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hybrid Toyota Prius saves fuel and tself

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September 8, Graphic News: The new Toyota s a bit racier than the model it replaces, but you obably never guess that this car is way ahead of its

seater family saloon is in fact a high technology se. It is a hybrid, with two engines – one running on the other on electricity.

latest version of the Prius boasts another first – it tself. New models now offer an option called t Park Assist" which uses a rear-facing TV camera nputer program to help squeeze into a space only (3.3ft) longer than the car. The driver stops next to n space, indicates on a graphic display the location king spot, then activates the parking system, the foot brake and steering wheel.

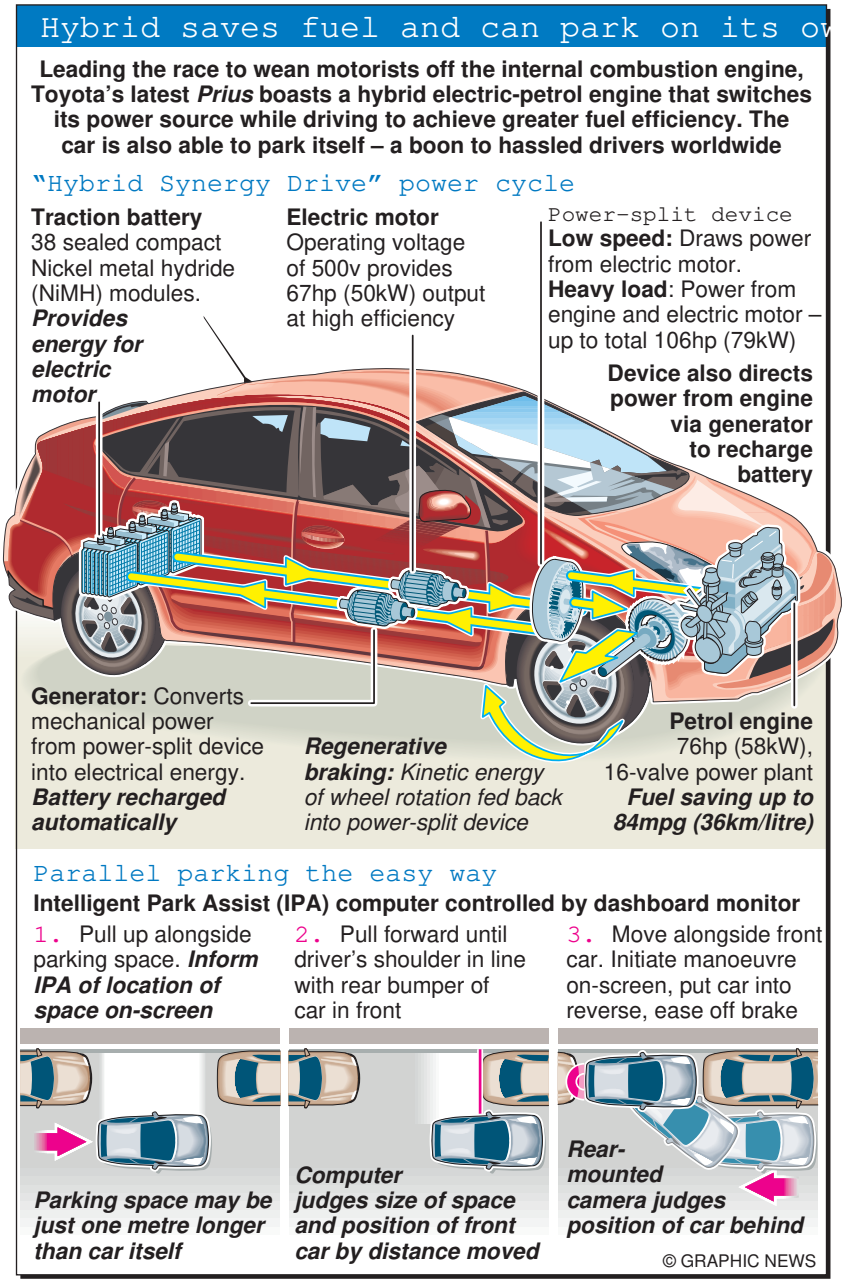
tem costs about $1,980 (1,800 euros). Prius prices ound $18,400 (16,600 euros).

g to Toyota, there are currently no plans to offer Park Assist anywhere but in Japan. The system ave a radar system to detect problems, like ns suddenly getting in the way, and relies on driver on to stop the car.

Prius has an improved gasoline-electric engine efficiency and low emissions. The engine can p to 85 miles per gallon (36km per litre), better than entional petrol engines and the latest diesel he hybrid engine is designed to use electricity for free city driving and the petrol engine for higher , with the electric motor also providing extra power e acceleration is required. It generates energy king and coasting.

as the first company to offer a hybrid. Only Honda ed. Hybrids are an interim step between the petrol d fuel cell power, which is likely to appear between 0 years from now. GM and Ford will be offering s later this year.

Prius is on sale now in Japan, and will be available and the U.S. in 2004.



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