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94 "Hi everyone, I'm Paul Elio, founder of Elio Motors. We're launching a new vehicle that is expected to sell for \$6,800 and get up to 84MPG. AMA!"

(self.AMA) submitted 3 hours ago \* by PaulElioMotors

this post was submitted on 02 Jul 2015

94 points (95% upvoted)

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Note the existence of two similar subreddits: /r/AMA and /r/IAmA. The main difference is that we have about 50x less the subscribers.

But this isn't necessarily bad! Maybe you want fewer people to read your story, or you have decided that your AMA does not warrant a large

"Hi All. I'm an engineer by trade, but an entrepreneur at heart. I was tired of seeing wealth pour out of our country and I decided to do something about it. I launched Elio Motors. We believe in the American Dream, American manufacturing and creating American jobs. Our innovative new vehicle, slated to launch in 2016, is expected to sell for \$6,800 and get up to 84 MPG. Elio Motors is also one of the first companies to run an equity crowdfunding campaign. Anyone who believes in what we're doing can now own a slice of the company. You can learn more about us at www.eliomotors.com.

Here's proof that it's me: http://imgur.com/7yKuCqO

Now, Ask Me Anything!"

Signing off! Sorry we couldn't answer everyone's questions. We took them in order and answered as many as possible during our timeframe. Thanks again for all your support of Elio. Looking forward to the next AMA. -- Paul

212 comments share

all 212 comments

sorted by: best

[-] across32 9 points 3 hours ago

Hi Paul. We had a nice chat at the New York International Auto Show in April, but I forgot to ask one thing: I know the focus is on getting more funding and rolling out the first model, but can you say if you have considered any future vehicles down the line? Maybe an electric powered model or a non-gasoline model?

permalink

[-] PaulElioMotors [S] 10 points 3 hours ago

Yes, however we dont want to get distracted from launching a high quality vehicle in the US. Next, go global and then evaluate alternate drivetrains.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [cleithis](#) 6 points 3 hours ago

Any thoughts on the road noise inside the prototypes, and the expectations for the production model? Videos with sound available?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 4 points 2 hours ago

The main driver of in vehicle noise is the stiffness of the vehicle. Having a full space frame we are stiffer than most cars. Additionally, composite panels transmit noise less readily than steel body panels would. Having outboard wheels with fairings also gives us an extra barrier for road noise. All combined we expect the Elio to be very quiet in cabin.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [LollyAdverb](#) 6 points 3 hours ago

How would an Elio, being so light-weight, handle crosswinds? I was on a bridge the other day in a mid-sized SUV during a storm ... and it was like a fun-house ride.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 9 points 2 hours ago

The Elio weighs approximately the same as a VW Bug. The Bug suffered from the problem that the center mass was over the rear wheels, and the center pressure was at the windshield, and the distance between these two forces produced a couple that made it squirly in high winds.

The Elio is front engine so the center pressure and center mass are nearly coincident which will greatly reduce this effect.

But if you want an Elio fun-house ride...wait for the Turbo!

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [ProDigit](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Can my early model (#13xx ) be converted to a turbo version?

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [loki7714](#) [score hidden] 20 minutes ago

That's probably something you should email them about.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [texas1982](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

audience. In any case, that's fine with us, as long as you **make sure you understand the difference before posting.**

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10 points · 4 comments

I am the voice of the downtown Monroe PSA in Colbert's public access show. AMA

You could always put an aftermarket tail fin on the trunk. That'd turn some heads...

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [OlyWalker](#) 1 point 1 hour ago\*

Now that you've hinted at a turbo option at some point in the future, could you please ensure that early adopters can retrofit! *Edited* I realize that adding a turbo to an existing naturally aspirated engine will require some remapping of the air/fuel mixtures, spark advance curve and valve timing (to adjust compression ratios). Having said that, I'm sure that could all be accomplished through the OBD II port and a visit to Pep Boys! #8753

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [ultrakill01](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Probably would handle crosswinds well because it has a small wind profile and is very aerodynamic.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Martin\\_Grundle](#) 5 points 3 hours ago

What is the projected timeline for completing P6-P30? Is the intention that Comau will gradually assume more responsibility in the process in order to work out the production process?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 6 points 3 hours ago

That will be the focus of the supplier summit in late July to develop the final timeline and responsibilities.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [userexec](#) 5 points 3 hours ago

How easy will it be to pull out the motor if you're a shade tree mechanic?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 5 points 3 hours ago

It has three motor mounts like a traditional engine.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [richcus](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

So easy that even a Pepboys can do it. Ha! That alliance is one of the interesting selling points over the costly dealership model. Anxious to hear more on the receptive nature and training program being put in place by ElioMotors.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Cubes941](#) 6 points 3 hours ago

I love the Elio! I have two questions if I may. Will there be a turbocharged performance model in the future? Will there be any leasing options for the vehicle? Thank you for your time and I await for the car in barley controlled excitement!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 9 points 2 hours ago

Thank you. We love the Elio too.

Precision Turbo attended last supplier summit and they are interested in offering a production turbo for the Elio. I don't have any insight into timing from them as of yet.

We will partner with a financial institution to have inhouse financing. But for as inexpensive as the Elio is, I am not sure it will make sense. But we haven't ruled it out either.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [ondaanvil](#) 5 points 3 hours ago

Good day Paul. I am an enthusiastic future owner. I look forward to production rollout. How is the progress on the new engine certification? Has it tested out to meet power and efficiency targets?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 7 points 2 hours ago

Initial test came out as expected, slightly below the targets. Remember Thomas Edison had 1,083 patents only one worked right the first time - the phonograph. We don't expect to be quite as good as Tom but we are comfortable with where we are sitting that we will achieve our goals.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [ondaanvil](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Even as knowledgeable as all your experts are and seeing as this is so innovative, I would be surprised if there were not some refinements needed after the initial prototype. Our high interest and expectation is based on seeing the immediate impact. Managing expectation is one of the hardest things to do, both for provider and customer

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [garydunn2000](#) 6 points 3 hours ago

Greetings Mr. Elio, it is my pleasure and an honor to ask you questions. 1. What purpose will the money raised by the crowd funding startengine be used for? 2. Would you honor me by posing for a picture with me included and autograph when I arrive at the Elio Plant to pick up my Elio? Thank you so much for following your vision I too shared this vision.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 9 points 2 hours ago

The 506(c) (accredited investor) and the StartEngine (Reg A+ non-accredited investor) investments is what will fund P5-30. As we have indicated 506(c) has gone well, Reg A has gone extremely well. Now we can proceed with the next phase of the project.

