

## Production Outlook and Economic Forecast webinar – 14 February

[Register now](#) for SMMT's Production Outlook and Economic Forecast webinar.

SMMT will host a webinar, to be co-presented by Ian Henry, author of the Production Outlook Report and Robert Baker, SMMT's Chief Economist. The presentation will cover recent changes in the production arrangement at vehicle manufacturers in Europe and short and long term prospects for production in Europe. Robert Baker will review the economic activity of 2013 and provide GDP forecasts.

[Register your details here.](#)

In addition, SMMT has released a 'new-look' Production Outlook Suite to give the user enhanced accessibility to information and an improved overall experience. The new Production Outlook Suite is now easier to use and jam-packed with more up-to-date, time-dependent analysis. [Click here for more information.](#)

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## Open Forum 2013 – speakers announced

**SMMT will host its next Open Forum event on Thursday 21 March 2013 at the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre in the West Midlands.**

Hot on the heels of previous discussions held at SMMT Open Forum events, delegates will benefit from first-hand accounts of the opportunities awaiting the UK supply chain, the work undertaken by the Automotive Council and the business outlook in 2013.

The event will see presentations from General Motors, Nissan and Automotive Council. [Click here](#) for more information.

Delegate numbers are strictly limited, and places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. To book, contact Claire Balch on [cbalch@smmt.co.uk](mailto:cbalch@smmt.co.uk). If you would like to exhibit at the event please contact Sian Hughes on [shughes@smmt.co.uk](mailto:shughes@smmt.co.uk).

E-mail: [memberservices@smmt.co.uk](mailto:memberservices@smmt.co.uk)

Website: [www.smmt.co.uk/members-lounge/member-services/](http://www.smmt.co.uk/members-lounge/member-services/)

## SME Support Roadshows

**Funding and support opportunities with a regional focus.**

SMMT has announced a series of SME Support Roadshows to take place across the UK throughout March. Following publication of the [Supply Chain Finance report](#) last year and SMMT's [Meet the Funder](#) event, these roadshows are the next step in supporting SMEs requiring improved access to finance. The roadshows will be an opportunity for automotive SME companies to learn what opportunities are available in their region and gain a better understanding of various funding schemes.

- [Wales, Wednesday 6 March](#)  
at Waterton Technology Centre, CF31 3WT  
Supported by: *Welsh Automotive Forum, Welsh Assembly Government*
- [North West, Thursday 7 March](#)  
at Partnership for Learning Centre, L24 9PZ  
Supported by: *Northwest Automotive Alliance, Liverpool City Region, Cheshire and Warrington LEP*
- [West Midlands, Thursday 21 March](#)  
(following Open Forum, details in left column)  
Supported by: *Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP, Coventry and Warwickshire LEP, Black Country LEP*
- [North East, Wednesday 27 March](#)  
at Nifco UK Ltd, TS16 0PS  
Supported by: *Tees Valley LEP, Business Durham and York and North Yorkshire LEP*

All events will also be supported by:

- UK Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS)
- Technology Strategy Board (TSB)
- UK Trade and Investment (UKTI)
- Advanced Manufacturing Supply Chain Initiative (AMSCI)
- Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS)
- Various local business support organisations

Contact Rob Morbin on [rmorbin@smmt.co.uk](mailto:rmorbin@smmt.co.uk) for full details.

## SMMT 'Meet the Buyer' 2013

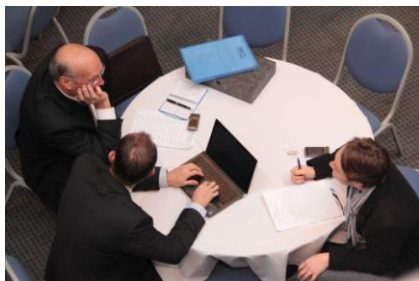
**Suppliers and buyers can now register interest for the next automotive supply chain networking event on 23 May 2013.**

The automotive sector is hugely important to the UK economy, employing over 700,000 people and investing £1.5bn in R&D each year.

SMMT is dedicated to supporting growth in the UK supply base and holds 'Meet the Buyer' events to maintain the commitment from OEMs and Tier 1s to source more components within the UK.

Last year's event saw more than 250 delegates register: nearly 50 purchasing personnel representing over 23 OEM and Tier 1 buying organisations, which led to more than 330 one-to-one appointments taking place on the day.

Register your interest for the 2013 'Meet the Buyer' event on 23 May 2013 [click here](#)



## Member 'Suggestion Box'

**Express your views through SMMT's member suggestion box**

SMMT is keen to gain the views of its members to help improve services and implement relevant new products. A 'suggestion box' will be launched over the next few weeks which will enable you to express your views about SMMT membership and potential new services and products.

Keep an eye out for the suggestion box within the Member Services area on SMMT's website.

E-mail: [memberservices@smmt.co.uk](mailto:memberservices@smmt.co.uk)

Website: [www.smmt.co.uk/members-lounge/member-services/](http://www.smmt.co.uk/members-lounge/member-services/)

## MMOG-LE Training from Industry Forum

**Industry Forum is a sanctioned Odette training provider and is providing courses on the Materials Management Operations Guidance/Logistics Evaluation (MMOG/LE) assessment tool.**

MMOG/LE is an assessment tool used to measure and improve materials planning and logistics efficiency within a manufacturing facility. It is designed to eliminate supply-related delivery risk for all partners within the supply chain.

### Training dates:

7 March and 13 June 2013

To book a place on one of these courses, or to find out more, visit [www.industryforum.co.uk](http://www.industryforum.co.uk) or download a booking form [here](#) and send it to [courses@industryforum.co.uk](mailto:courses@industryforum.co.uk) or fax it to 0121 717 6699.

## Mexico: New Business Opportunities Seminar

**SMMT, London, 13 February 2013 – 10:30**  
**A speaker panel of in-market experts, led by the British Ambassador to Mexico**

In 2013, SMMT, in partnership with UKTI, is launching a new, structured programme to support UK companies in exploring opportunities in Mexico. The first step will be a free half-day morning seminar, to be held at SMMT's London premises on Wednesday 13 February 2013. Speakers will include the British Ambassador to Mexico, Mrs Judith Anne Macgregor LVO CMG, the director of the Nuevo Leon automotive cluster and UKTI's own in-market expert. There will also be an opportunity to visit or exhibit at Automechanika PAACE in Mexico City (10–12 July) at the end of the programme.

To register for the seminar or to learn more about the Mexico programme, contact Pat Shaw – tel 020 7344 9260, email [pshaw@smmt.co.uk](mailto:pshaw@smmt.co.uk)