



SMMTCONNECTED Review – Setting the future in place

Last week, SMMT hosted the first industry-wide event in Britain to address the extraordinary and wide-ranging opportunities and challenges presented by connected and autonomous vehicles – and to a great reception.

More than 300 delegates turned out to hear the results from our KPMG-authored report revealing the economic benefits this new technology has the potential to deliver in the UK - £51 billion worth, in fact - and to get the latest from manufacturers including BMW, Ford, Jaguar Land Rover, Nissan and Volvo, as well as technology, legal and insurance experts, who shared their insights into the cars of the future.

SMMTConnected was a huge media hit, attracting more than 30 journalists and securing more than 90 press articles, with headlines in 26 major and international titles. It provoked a number of fascinating discussions on the future for connected and autonomous vehicles.

SMMT will now create a Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Forum to bring together and engage all stakeholders as we continue the drive towards intelligent mobility. As our KPMG report demonstrates, the economic, social and industrial benefits are significant:

- £51 billion value boost to UK economy by 2030
- 320,000 new jobs created in manufacturing and adjacent sectors
- More than 25,000 fewer serious road traffic accidents
- Accidents caused by human driver error halved

Invitation to join an expanded SMMT Design Engineering Group

One of SMMT's Sections, the **Design Engineering Group (DEG)**, is currently being expanded and refreshed. The Executive has approved changes to the Terms of Reference to allow more members to become part of this Group. Membership is open to engineers, design engineers, consultants and developers, as well as anyone involved in planning or R&D, from among SMMT members. There is now no minimum annual turnover requirement.

The DEG will focus on three themes – **innovative technology, innovative PPI (practices, processes and ideas), and funding and business development** – that will be addressed through a combination of four specific delivery channels. Some of the areas the Group intends to cover this year include innovative concepts and ideas, some adapted from other industries; new and emerging areas within automotive design and engineering; more varied funding and financing opportunities; wider business development, purchasing and networking opportunities; site visits and demonstrations; and opportunities for members to present at meetings.

The DEG will meet three times a year, beginning with the first meeting on 16 April at SMMT offices in Westminster. Subsequent meetings, as well as several special events, are likely to be held outside London.

If you are not currently a DEG member, but qualify for membership due to the nature of your business, and would like to take up membership, please contact [David Wong](#), Technology and Innovation Manager, for more information. Terms of Reference and a DEG Overview leaflet are available upon request. There is no extra cost involved in taking up DEG membership.

Frost EV Systems – SMMT Member

Frost EV Systems and Frost Electronics join consortium to deliver zero-emission range-extended light commercial vehicles for fleets



Frost EV Systems and Frost Electronics, will both join a UK industry consortium that is to develop a new class of zero-emission, light commercial vehicle (LCV). By integrating fuel cell technology into battery electric vehicles (BEVs), the consortium will deliver the capability to provide low carbon LCVs with significantly improved range and rapid refuelling.

The consortium, led by energy technology group Intelligent Energy, will receive a £6.3m grant from the Advanced Propulsion Centre (APC) as part of the £12.7m project.

Frost Electronics will design and manufacture the power electronics units and ECU's to support the integration of fuel cell technology whilst Frost EV Systems will provide electrical engineering and electrical integration support to the project.

Frost EV Systems and Frost Electronics are part of the Vayon Green Power Group, focused on the design, development and supply of high-voltage electrical and battery systems for all types of low carbon powertrains.



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SMMT is proud to partner with Automotive News Europe to bring you discounted access to the **Automotive News Europe Congress** on 9 – 10 June 2015 at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole, which will address the theme: **Reinvented and Reinvigorated.**

This special offer includes the 2015 Automotive News Europe Rising Stars Award at the Coventry Cathedral on the evening of 9 June.

Speakers include:

- Bo Andersson, CEO, AvtoVAZ
- Peter Fuss, Senior Advisory Partner Automotive, Ernst & Young
- Olivier Francois, Pres. & CEO FIAT Brand; CMO, FCA-Global
- Andy Palmer, CEO, Aston Martin
- Dr. Ralf Speth, CEO, Jaguar Land Rover
- Linda Jackson, CEO, Citroen

[Register today by using the special code: smmt](#)

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Website: www.smmt.co.uk/members-lounge/member-services

DPE Automotive – SMMT Member



DPE Automotive expand with Barclays funding.

DPE, established in 1984, designs and manufactures parts for the automotive industry including seat frames, suspension parts, speaker frames and more.

Peter Coates, Managing Director, DPE Automotive Limited said: "The funding from Barclays has enabled us to increase capacity and capability with the addition of a 600T and 500T progressions press."

"Extensive factory expansion has been undertaken to accommodate the new presses and we estimate that we will see an increase of 30% in production over the coming year with greater levels of automation and output."

DPE Automotive Limited now employs over 100 staff across the North East and turnover this year is expected to exceed £14 million.

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Website: www.smmt.co.uk/members-lounge/member-services/

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