I would be happy to pose for a picture. You just have to let me know which day so I wear a clean shirt...and I may even shave.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Beekwell](#) 7 points 3 hours ago

Hi Paul!, reservation #3012 here, any chance on the first run of vehicles having something special like a dash plaque or maybe your signature somewhere? Back when I had a Miata, we had the designer sign the under side of the hoods of our cars, it was a nice personal touch.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 5 points 2 hours ago

I really like that idea. We will have to take a strong look at it.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [superdeej](#) 5 points 3 hours ago

When a co-worker told me about the Elio, I went to the website, and put down my deposit within the first 30 seconds of reading it. A car that I can use for transport to the gym and work with a low impact to my wallet? What a killer idea.

I am hoping that the expected launch date of 2016 is a firm one, are there any major roadblocks on the horizon that could impact that launch?



[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 4 points 2 hours ago

When we announced this production date we said it was predicated on funding. Now the funding picture is getting clearer and we will be able to give a high-fidelity estimate soon.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [SilasSunday](#) 6 points 3 hours ago

Hi Pual, and thank you for all the hard work and accomplishments thus far. Will we be treated to inside pictures of the P5 being built, like we received for the P4?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 3 points 2 hours ago

Yes. We were trying to stage pictures of the parts coming in today, however, I don't know if that happened but certainly soon you will start seeing it come together.

And thank you for all your support Silas.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [helmutkr](#) 5 points 2 hours ago

Hi Paul! I love the look of the prototypes!

Quick question: how serviceable will the parts be for Elio's? If I need to switch out a random hose/spark plug/etc, how hard will it be to track down a replacement?

Thanks!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 2 points 2 hours ago

Pep Boys will have full supply of all Elio replacement parts. Additionally, many of the components are on other existing vehicles and will be available even more widely than that.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Amigatech](#) 5 points 2 hours ago

By the way, Paul - you are a hero by giving back to America, the ability to be self-sustaining and profitable in manufacturing and direct sales. Go Elio!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 3 points 2 hours ago

Thank you! What has enabled us to get where we are has been the support of all the reservation holders.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Canard427](#) 6 points 2 hours ago

What would you say to potential customers (myself included) that were excited beyond compare when first introduced to your concept, but, however after repeated push-backs for release and repeated calls for more funding with only a handful of cars produced (Even Tucker Motors made 50) have lost faith that the car will come to fruition.

I'm not trying to be derogatory, I would buy one tomorrow if it was available, but the repeated Facebook updates on helmet laws (doesn't matter if there's no product) and release delays have me thinking more and more that this is a money pit with no hope of production.

(I saw the prototype in Richmond by the way and it was great)

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 3 points 1 hour ago

Fair question.

The primarily cause of delay in the Elio Motors project is surrounding funding. Particularly this round. Because projects like Elio don't come along very often, there are not established pools of money that invest in these projects. In hindsight, I probably could have probably chosen better paths over the last year. But now with being able to take advantage of the JOBS Act (506(c) and Reg A+), we are now on our way.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Canard427](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

Thank you for your response.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [RachelBinLA](#) 4 points 3 hours ago

Hi Paul! I'm excited about the prospect of the Elio. I've heard you refer to it as a "bridge vehicle". If everything goes as planned and we have Elios on the market in near future...what do you see on the other side of the bridge for Elio (and the auto industry in general) in 10 years? 20 years?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 14 points 2 hours ago

I think you mean an "AND" vehicle. And what we mean by that is that Americans buy large vehicles for a reason. They need to get plywood from Home Depot or take the family to church on Sunday. Because of our value proposition (price point and mileage) you are better off owning an Elio AND your larger vehicle vs. just your larger vehicle.

I think we are creating a new category. Best analogy is the Sony Walkman. That is personal music. They didn't stop buying home stereos or car stereos and that carries through today in the MP3 player. I believe the Elio will make a fundamental shift in transportation. Like the Walkman is personal music, we are personal transportation.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Javin007](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

I absolutely love this response for some reason. Possibly because that's precisely how I look at it. I need a truck for my home projects, but can't afford a truck AND a car to take me on my 1 1/2 hour commute, so I have to opt for no truck. With the price point on this thing, and the mileage, it's a no brainer that now I CAN have both.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [liquidwindows](#) [score hidden] 10 minutes ago

As someone who lives in the mountains, where we are sometimes snowed in, I can appreciate this. We HAVE to have a four wheel drive for the winters, there is no choice. But, we both commute long distances to work - since two of these are less than what we would pay for a single small car, and gets twice the mileage, this will save us a fortune. I just wish they were in our driveway already.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [TaylorMcPartland](#) 6 points 3 hours ago

Hi Paul, I think it's fantastic that the Elio is American made! Can you tell me a little about your philosophy behind that decision?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 8 points 2 hours ago

Our country has had a negative trade deficit every month for the last 20 years, 240 months in a row. We have gotten poorer as a nation because we buy more than what we sell. This has to stop. We have to make things in this country. We have to make and export things from this country. Elio can be produced in America and sold around the globe. That is our long term goal. That's why I

want to make things here.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [richcus](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

I'll be anxious to see that "right hand drive" Elio. :-)

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [userexec](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

They should market it as that lol. Reminds me of "Diamond Shreddies"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8McutvNwtI>

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [richcus](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

👍 - A "Shreddies" marketing campaign would work great with the Monty Python UK crowd.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [JLBShecky](#) 5 points 3 hours ago

If one's Elio was to break down for what ever reason and needing towing how would that work? Would a normal tow truck work or wold it need something like a roll-back tow truck?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 5 points 2 hours ago

I don't know but I will find out.

