

SMMT R&D newsletter – Spring 2013

The spring SMMT R&D newsletter is now available to download.

SMMT's latest R&D Newsletter, a quarterly publication aiming to inform members of the latest activities in automotive R&D, innovation and technology focuses on sharing results and findings from recently completed research activities that are of interest to the automotive industry.

Compiled by the Innovation and E-mobility team, the newsletter consists of articles written by both academic and private researchers as well as news stories and updates. The newsletter freely available to download from the SMMT website at the following address:

<http://www.smmt.co.uk/category/news-events/newsletter/r-and-d-newsletter>

SMMT legal helpline

SMMT provides its members with free, round the clock access to professional legal advice.

This is a 24-hour telephone advisory service on all legal and related problems. The legal helpline card, which when requested is sent to our members, gives you access to a team of legal experts any time of the day or night.

This card enables you to obtain confidential expert advice on your problems, together with guidance on the steps you should take to protect your rights whenever you need it. The advice given in most cases is immediate, and is geared to providing you with easily understood practical help.

Advice, information and guidance could be provided to your company on subjects such as employment law, finance and debt control.

If you would like to use the legal helpline service for free, send an e-mail to membership@smmt.co.uk and a card will be sent to you.

SMMT member case study – Schaeffler (UK) Ltd

Schaeffler (UK) Ltd explain why they joined SMMT.



Schaeffler is a leading manufacturer of rolling, linear and plain bearings, as well as a supplier of high precision components and systems for the automotive industry. Schaeffler is a renowned development partner to the automotive industry with system expertise for the entire drive train.

With its INA, LuK and FAG products, Schaeffler generated sales of approximately €11.1 billion in 2012. Schaeffler provides automated manual transmissions, dual-clutch transmissions, CVTs, and is collaborating with automotive customers on the next-generation of drive concepts, including all-electric and hybrid-electric drives.

In the UK, Schaeffler manufactures high precision mechanical tappets for internal combustion engines at its manufacturing plant in Llanelli, South Wales, supplying OEM engine plants worldwide. Schaeffler UK supplies a variety of INA and FAG components and systems to all major UK-based automotive OEMs, as well as Tier 1 suppliers – both large and small.

“As Schaeffler is a global Tier 1 supplier to the automotive industry, and has had a strong presence in the UK for more than 50 years, we felt that it was important that an organisation of Schaeffler’s influence and capabilities plays an active role in how the automotive industry is shaped. As well as having a voice within the UK automotive industry, being a member of SMMT has provided opportunities for us to network with OEMs, other Tier 1 and 2 suppliers, as well as government departments. Fast access to the latest industry information such as new policies and funding has also been helpful,” said Richard Hall, Executive Board Member and Head of Schaeffler UK’s Automotive Division.

EVS27 Barcelona – 17-20 November 2013

SMMT is organising the UK exhibitor pavilion at EVS27 – the premier global forum for all forms of low carbon vehicle technologies.

Located on a prominent central site in the main exhibition hall and featuring an eye-catching design, the pavilion will offer exhibiting companies maximum exposure and footfall at a budget price.

Exhibitor pods are now on sale, and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. The inclusive cost of £3,000 per pod covers stand-building, furniture, wi-fi connection, cleaning, and access to the pavilion's refreshment area and meeting rooms. UKTI grants of £1,000 are available for qualifying companies.

<http://www.smmt.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/EV27-Barcelona-17-2-0-November-2013-Flyerver11.pdf>

For more information, contact Pat Shaw on 020 7344 9260 or e-mail pshaw@smmt.co.uk

SMMT's 'Localism and LEPs' free webinar. Thursday 16 May 10:30-11:30.

May's webinar will be co-presented by Tees Valley Unlimited and a representative from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

The webinar will cover:

- Tees Valley Unlimited: who we are, partners and local priorities.
- Tees Valley's City Deal - Wave two.
- Enterprise Zone and Regional Growth Fund successes.
- Advanced manufacturing and automotive supply chain activities

We also hope to be joined by a government speaker to give an overview of the key recommendations of the Heseltine Review and forthcoming changes to local structures and LEPs. [Click here to register.](#)

E-mail: memberservices@smmt.co.uk

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

Logistics Forum – 20 June 2013

Next UK Logistics Forum to focus on 'track and trace' issues.

The meeting will take place on Thursday 20 June at GEFCO UK Ltd, Coventry CV6 4BX. The forum provides a platform for OEMs, component suppliers, aftermarket suppliers and logistics providers to invigorate strategy and tackle logistics issues affecting the automotive industry. The next meeting will focus on tracking and traceability of products with presentations providing different perspectives on the constraints and solutions.

The UK's largest OEMs regularly attend the forum, chaired by Mark Poulton, Logistics Manager for General Motors. The group is particularly looking to expand Tier 1 and Tier 2 representation. For more information, contact Rob Morbin on 0207 344 9265 or rmorbin@smmt.co.uk.



International VAT refund service

SMMT and VATit continue to work together to enable members to reclaim foreign tax.

With the process for reclaiming tax being quite complex, foreign tax is often left unclaimed. Foreign VAT rates of up to 25% are incurred by many businesses however it is the third largest controllable corporate expense. SMMT is offering members a service that will help **recover VAT already paid with zero risk**. Your business can submit claims up until **30 September 2013** to reclaim VAT expenses incurred abroad during 2012 (1 January – 31 December 2012). Click here for more information: <http://bit.ly/RPCpOp>