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| **Welcome** |
| Paul Everitt_NEWThe effects of the Japanese earthquake continued to develop this week with UK operations of Honda and Nissan announcing short-term production measures to minimize the impact of reduced parts availability on customers and staff. The situation requires daily assessment by industry as the longer term consequences remain unclear. SMMT hosted its second Meet the Buyer event on Tuesday, which created a forum for UK OEMs and over 80 suppliers of parts and components to discuss local sourcing opportunities. Over 200 meetings took place on the day and initial feedback already indicates strong leads. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Commercial Vehicle Show next week, where over 500 firms are represented across 42,000 square metres. Chief Executive, Paul Everitt                                                                                                      |

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| **Car emissions achieve all-time low despite subdued March market** |
| March is typically the biggest month of the year and accounted for over 360,000 units in 2011. Despite dipping 7.9% on 2010 figures, March bettered expectations for the new car market, up 5.9% on 2010 with scrappage volumes excluded. CV registrations were up 25.3% to 48,756 units. There was good news for Q1 average new car CO2 emissions, falling to their lowest level ever at 140.3g/km. Bus and coach registration figures for March fell 38.2%, demonstrating record lows for the bus and coach industry. To read more click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEdQE9-2ZKqTFCgmayEBSHx-LdMD-HJGJpK5Nho2UlGaVL9lS4wm-wWk4p-vZycn9dDnje3N-niT7ihWPnkxySNKeNUTWmWEg8E_qqTc7ktybD52hchwZeof5Umo4Vpk_A=).  |

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| **SMMT networking event strengthens relationships between UK OEMs and local suppliers** |
| Over 200 one-to-one meetings between automotive OEMs and suppliers took place on Tuesday this week at the Heritage Motor Centre in Gaydon to exploit the potential business opportunities that exist in the UK to source parts and components from local suppliers. The 'Meet the Buyer' networking opportunity, organised by SMMT in line with the strategic remit of the Automotive Council, is the second of its kind following last year's success and provides an excellent mechanism to facilitate important business opportunities through a speed networking style format. Approximately 200 people attended representing 80 supplier companies and 19 buyer organisations. To download the PowerPoint presentation slides from the event, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEdQE9-2ZKqTER8hNrIcbu_JupFy108ox7DupOeOQ96Jem7Y-WQMwrlGbeyB4KnsdR1KkpuY9q93rnpwfuL_XW13OBfFAIhq3Hp4Q9oeoc-HQ==)https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/82.jpg |

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| **SMMT publishes Motorparc data** |
| SMMT has published its latest analysis of the number of vehicles in use on UK roads. Figures are up across the board with a slight increase of cars in use, up 0.7% following the first dip in 64 years in 2009. The number of heavy commercial vehicles on the road increased by 0.9% compared to 2009, while light commercial vehicles were also up 0.9%. Bus and coach numbers were up 2.2%. For the full figures and further analysis, contact data@smmt.co.uk. The Motorparc database is produced annually by SMMT and provides a detailed reporting service specifying make and model of every vehicle currently in use on UK roads. |

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| **CV manufacturers offer operator incentives in light of LEZ changes** |
| Ahead of the January 2012 changes to the Low Emission Zone (LEZ) criteria, CV manufacturers have announced schemes to help operators upgrade to new, lower emitting vehicles, to avoid penalty fines. A range of manufacturers will offer operators of around 72,000 larger vans and minibuses more affordable ways to buy new, lower emitting vehicles. Vans will account for approximately 80% of the vehicles affected by LEZ for the first time in 2012 and the deals, in some cases, will amount to thousands of pounds off a new vehicle. To read more click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEdQE9-2ZKqTFCgmayEBSHx-LdMD-HJGJoGYsdYRfGz650cWfpP5KHd2S_5A2osXNOCB0wjXmFF2SIwpki39CAYR13J2vfagD8f-5VhPwZXSrbBJmXwO-yxoMEw01sXQyalWJmsbYiW38hmxe-JEk4DQLltITo_gXY=). |

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| **MINI WRC Team on BBC One** |
| Click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPHHKxdByer7IIlfTI2fHAoJlpiQvo4DUGPstsXjiXo_wJ6EJjw5Hb1y) to see footage of the MINI World Rally Championship Team on BBC TV Channel One. The piece was aired yesterday ahead of announcements in Oxford on Monday, 11 April, to launch the team and World Rally Car.https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/83.jpg |

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| **Webinar provides dealers with guide to save £10,000 a year** |
| SMMT hosted a webinar this week providing specific guidance to dealers on reducing energy use, lowering CO2 emissions and saving money. The 30 minute session explained the seven-step action plan outlined in SMMT's Dealer Energy Efficiency Guide, published in conjunction with the RMI and the Carbon Trust earlier this month. The Guide and the webinar are just the first steps in helping dealers achieve significant environmental improvements and financial savings. Visit the [dealer energy efficiency area](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEdQE9-2ZKqTEGC1KRqZXC0cpu1a4DnB5jdYRDqYXOig_FxfsnZUYe2teK-M9XxapjQF6I03zGGt55dmNCv6HB8CCHV-1R5qVa0Nirmn-TtiQ==) of the SMMT website to view an online video illustrating some of the ways that dealers could save up to £10,000 a year through energy efficiency. Download the slides from the webinar [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEdQE9-2ZKqTFCgmayEBSHxil61QF0GzqSh23SoHA_MbHtTciZ4YdF6wQsLSi2B5oFWEq-P5juyG22TywQTFdyN9oNAU87e1pg=). |

