



Nissan reveals master plan — and all-new Murano

Nissan will unveil three new models at the Paris motor show today — along with the new-generation all-wheel-drive Murano SUV.

The Japanese company's master plan revolves around a key design philosophy — mobility in and around the city.

It will also show off Nissan Connect, an all-new combined satellite navigation, audio and communication system.

The Nuvu concept is a compact city car that will be just 3 metres long and offer a 2+1 seating arrangement, where the rear seat can be easily folded away leaving plenty of boot space.

It will also be electric sharing

many of the technologies likely to be found in the forthcoming EV, due to be unveiled at the 2009 Tokyo motor show.

The Pixo is a production-ready roomy, four-seater urban compact built in collaboration with Suzuki and powered by a 1-litre, three-cylinder engine mated to a four-speed automatic gearbox.

The final Paris launch will be the revised Note small car. The new Murano will go on sale in New Zealand next year, using a more powerful version of the company's long-time 3.5-litre V6 petrol engine.

The reworked unit comes with variable induction and valve timing control systems and develops around

190kW, about 16kW more than the outgoing model. There's more torque, too, up from 318Nm at 3600rpm to 334Nm at a higher 4400rpm.

Best of all, says Nissan, town and around fuel consumption improves from around 12 litres/100km (23mpg) to 10.8 litres/100km (26mpg). CO2 exhaust emissions drop from 295 to 261gr/km.

The company says a re-engineered Xtronic CVT gearbox plays its part, with a 20 per cent reduction in friction improving fuel economy and shift speeds to give a more responsive feel.

There's also a stiffer platform more resistant to lateral and twisting forces and revised suspension geometry front and rear.



MURANO: More powerful engine with improved fuel economy.