The Elio will have a hole in its rear frame to accomdoate a pole with two small tires attached. So the Elio can go on traditional car lifts and car carriers. But I have not yet looked into the towing aspect.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [OlyWalker](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Will the pole and small tires be included with the vehicle? or will they be something that PEP Boys has on hand for service. If not included with the vehicle, will they be available for purchase? or is this something that could easily be built by your average car guy? #8753

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 1 point 1 hour ago

Service Centers will definitely have them and we will make them available for purchase as well.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [FelixP](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Lots of motorcycle tow services that might work

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [a9249](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

How's your safety rating? Given the price, there cant be much material, and from the looks of it not much crumple zone. How fast will it go, and how does it withstand a head on collision?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 4 points 2 hours ago

We have more crumble zone than traditional compact vehicles. We have a front and two side curtain airbags and design to the same test as 4-wheeled vehicles (although we don't have to). We are committed to designing and manufacuturing a very safe vehicle.

Go to our website for simulations of frontal, side and rear impact.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 1 point 1 hour ago

Check out our simulations here: <http://youtu.be/qbsUQR6AkYk>

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [balansboy](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Hi Paul. Early supporter (#2683). Thanks for doing this!

What is the biggest challenge in dealing with skeptics?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 4 points 1 hour ago

Everyone is a skeptic at some level and it just takes more information to convince people who are higher on the skeptic scale. And then you have the skeptics that believe the Apollo moon landing never happened - that will never be convinced. So our philosophy is to just continue to do the right thing, make progress and people will be convinced in their own time.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [fotoman](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

How's the plant in LA coming along? Been watching Elio for quite sometime, we've had our reservation in since June 2013... Wearing my "Future Elio Owner" shirt now :)

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 2 points 1 hour ago

First of all, thanks for the early support.

Right now we are selling off the equipment that is surplus to Elio at the plant in LA. The next phase after product validation will be to start adding tools to the equipment that we are going to keep.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [fotoman](#) [score hidden] 1 hour ago

Thanks, looking forward to seeing the progress. Photos will go a LONG way with people.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [3oblio3](#) 3 points 3 hours ago

How complete is the P5 going to be, in other words what production features will NOT be on the P5?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 8 points 3 hours ago

The P5 will have the right drivetrain, current aerodynamics for the body, updated interior, IAV Elio engine and correct transmission. The main reason for P5 is that anytime you kick off a prototype you find errors in the CAD model. If we kicked off 25 prototypes all at once, everytime we found an error we would have to redo all 25. So, we are kicking off P5 to validate the solid model and we will be kicking off P6-30 late July.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [RachelBinLA](#) 4 points 3 hours ago

So P5 will be done before late July? Will you be showing that one around the country like you are the P4?

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 4 points 2 hours ago

20 weeks is 5 months. Late July is 3 weeks away. But we are going to kick off P6-30 before P5 is done because there is a lot that has to happen before the parts come in and so we



want to shortcut the timeline.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 4 points 2 hours ago

One more thing, the P5 will tour once complete.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Amigatech](#) 4 points 3 hours ago

Why not use the robotics in the plant to build the prototypes? Wouldn't that make sense? Tweak the programming as you go?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 6 points 2 hours ago

So there are two areas of development. Design and process. The prototypes that we are currently building are focused on design and towards the end of the prototypes we will focus on process. That is when robotics will come into play.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [rasselok123](#) 4 points 3 hours ago

Hi, I am a junior in high school and planning to get the elio as my first car. When do you expect the elio to be available for purchase, and how close do you expect it to be to your goal of 84mpg and \$6,800? Thanks for doing this AMA!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 6 points 2 hours ago

As we said previously we are currently about \$500 over budget and approx. 81 MPG. We will continue to work to hit our targets but as you can imagine it may go the other way. As you know when you are striving for something difficult it is never easy. But we will continue to strive for those targets.

It would be an honor to be your first car! Thank you.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [rasselok123](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Wow! Thanks for the reply. \$500 over budget and 81mpg wouldn't be so bad. I appreciate what you're doing and can't wait to own an Elio!

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [cablecore](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

i'm guessing that's \$500 over their cost target, which would probably translate to ~\$1000 over list price target.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [RickRussellTX](#) [score hidden] 1 hour ago

Anything under \$10K for a vehicle like this would be astonishing. I can't buy a decent motorcycle for less than \$8K.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [texas1982](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

When you expect that an Elio will be available for purchase for a guy that didn't put down a reservation? I'm excited to own one, but I am always nervous about putting down cash up front.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 3 points 2 hours ago

It takes us 90 days to ramp up to full production capacity, during that period we will produce

19,000 vehicles. Then we will produce 1,000 vehicles a day (and there are 250 build days a year). So, you can look at the calendar and approximate when the next non-reserved vehicle will be produced.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [cablecore](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

It takes us 90 days to ramp up to full production capacity, during that period we will produce 19,000 vehicles. Then we will produce 1,000 vehicles a day

how can you possibly know this when you haven't even put the line together yet? i'm assuming these are all best-case predictions.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Sympathetic\\_Ear](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

The Elio project had me very excited from the first day it was announced. I really want to see this succeed. I have a long commute every day, and my current car is on its last leg! How soon in 2016 will this be available, and if I'm not "all in" when can I realistically buy this vehicle?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 1 point 2 hours ago

See previous answers on both.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Saijin\\_Naib](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Paul, I'm intrigued by your vision and your car.

You've mentioned that having the Elio be safe is of utmost importance to your mission.

The other car I'm considering in this segment is the Smart ForTwo, which scores very favorably in both the IIHS and NHTSA tests (4/5 stars across the board, or good/excellent).

Do you have another vehicle that you will be using as your benchmark for safety? For instance, Mercedes stated that they intended the Smart to be every bit as safe as their C-Class Sedan.

Thanks!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [mellena](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Are there future plans for a more performance based model? I understand MPG was a major goal but after seeing the Elio's center driving position I cant not think how fun they could be.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [mikek611](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Is it a safety issue to have the gas cap located just above the exhaust pipe ? Can this cause fires ?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [rocksalt27](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Once the P5 is finished, will it tour the country?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [bfryar](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Paul, Is there any chance the Elio car will make it to the Chicago Auto show in 2016?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [Dat1Redditor](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Hi Paul, how is Missouri coming along with the helmet law?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [mikek611](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Will dealerships be in place to deliver the first vehicles?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [travelingmanjcw](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

How real is the 84 mpg and what road and terrain conditions will achieve it consistently?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [dreamsinger52](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Will the automatic transmission be nearly as fuel efficient as the manual? Paddle shifters?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [binrobinro](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Some modern Automatic transmissions get *better* mileage the the manual trans.

