American 4x4’s, we have the Tank 300. The SUV live up to its name, being a body on frame 4x4 with front, middle and rear differential locks. It is going to beat the Bronco? No. Do we think its cool anyway? Yes.  
Also WEY is a division of Great Wall Motors, so some of you should start writing some letters...



**Haval DaGou “Big Dog”**  
Also known by its less interesting name, the B06. Although the car’s boxy shape and round headlights may suggest it’s a Bronco Sport rip-off, it was designed by an ex-Land Rover Phil Simmons, meaning it has more in common with the new Defender. Curiously, Haval chose the name via public online voting, meaning the people really wanted this car to be a good boy.



**SGMW Hong Guang MINI EV pick up**  
The MINI EV pick up is an adorable one-off version of the MINI EV city car. We pretty sure one pair of rear wheels don’t work, and the 20kW motor can’t haul anything other than a few bags of groceries. But that doesn’t stop us from wishing SGMW would put it into production.



**Hongqi H9**  
It seems the Chinese state limousine maker is done with their badge engineering Toyota’s and Lincolns. The new H9 is a is full-sized luxury barge made by an in-house design team that is sure to raise some “Red Flags” among Mercedes and BMW owners.



# Legen-Dairy breakthroughs in bovine technology

OROBI BAKHTIAR

The simple act of feeding and caring for a cow harks back to a bygone era at the dawn of the agricultural revolution. And yet modern dairy farming is constantly searching for new innovations. Keeping the cows happy and healthy is important in dairy farming and efforts to raise the bar in milk production efficiency require farms to know how much an individual cow eats, how much she drinks, how much she moves, her body temperature and stress levels so as to correctly judge farm profitability. Technology has been the main driving force in bridging the intelligence and efficiency gap although it may not seem apparent but new technologies involving sensors and big data analytics are making farms approach light speed efficiency in how they operate.  
Here are a few of the latest technologies that are beginning to transform dairy farming.

**Smart Collars for Cows**  
Imagine a Fitbit for your beloved cattle. Then stop imagining and say hello to the cow collar. Yes, the wearable technology trend has come to the farmyard. And with cow collars you can gather a huge amount of data on the health, habits and happiness of your herd. A Dutch company has developed technology to follow the movements and activities of cows. The high-tech system, powered by AI and motion sensors, is called “The Intelligent Dairy Farmer’s Assistant.” The company,



Connecterra, launched the system in the United States in December 2017 after several years of testing and operations in Europe.  
Information such as steps per day and rumination is collected and sent to a portal that you can access from anywhere via laptop or smartphone. You can also share any abnormal data with your vet, making it easier to detect illness and resolve it faster.  
**Facial Recognition**  
If you believe all cows look the same more or less, you might want to read on. Cows in some districts of Punjab are currently part of an intriguing project that involves machine learning telling one cow apart from the other. Every cow and buffalo are distinguishable as agritech startup Mooofarm, the brains behind the algorithm, claims to have 95% accuracy in distinguishing one from the other. The algorithm only requires pictures of each cow or buffalo from different angles,

backgrounds and light.  
Founded in 2017, Mooofarm is an agritech firm dedicated to finding technical solutions for dairy farmers by helping them keep their cattle healthy and increase their income by improving the milk quality. The startup has built a digital ecosystem of cattle through its mobile app that leverages data analytics to provide farm and cattle management solutions to dairy farmers such as digitizing the life



cycle of their cattle, connecting them to input suppliers for.  
**Robotic Milking**  
Cows don’t like change. Yep, for cow-kind it’s consistency that goes down best. That’s just one of the reasons robotic milking technology is beginning to take off.  
Robotic milking has been commercially available since the early nineties. Yet thanks to dramatic improvements in the technology and the compelling prospect of enhanced milk yields, more and more

farmers are making the switch to robots. Thanks to special sensors - or collars like those mentioned above - farmers can collect all kinds of data on each cow’s health, production levels and milking frequency. The robots can even collect data on milk quality, fat content and white blood cell count - diverting milk to a separate container for calf consumption if it’s not suitable for humans.  
**Car Wash for Cows?**  
Ah, that’s the spot. So says the cow who just sidled alongside the swinging brush. Four million cows around the world are getting groomed on demand thanks to this spruce piece of tech, the movements and brushes of which cover all angles of the their body.  
Used for almost a decade. This is a simple rotating brush similar to one used in a carwash but made specifically to match the contours of a cow’s body. The brush begins rotating when a cow makes contact with it - and stops when they walk away. In an effort to boost cow’s comfort, research shows the rotating cow brush aid blood circulation which in turn improves milk production and child birth  
Smart technology and data play important roles on modern dairy farms. And while these new tools of the trade are helping to optimize the production of milk and meat, technology is also meant to help dairy farmers fulfill another purpose: improve the well-being of their cows.

### Is a heavier car actually safer?

There is a common misconception that a heavier car is safer in an accident. However, laws of physics disagree. In an accident, a car suffers rapid deceleration and generates kinetic energy (KE). Unless designed to absorb, the car will pass the energy onto its occupants, causing serious harm and injuries. Heavier vehicles suffer more, as their weight multiplies the KE force. Conversely, lightweight vehicles such as the **Mitsubishi Xpander** incorporates extensive crash protection, with its Reinforced Impact Safety Evolution Body (RISE) earning it favorable reviews from safety testing authorities.