

SMMT International Automotive Summit

East Wintergarden, Canary Wharf, London
11 June 2014

Now in its sixth year, the Summit will attract senior delegates from the automotive industry – MD level, as well as directors of marketing, corporate and public affairs, engineering, assembly, sales, planning and operations.

Delegates will hear speakers discuss new technologies and connectivity, skills and the retail market and supply chain among other key issues affecting the automotive industry.

The day will include:

- *An industry keynote speaker and an address by a UK government minister.*
- *A panel discussion exploring the challenges of recruiting talented people into the industry and cross-skilling the existing workforce.*
- *A session exploring the potential impact on automotive manufacturing in the UK if the country were to leave the European Union.*

The conference will break into two streams in the afternoon, covering:

- *The potential for vehicle manufacturers to use new technologies, connectivity and data to enhance their products.*
- *The opportunity for the UK to become a world-leading centre of excellence in Advanced Propulsion.*
- *The opportunities and challenges to growth in the Supply Chain.*

The event will be chaired by the broadcaster Justin Webb. A full agenda and speaker list will be available shortly.

To read full event details and to book tickets [click here](#).



SMMT member case study

Applied Component Technology gives us an insight into its business and the benefits it gains from SMMT membership



Applied Component Technology (ACT) is an expert in the field of automotive interior trims. Its core manufacturing capabilities are:

- Fabric Die Cutting and Conversion.
- Sewing.
- Injection Moulding 50T To 900T.
- High Frequency Welding.
- PU Composite Moulding.
- Ultrasonic Welding.
- Heat Sealing.
- CNC Machining.
- Vacuum Pressing.
- Product Assembly.

Typical products manufactured and assembled in house are load covers, sunblinds, load floors, NVH products, injection mouldings with high gloss finish requirements, full product assembly, engineering services and product prototyping. They also have their own in-house design facility.

ACT ships its assembled products across the globe to a number of key automotive customers.

ACT joined SMMT to take advantage of the wide range of networking events that SMMT offers. It has already exhibited at various events and received a positive response from visitors. ACT hopes to exhibit at more events in the future where it can meet prospective and existing customers.

Neil Southam
Business Development Manager

If you are a member or associate of SMMT and would like to have a case study in our next Member Services bulletin, please contact Mairi Lucas at mlucas@smmt.co.uk

Meet the Buyer commodity demand list released

SMMT releases the first version of the Meet the Buyer commodity demand list.

Each of the buyers has told us which products and services they are looking to source. View the list and, using the online system, identify which products and services you would like to be considered for.

STEP 1: Complete a profile and tell us which commodities and services you can supply using the online form at:

<http://meetthebuyer.autosupplierfinder.com>
complete by Friday 9 May.

You may view the demand list [here](#) but please submit online.

STEP 2: We have **exhibition opportunities** available for this event. Please [download the order form](#) and return to supplychain@smmt.co.uk. Spaces are assigned on a first come, first served basis. We advise that you return your booking form as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Please note that attendance to this event is by invitation only based on the commodities the buyers are looking to source. For more information [click here](#).

How to maximise your ISO/TS management system by using automotive core tools – webinar

22 May 2014, 14:00 – 15:00.

Many companies in the automotive supply chain are mandated by their customers to use the automotive core tools (APQP, FMEA, MSA, SPC and PPAP) within an ISO/TS16949 process based management system. The webinar will cover:

- Important changes in customer requirements related to core tools.
- How the core tools add value and to help achieve zero defect, on time delivery and reduction of cost.
- Key problems found in audits related to the use of the tools and how to take proactive action to prevent.

[Click here to register](#)

E-mail: memberservices@smmt.co.uk

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

Automechanika Shanghai

Asia's leading trade fair for auto parts, accessories, equipment and services. 9 - 12 December 2014.

UKTI grants of £2,500 are available through SMMT for eligible companies.

Following the increased interest from UK participants over the last two years, and the growing interest in the show from both exhibitors and visitors, SMMT will be organise a UK Pavilion at Automechanika Shanghai 2014. The cost for a 3m x 3m booth is £3,500 plus VAT and includes stand-building, furniture, electricity, stand cleaning and access to the UK Pavilion's meeting area, access to interpreters and participation in the programme of activities organised for the UK Group.

Contact Sarah Thevenet at sthevenet@smmt.co.uk for more information or to book a space.

R&D Tax Credits

R&D in motor manufacturing: from brainstorming to the production line.

Following the 2014 Budget announcement that R&D tax credit rates were increasing from 11-14.5%, there has been a lot of talk about how this will affect SMEs that are carrying out qualifying research and development work. What is not being discussed in so much detail though is what actually qualifies as R&D, or even an SME for that matter. In light of recent ONS and HMRC reports that show only £2m was claimed back by SMEs in R&D tax relief in the latest reported tax year (2011/12) in motor manufacturing, it is time for SMMT members to take a closer look at where they may be missing out on significant tax relief revenue.

SMMT has partnered with R&D tax relief specialists ([including G2 Innovation](#)) to ensure that members can get access to tailored advice without having to explore the full scope themselves. Qualifying R&D is taking place throughout the varied facets of motor manufacturing and for many, the potential relief is going unnoticed. In light of the recent statistics that show a significant gap between how much the industry is claiming and how much it should be claiming, now is the time to get in touch with a specialist and discuss any technical projects that your company is investing in. The savings are there, but you need the right support to realise them. [Click here](#) for more information. Written by G2 Innovation.