For example: For the 2014 Versa, "Nissan actually offers three transmissions: a five-speed manual, a four-speed automatic and a continuously variable transmission (CVT). The manual and automatic get the same combined fuel economy (30 mpg), but the CVT blows both of them away with 35 mpg."

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [DemeaningSarcasm](#) [score hidden] 49 minutes ago

Modern automatic transmissions are more efficient than a manual. The only downside is really, driver control.

Old automatic transmissions are fully mechanical, so that the inertial of your transmission is what makes your car to shift. So you're fighting between inertial and fuel efficiency. With the advent of electric control on transmissions, you're able to achieve higher gas mileage because you don't have to fight for inertia. You can just make it switch.

Dual clutch transmissions for instance, are always, "in gear." And the computer shifts for you so you're not in second when you're supposed to be in fourth to maximize fuel efficiency.

Electronically controlled CVTs are even more efficient because they can theoretically match the perfect, "gear size," for the most efficient burn (so you can be in gear 2.5 so to speak). Though normal CVTs do not come close to being as efficient as a manual transmission because you're relying on mechanical inertia.

The tradeoff though, is that when you're in 4th and you want to accelerate quickly, you can do that in faster in a manual. Whereas in an electrically controlled transmission, the computer has to decide between being efficient vs going fast.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Caseymiata](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

It appears impossible, based on current funding and prototypes 5 through 30 that need funded, built and tested, to meet the mid 2016 production date, when will you be announcing the next major delay?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [mikek611](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

When will the actual locations for the dealerships be finalized?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [poop\\_flinging\\_monkey](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Hi! I saw the video "Chris Fix" did about the Elio, and I have a few questions. First, would you consider coming out with a model that sacrifices some miles per gallon in the name of comfort and practicality? Secondly, in Chris's video, he said the engine in the car he was driving was temporary. Have you decided on a engine to power the Elio? Finally, as a fun exercise, would you consider making a sports "car"? Four wheels, keep it light and nimble? Thanks for answering in advance, I have huge respect for

what you do, and I would think with your prices you will sell those by the truckload!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **Michx** 4 points 2 hours ago\*

...Mr. Elio, how is the potential sale of Pep Boys being addressed?

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/06/30/us-pep-boys-manny-restructuring-idUSKCN0PA1KS20150630>

They make no mention of Elio in their restructuring.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **Michx** 1 point 1 hour ago

...*POOF*. ...and Paul is *gone*

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **joelybigbear** 3 points 3 hours ago

When will the p5 be completed?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **PaulElioMotors** [S] 6 points 3 hours ago

P4 took us 20 weeks. Which was very quick. I am confident that P5 will be complete in less time than that.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **PaulElioMotors** [S] 2 points 2 hours ago

See above.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **DebMc111** 3 points 3 hours ago

Has the change in leadership at DOE had any impact on the movement, or lack thereof, of Elio Motors' DOE ATVM loan application process? Has DOE given any indication of a timeframe in which they will make the decision to approve or deny the loan? How will the decision be publicized? Is there anything individuals can do to encourage approval of the loan?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **PaulElioMotors** [S] 4 points 2 hours ago

We are in communication with the DOE and feel good about the process. They try to keep it very transparent to not really indicate how the companies are doing regarding timeline to be fair to all applicants. They did comment on the interest from our fans in a positive way. They have asked us not to politicize this. So I pointed out that we did not ask our fans to contact them. It seemed to have a positive effect.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **mikek611** 2 points 3 hours ago

What time does voting end for the color of the P5 ?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **PaulElioMotors** [S] 6 points 3 hours ago

11:50 p.m. EST this evening, July 2. Please vote for red or blue! I don't want white! :-)

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **DebMc111** 2 points 2 hours ago

For this second round of voting, Elio Motors has ONLY given us a choice between red and white (no blue).

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **zarquon45** 1 point 1 hour ago

If white does win the competition, you can hand people Elio branded colored sunglasses for their viewing pleasure.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **richcus** 3 points 3 hours ago

Thanks for taking questions. Biggest one from my end (all in since 7/2014 & StartEngine reserved) is about financial condition before beginning production? When do you see the capital goals met to be able to move ahead on the 2016 production target dates. Are we already into 2017 ... and is there a risk of not enough capital? Thx.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **wurzn** 3 points 2 hours ago

Your concept reminds me a bit on the old Messerschmitt car:

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messerschmitt\\_Kabinenroller#/media/File:Messerschmitt\\_KR200\\_5.1.jpg](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messerschmitt_Kabinenroller#/media/File:Messerschmitt_KR200_5.1.jpg)

I already wondered why they don't try something like this again, now where fuel and cost efficiency matters more

Good luck with your project!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **michelework** 2 points 2 hours ago

Thanks for taking on this AMA. Just curious why the door on the vehicle is not on the right side. Wouldn't the car benefit from a right hand door, so the driver can easily enter and exit from the sidewalk?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **RachelBinLA** 2 points 2 hours ago

I've thought about that too, but then I wonder what it would be like to shift gears with my left hand...

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **Sympathetic\_Ear** 1 point 2 hours ago

I had never even considered that. Might make the brits happy too!

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **balansboy** 1 point 2 hours ago

Paul will answer, but I prefer to open on the left, like a traditional car. I have never had a safety issue in my current vehicles from exiting to the left. Plus, that would mean having to shift left handed for a manual transmission which would be awkward.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **michelework** -1 points 2 hours ago

You're not Paul!...

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **balansboy** 1 point 2 hours ago

Neither are the others who replied to your question before and after me. Was just stating my preference. Sorry

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **michelework** -1 points 1 hour ago

Is it customary for outsiders to answer the questions on these AMA's? I'd was addressing my questions to Paul Elio, not you.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)



↑ [-] [balansboy](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

Understood, I already appologized...