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| **Shanghai hosts Global Auto Supplier Industry Summit**  |
| Shanghai will host its third Annual Global Auto Supplier Industry Summit on 21 and 22 April to highlight China's rapidly growing automotive industry, which in 2010 recorded over 11 million new car sales. Industry leaders and leading international OEMs will discuss China's growing domestic demand and international export market during two days of panel discussions, presentations and networking opportunities. To attend and for more details click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEzvzJDUso-1092YwpAkT-7xqTdzffhk_UdUa5oKYc7a4VR10InragylTvu63oeFYgFGgyzqBSimQ==). |

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| **Barcelona International Motor Show: Free networking opportunity, 18-20 May** |
| With the support of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), [ACC1Ó](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEXsej7t-ZJMlsXt5T3E_ud) will be hosting a free networking event at the Barcelona Motor Show, focusing on low carbon technologies. Organisations from countries across the globe will meet to discuss potential business and R&D partnerships. To register for the free session that will take place at the Spanish Society of Automotive Engineers stand on18-20 May visit the [website](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkgGNDNqw885xHCEH8WyCso_q0pko_9Oak2kaKclu2JCju5PDJF1uH-213tsQWrfsE), or e-mail a.hebb@LTNetwork.org.   |

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| **SMMT's Pavilion Group confirms 2011 exhibition dates**  |
| SMMT's Pavilion Group, in association with UKTI, has confirmed its exhibition schedule for the next six months and details of exclusive discount packages available to SMMT members. To download all the 2011 dates, click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEdQE9-2ZKqTER8hNrIcbu_JupFy108ox7DupOeOQ96JWl_yXxuHDI9KlYeL17L8wvcCYLhXGzk-s-NkeArC9pSIB5IH7Y_bEHe4_6vhNj6xg==). The Pavilion Group's forthcoming show, Automopromotec, Bologna in May, still has a limited number of exhibitor opportunities available. To find out more, contact Ruta Aisthorpe, 020 7344 9231 or raisthorpe@smmt.co.uk. |

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| **Week in Westminster and Brussels** |
| In Westminster this week, the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson has announced that he has secured discounts off new vans and minibuses in a package of financial deals for drivers set to be affected by changes to the capital's Low Emission Zone. A range of manufacturers have pledged offers to provide the owners of around 72,000 larger vans and minibuses, more affordable ways to buy new, cleaner vehicles, in order to avoid fines when changes to the LEZ come into effect in January 2012. 80% of vehicles affected by LEZ for the first time in 2012 are vans and the deals in some cases amount to thousands of pounds off a new vehicle. To read all the news from Westminster, click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEdQE9-2ZKqTMPMqUbV6Q6d2APFaiP3SRYl10s_wFRXFrLthSr9pXm7cH2OEg_pijRfM6oyMPDEypJYBdwFG61QOd0ob3Wuwh12HZzJEzXXcw==).  In Brussels this week, public-private sector collaboration on regulatory frameworks to support smart grid investments is the most decisive factor for deployment of the technology, according to a report published by the International Energy Agency (IEA). The report is the IEA's latest technology roadmap and recommends a series of actions and milestones for smart grid deployment between now and 2050. To read all the news from Brussels, click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPEdQE9-2ZKqTMPMqUbV6Q6d2APFaiP3SRYl10s_wFRXFrLthSr9pXm7cH2OEg_pijRfM6oyMPDEyi_g770XTN8C4qfHqOr_pKFvcKLLHuKhhA==).  |

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| **Dates for your diary:**Commercial Vehicle Show 2011, NEC Birmingham, 12-14 April 2011 - enquiries@cvshow.com.2011 SMMT International Automotive Summit, Westminster, 28 June 2011 - [www.smmtsummit.co.uk](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkYmdWmGGOiPGY8f7E11Yp5n_My3dgeRQRm2t73f-JrRc=).SMMT Annual Dinner, London Hilton Park Lane, 22 November 2011 - annualdinner@smmt.co.uk.  **Automotive information:**To download SMMT's 2011 new vehicle and UK automotive manufacturing release dates click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkB-yYXs9b6WFEaQfNiOHRGzOUYEFXFJMQcrsn1ugfcvLwBpgt-yjhFX6mAqMdQtO8OeDIhfKVvllawjlJK2PwdVZdZyzy9maJvPlJ-JTtRFc2HDGP_7t1Q5_xWLZ9ZHRk) To download Industry Forum's latest information on sustainable business improvement click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEbcIdknfgN4TSaSCkOjaQWkB-yYXs9b6WGj5afdjxzRc8G1odjgLZn9eqpb2QKlJ61Rzbtv-F04CxrENppVb4rhoQy0iYOkYwvgAWKUtmwHj6i7vAY1ZKYpegRGOgqUUizL3myeALioIA==). Bottom banner  |

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