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [richcus](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

Remember this is a narrow vehicle already ... and the front wheels will give someone parking even more room to exit. Those already comfortable with left hand drive cars will probably be more comfortable with the drivers door on the left -- primary market is the US.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [michelework](#) 0 points 1 hour ago

Is is customary for outsiders to answer the questions on these AMA's? I'd was addressing my questions to Paul Elio, not you.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [RogWild](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

Mr. Elio; ref. FUNDS RAISED - How much of the \$75 Million "raised", since 2008 (\$15 - 17 Million from Reservations) is STILL AVAILABLE to be used for the \$230 Million needed to start Production?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 4 points 2 hours ago

The Elio Motors project is a \$300M project. We have used the \$70M raised to purchase the equipment, design and develop our own engine, develop the vehicle etc. The remaining \$230M will fund the validation process, tooling, work in capital (inventory, etc).

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [RivalCombatant](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

When will I be able to purchase one in new mexico?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 3 points 2 hours ago

We are going to do a national launch and it will go in the order of reservations.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [RogWild](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Mr. Elio; ref. IAV ENGINES - WHO and WHERE will the Parts for the 500-1,000 Engines (per day) be 'CAST' in order to keep the assembly line running? How will the "Elio Motors Engine Manufacturing Facility" and the regular 'Vehicle Assembly Plant', be able to function at that capacity (one engine/vehicle per minute) with only 1,200 employees, when the Ford's Brook Park Plant (with 1,200 experienced workers, and a 1,200.000 sq. ft facility) currently only produces 50 EcoBoost engines per hour, running 24/7..... and they are ALL devoted to just making ENGINES!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 3 points 2 hours ago

Our casting supplier is Nematik. The process for the engine build is that Comau employees will build the Elio engines on the equipment we purchased from Comau, with Elio employees watching. Then we will flip-flop. Elio employees will build our engines with Comau employees watching, and eventually we will wave them away and say "we've got it from here."

I believe you are correct that the 1,500 employee estimate does not include the engine assembly. That is the vehicle assembly only.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [MartyMcFly7](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Hi Paul. I've been following your progress for some time and I'm a reservation holder. I've always

wanted to ask, aren't you concerned that even if the Elio is a huge success, that other car manufacturers (those with a proven track record) will just step in and create their own three-wheeled vehicles? Potentially limiting demand for the Elio? (Sorry to be such a downer, but it seems like plausible reality). Thanks!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 6 points 2 hours ago

Just like United created TED to compete with SW, and although they had more money, more terminals and more planes, they were unsuccessful in competing with SW because it wasn't in their DNA to run an airline that way.

BTW...no flux-capacitor Marty.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [RogWild](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Mr. Elio; ref. ATVM LOAN - What is the 'status' of the ATVM Loan, that was applied for LAST YEAR, and how can you 'QUALIFY' when it requires that you demonstrate that your vehicle "achieves ... at least 75 miles per gallon while operating on gasoline"; when you have not yet built a vehicle that can meet that REQUIREMENT?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 5 points 2 hours ago

I am not certain on how much detail I can give on the ATVM process and I certainly do not want to do anything that would diminish our chances of getting the loan. I can tell you that issue has been addressed and has been put to bed.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Javin007](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Where can we buy one, and when?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [Aherosxtrial](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Hey Paul,

I think the Elio is pretty nifty, but I also think the same about my dog. Is the Elio Dog Friendly? You know homeboy's gotta have his pooch riding shotty when he hits the road, knows what I'm saying?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [ultrakill01](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Hey Paul, what do you want to say to all the people complaining and being skeptical because of all the release date delays. I personally want to believe this will happen in 2016, but I can't wrap my mind around a sale price of \$6,800. I understand your business model and have been following Elio for about a year now.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [binrobinro](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

After you build the P5 through P30 prototypes, will you keep refining it until it looks like the Peel P50?

[http://static.cargurus.com/images/site/2009/12/10/15/34/1965\\_peel\\_p50-pic-3637687411906781139.jpeg](http://static.cargurus.com/images/site/2009/12/10/15/34/1965_peel_p50-pic-3637687411906781139.jpeg)

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [travelingmanjcw](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

I'm All-In and intend to come from Oregon to pick mine up and then drive the east coast on the way home. Will there be any problems doing this I should be aware of?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **michelework** 2 points 2 hours ago

Why not use an existing power plant instead of casting your own? Seems it would save a tremendous amount of time and money.

**permalink**

[-] [deleted] 1 hour ago

[deleted]

[-] [deleted] 1 hour ago

[deleted]

↑ [-] **binrobinro** 2 points 1 hour ago

Anyone can comment. This question has been answered dozens of times on other websites, so I thought I'd share.

I'll delete it for you, though.

**permalink**

↑ [-] **michelework** 1 point 1 hour ago

thanks. i've deleted mine too.

**permalink parent**

↑ [-] **userexec** 2 points 2 hours ago

Any plans to try to get Clarkson, Hammond, and May to give this thing a drive when they get back on television?

**permalink**

↑ [-] **jutct** 2 points 2 hours ago

Hi Paul. I'm an experienced software engineer that's always wanted to work on cool things like this. Can I have a job?

**permalink**

↑ [-] **michelework** 2 points 2 hours ago\*

\$6,800?

An entry level gas powered golf cart sells for more than 7k. Why would an enclosed road legal vehicle (with air bags, doors, windshield) cost less than a golf cart? Serious questions...

[http://www.saferwholesale.com/Yamaha-Gas-Golf-Cart-w-Brand-New-Body-p/gco-171119926499.htm?](http://www.saferwholesale.com/Yamaha-Gas-Golf-Cart-w-Brand-New-Body-p/gco-171119926499.htm?vfsku=GCO.171119926499&Click=35179&vfsku=GCO.171119926499&gpla=pla&gclid=CjwKEAjwh6SsBRCYrKHF7J3NjicSJACUxAh77fD6FgVKhpPLStXUuKAGJiQ6utPX0x7z9HOisZT4MxoCU0bw_wcB)

[vfsku=GCO.171119926499&Click=35179&vfsku=GCO.171119926499&gpla=pla&gclid=CjwKEAjwh6SsBRCYrKHF7J3NjicSJACUxAh77fD6FgVKhpPLStXUuKAGJiQ6utPX0x7z9HOisZT4MxoCU0bw\\_wcB](http://www.saferwholesale.com/Yamaha-Gas-Golf-Cart-w-Brand-New-Body-p/gco-171119926499.htm?vfsku=GCO.171119926499&Click=35179&vfsku=GCO.171119926499&gpla=pla&gclid=CjwKEAjwh6SsBRCYrKHF7J3NjicSJACUxAh77fD6FgVKhpPLStXUuKAGJiQ6utPX0x7z9HOisZT4MxoCU0bw_wcB)

**permalink**

↑ [-] **cablcore** 2 points 1 hour ago

yeah, i think they're promising a bit much.

**permalink parent**

↑ [-] **34thGiraffe** 2 points 2 hours ago

Hey Paul! Just wanted to ask whether you feel Elio is appropriate for a 16 year old to drive to school every day. Thanks so much for doing this AMA!

**permalink**

↑ [-] **Zniped** 2 points 2 hours ago

How do you foresee your line of vehicles impact/mixing with current car enthusiasts and their culture? Will these cars be something you want a market for aftermarket/modification parts?

**permalink**

↑ [-] [ProDigit](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Are you planning on using dexos oil, or regular oil?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [JohnLPainter](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Great idea to do this Q & A! I'm curious what will Elio Motors be doing in that time between filling initial reservation orders and, before general sale to the public. Will the time be used to build out the Elio Stores? Continue to raise capital? All of the above or something different? Glad to be a reservation holder #12436 :)

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [michelework](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

What is the turning radius?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [Ckerdemn](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

Hello Mr. Elio, Have you developed a list of options and their prices that you can publish yet?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [Redvapes](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

I have heard that a motorcycle license would be required to drive it. Is that true or will a standard drivers license work?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [cablecore](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

depends on the state, i'm sure. in a lot of states, 3 wheelers are classified as motorcycles, but you don't need an M endorsement on your license. at least that's how CA is.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Redvapes](#) [score hidden] 58 minutes ago

Hmmm, intersting. Thanks for the info!

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [cablecore](#) [score hidden] 55 minutes ago

anyone (in CA) could go buy an [MP3](#) and drive it today, class c license only.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [triksterx](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

Mr. Elio, I just took a look at your website and I have to say your car may be my first new car purchase. The only thing that really concerns me is its size. As someone over 6' tall, many vehicles are a tough fit. When you designed this vehicle, what was the upper range of size you were shooting for to accommodate?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [cablecore](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

i'm 6'5" and tried out the prototype for size. it's pretty roomy.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [liquidwindows](#) [score hidden] 32 minutes ago

I'm 6'6", 240 lbs. and it was great. Even with the seat back all the way, there was still room enough in the back seat for anyone of average size.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [negative\\_commentary](#) [score hidden] 3 minutes ago

This is the same chip that fat people have on their shoulders when boarding aircraft.

It's the same problem that I, as someone 5'4" tall, have when purchasing cars.

A vehicle cannot be manufactured to accommodate every single human being on the planet.

The selection of cars I can drive is extremely limited because I have a hard time seeing over the dash in a majority of them.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [AxelCloris](#) 3 points 1 hour ago

Hello Paul.

Is Elio currently hiring, and if not when do you project hiring will begin?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [michelework](#) [score hidden] 28 minutes ago

This was a dissapointing ama for me. I was hoping to hear something new from the elio gang. Oh well.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [3oblio3](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

Would you consider directing your Elio facebook page administrator to unblock all the paying customers who were blocked even though they never violated any page or facebook policies?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [RogWild](#) 2 points 2 hours ago\*

Mr. Elio; FACEBOOK - Considering Elio Motors stated; "Core Value of Transparency", how do you explain your "Elio Motors' Facebook Policy" to BLOCK / BAN Hundreds (if not Thousands) of 'Paying Customers', NOT for any violation of FACEBOOK POLICY or TERMS; but just for asking valid questions, or expressing their concern of the limited release of information on the Elio's progress? NOT very "American", to take away customer's 'Free Speech', especially when they have NOT violated any 'Facebook Rules'!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [FunTimesatRH](#) 8 points 2 hours ago

They don't ban enough people in my opinion. Too many whiners that say "just asking the hard question" and then don't listen to the answers given. Re ask the question - Why don't you ban more people that don't add anything to the page but BS?

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [SilasSunday](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Well said FunTimes

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [balansboy](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

I agree with you FunTimes. It's one thing to ask the tough questions, its another to troll Facebook just to be negative with repeated negative questions and comments.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [3oblio3](#) 0 points 2 hours ago\*

If they start banning people for BS the admin would be the first to be banned. ;)

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [PaulElioMotors](#) [S] 6 points 1 hour ago

The Elio FB page is a community and there has to be a standard of behaviors in every community. No process is perfect. We may have banned people unjustly. Since this has become a hot topic, we will "un-ban" everyone next week but we will "reblock" folks who attack others, use foul language, etc. We need to keep the community safe for the majority.



You can say whatever you want about Elio. Name a single other car company that has let the public in on the design process. We are very transparent.

Transparency is and will remain one of our core values. We love participating in forums like this one, we love answering questions from the fans we meet on tour and we've had several online and face-to-face "town hall meetings" to address fans and critics alike.

With Facebook, there was a small vocal group who was temporarily blocked, but their access will be restored. We hope we can continue to engage in productive conversations with them moving forward.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [3oblio3](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

I hope you apply the "blocking" to "supporters" and "detractors" alike. Some of your ardent "supporters" are allowed to attack and insult current and future customers at will.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [SilasSunday](#) [score hidden] 49 minutes ago

Geshhhh, not "American" to take away customer's 'Free Speech'. People have the freedom to say anything they wish in the U.S.A. However, what a person says may have consequences such as being banned or blocked etc... on public forums. Having access to Facebook isn't a right, it's privileged access. Abuse the privilege and it may result in that privilege being taken away.

Understanding the difference between freedom of speech and privileges is a key concept far above many citizens comprehension.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [balansboy](#) [score hidden] 32 minutes ago

well said.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [negative\\_commentary](#) [score hidden] 6 minutes ago

Freedom of speech does not guarantee you protection from consequences or criticism.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [vwtrey](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

I give this a 1% chance of being answered. Elio has been aggressively avoiding negative press.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [rocksalt27](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

Hi Paul, I am noticing that you are answering questions from brand new users with tacky elio branded questions. Do you care to answer questions from the reddit community? As an "I Im all in" client, i am curious how many other "Im all in" reservations you have?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [Canard427](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

I'm betting a lot of the new users are Facebook followers that saw the post about half an hour ago and signed up just for this.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [rocksalt27](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

I am betting that they are employees of the elio marketing team asking the same questions prompting the same answers. This sucks!

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Canard427](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

Seriously, I had a perfectly legitimate question and it has gone unanswered. Who cares about color choices, towing, etc?

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [rocksalt27](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

Not sure if you've been to [/r/eliomotors](#), but it has a lot of good and conversations going on.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Canard427](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

Thanks for the info!

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [3oblio3](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

According to an interview with Paul Elio a couple months ago 85% of current reservations are "all-in" and 15% of those for for the \$1K maximum.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [liquidwindows](#) [score hidden] 42 minutes ago

I've noticed that he has been taking questions in the order received and hasn't gotten down here yet - he also isn't answering redundant questions.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [deaddebate](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

Favorite liquor for shots?

Least liked/most hated soda?

3 adjectives that best describe your pet?

Least liked class in high school?

Friends or Seinfeld or other?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [liquidwindows](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Hi Paul, We are big fans of the idea - we have money down on two. We are hoping beyond hope that our current vehicles hold out long enough so we don't have to buy another couple of cars between now and the time the Elio hits the market. I know the production date has been a sticking point for years. How are the efforts to raise sufficient capital going? Do you feel secure that the current production date can be met?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [binrobinro](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Hi Mr. Elio. Last year my (20+) year old kids bought me an Elio reservation for my Birthday.

Last week, My daughter and I got to sit in the P4 when it came to Flagstaff, Az. Now she wants one for herself, too! This car will be so great!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [eliofan333](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

Will this car be available in August 2016 in the New York area? I'm a teen and plan on getting the Elio as my first car around that time, what are your thoughts on this?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [Javin007](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

Are you guys in any way related to the Aptera?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [isolorzano](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Hey I have met you before but I want to ask you a question. Are you planning on adding extras like leather seats. Bigger engine. Sunroof. Reverse sensors ETC..?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [TimboSlice06](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

Hello Paul. I was lucky enough to get the chance to sit in the Elio prototype when it came to Jacksonville and I was very excited to see it. I am 6'5", 260 lbs, and was very hopeful that the Elio would be able to comfortably fit me based on the claims of a basketball player and football player comfortably sitting in it. I was very disappointed in the amount of room on the sides was lacking, so much so, that there was not even enough room for me to adjust my seat if the door was closed. My question to you is are there any plans to widen the cabin?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [negative\\_commentary](#) [score hidden] 7 minutes ago

Adjust the seat with the door open.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [Amigatech](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

If the P4 took 20 weeks, sans engine prototype, how long will it take to build the additional engines for the P6 - P30?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [TotesMessenger](#) 1 point 2 hours ago\*

I'm a bot, *bleep, bloop*. Someone has linked to this thread from another place on reddit:

- [\[/r/cars\] Paul Elio of Elio Motors \(that little 3-wheeled car to be made in the old Hummer plant\) is currently doing an AMA in /r/AMA](#)
- [\[/r/eliomotors\] Link to AMA](#)

*If you follow any of the above links, please respect the rules of reddit and don't vote in the other threads. ([Info](#) / [Contact](#))*

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [palmettooo](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

can the Elio haul a trailer?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [smkoehler](#) 2 points 2 hours ago

Hello Paul, Im a future owner and full time RV resident. With my current RV setup the Elio would have to be left behind and driven seperatley. The Elio brings some major lifestyle and financial decisions for me, which im happy to make and comes with the lifestyle despite. A dedicated car hauler seems overkill for the lil Elio so my questions are these. Have you considered Toy Hauler travel trailers and motorhomes when it comes to dimesion and weight? Or perhaps lighter weight "skeleton" models. The Elio, if narrow and light enough,would back in (because of its narrower rear) between cabinets and over the axles of trailer/mh putting the bulk where it shoud be. I see an Elio being easier to toy haul than heavy battery golf carts and side by sides. And if ya dont mind another q. Will the Elio be able to tow cargo like a motorcycle trailer and has Elio motors considerd matching building or contracting such accessories to be built in tandem, such as wind tunneling with the Elio?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [Temporalwar](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

Looking for free beta testers?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **Caseymiata** 1 point 2 hours ago

If you admit that the car is currently over budget by \$500 and does not achieve 84 MPG, why do you continue to advertise these numbers, this is the question I asked and then was banned from your site.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **userexec** 3 points 2 hours ago

Not worth a ban, but seriously, it's a prototype. \$500 over budget and 81 vs 84mpg is awfully close for a rough draft, and I'd assume they advertise those numbers because they feel they can realistically expect that's what the production model will get. If every company advertised their next model year car based on how it was right that moment, we'd have a lot of hilarious commercials. "The 2016 CTS-V! The front's made of clay and it doesn't have tail lights!"

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] **Tofuik** 1 point 2 hours ago

As a native of Louisiana I can't wait for you to settle into the Shreveport plant. Whenever the dust settles and the production model is out on the road I hope you offer tours for the local fans!

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **Amigatech** 2 points 2 hours ago

Production of 43,000 reserved Elios is predicated on funding beyond the money being used to build 30 prototypes, right? I'm a realist, not a naysayer, so what if the DOE loan doesn't come in? Is that the end of the road? Will all Elio employees walk away with a nice prototype in-hand?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **chuckleoctopus** 1 point 1 hour ago

Hey Paul, I love the concept of your car and am planning on making it my first after college. I've noticed that while advertised at \$6800, there are a series of additional fees and expenses including delivery...

How much is total cost to buy? What are the financing options?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **hkdharmon** 🍷 1 point 1 hour ago

I love the car and the idea. I even sat in one at the Sac airshow. I am just hesitant to put any money towards something that doesn't exist yet. What sort of options exist for buyers who want to wait for something other than a prototype to roll off the production line?

BTW, I am 6'4" and weighed over 300 lbs at that time. I fit in the thing just fine. I may even have pictures somewhere.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **PuffCloud** 1 point 1 hour ago

This sounds amazing! But I must ask the all important question... Will it blend?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **mrbigg3** 1 point 1 hour ago

Shares are \$250-\$500,000. How does this work? I want to invest in this company, but how do I know what I'm getting out? As in number of shares, return on my investment.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **Michx** 1 point 1 hour ago

Paul were you aware of <https://www.reddit.com/r/eliomotors/>

you should say hi, many loyal followers there and they all seem to want Elio offered in Yellow !

Please address this oversight.

Thankyou.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [GTFOScience](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

I had a 3 wheel ATV when I was a kid that was incredibly unstable. Eventually, 3 wheel ATVs were banned due to accidents and fatalities.

How does your vehicle rate in rollover tests, and is it less stable than a 4 wheeled vehicle?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [cablecore](#) 3 points 1 hour ago

i'm going to assume that your 3 wheeler had 1 wheel in the front, and two in back. and you're right, that's a terrible design for a car. check out the [reliant robin](#).

however, 2 wheels in front is pretty stable. check out the [morgan](#) or the [polaris slingshot](#), both of which you can buy today.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [3oblio3](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

If the ATVM loan is not approved is there a plan B? And will that plan B be able to be implemented in time to keep the Shreveport plant?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [negative\\_commentary](#) [score hidden] 8 minutes ago

There is no plan B.

Elio's success hinges on 2 government loans they haven't been granted yet.

They're a little bit shitty at courting investors.

Paul Elio is too nice and too gentle with potential investors and doesn't know how to sell forcefully.

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [michelework](#) 2 points 1 hour ago

Will this car be sold directly to consumers like Tesla does?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [RickRussellTX](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

Two questions: (1) Where's my Elio? and (2) Gimmie the Elio.

But seriously, as soon as the Elio comes out we're ditching one of our older Priuses. Prii? Priae? Is it Greek or Latin?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [farkdog](#) 1 point 1 hour ago

Sorry I missed this. I am ready to buy one. I think this kind of car is the commuting vehicle of the future.

Seriously - we have to buy a replacement vehicle in the next year. I hope Elio is in production before we have to buy.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [DemeaningSarcasm](#) [score hidden] 56 minutes ago

You guys have the perfect opportunity to make your car look like a Curtiss P40.

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [Michx](#) [score hidden] 45 minutes ago

The Rampart AMA lasted longer...

[permalink](#)



↑ [-] **24WheatBiscuits** [score hidden] 40 minutes ago

Can you be my grandad?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **Ab0v3** [score hidden] 39 minutes ago

Louisiana is a right to work state. Was this one of the determining factors in selecting the factory location? Was selecting a right to work state considered a need when determining the targeted and quoted future price of the vehicle?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **negative\_commentary** [score hidden] 22 minutes ago

Oh my I have several questions.

1. Why are you ignoring all the problems the smart fortwo's rollout had in the US and repeating Daimler's mistakes?
2. Why are you forcing users to use an iPad to view their vehicle telemetry and access crucial features like the backup camera? Adding an iPad to the mix excludes non-technical users and adds all the problems of a portable device: Firmware updates, dying batteries, crashing apps, broken screens... Why not just a display connected to the car's power?
3. Why did you wait so long to go to a crowdfunding model when it was obvious you should have opened crowdfunding from the very beginning?
4. Why did you go with some obscure crowdfunding website that nobody has heard of and make users buy shares in your company (which creates complicated tax requirements) instead of just asking for money?
5. You've had the engine and the chassis for months now. I don't understand why you didn't *immediately* shove the engine into the chassis and get it out where people can see it. Why are you waiting so long to put the engine in a car and show it to the public?
6. Lets be realistic here. Are you going to get the funding you need or is your company going to flop? Where's the proof? We need some documentation of progress, not just flowery nothings whispered in our ears.
7. How long will the last person currently in the reservation queue have to wait to get their car?
8. Are you going to do like Pebble did and start selling cars at retail before you deliver vehicles to all of your reservation holders?

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **IwantmyELIO** [score hidden] 1 minute ago

What do you think of the possible sale of PEP BOYS and how it will effect the maint plan set in Place by Elio Motors & have any of your top Backers thought about bidding or however you aquire a company ? This could be a very BIG WIN WIN situation !

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] **watchdogmotors** 0 points 2 hours ago\*

we are burger flippers from burger heaven we like to ask PaulElioMotors why eliomotors insulated food wokkers ? eliomotors said elio dosen't want your car sales man or car dealer too be from burger heaven . next we'd like to ask PaulElioMotors not to keep stalling production . next we'd like to ask PaulElioMotors to sell to independent dealers because it would cost PaulElioMotors triple too go out and open elio dealerships . if elio can't raise the amount to go into assembly PaulElioMotors should make the car a diy kit car where somebody could put together at home and and then go into assembly a year or two after the diy kits cars . but PaulElioMotors needs to get car on sale and in consumers hands by first quarter of 2016 .

[permalink](#)

↑ [-] [userexec](#) 3 points 2 hours ago

| we like to ask PaulElioMotors why eliomotors insulated wokers

What the fuck?

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [binrobinro](#) 4 points 2 hours ago

So they wouldn't get cold?

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [watchdogmotors](#) 1 point 2 hours ago

who you said this too pauleliomotors

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [negative\\_commentary](#) [score hidden] 13 minutes ago

I'm guessing this person is a combination of drunk and not speaking English as a first language.

It seems they meant "insult" and not "insulated."

There is apparently [an actual restaurant named Burger Heaven](#) and this person appears to be an employee there who took issue with Paul's light hearted analogy.

They appear to be referencing [this email from Elio](#):

"We're looking at a network of Retail Centers in the top 60 markets across the country. Larger markets will have more than one location. These Retail Centers will be stand-alone sales locations run by Elio-trained employees, so you'll never find yourself saying, 'Hey, weren't you flipping burgers at Hamburger Heaven last week?' Stay tuned for updates as finalized locations are released."

[permalink](#) [parent](#)

↑ [-] [ronsta](#) 0 points 3 hours ago

Paul, long time follower, first time question-asker. I volunteer to test drive an Elio and write about it for the Reddit community. Qualifications: everything.

[permalink](#)

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