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| |  | | --- | | new banner |      |  | | --- | | **Welcome** | | This has been an exciting week at SMMT with the announcement of Business Minister Mark Prisk delivering the political keynote speech at next month's International Automotive Summit. Mark is a keen supporter of the UK automotive industry and is both knowledgeable and passionate about manufacturing across the sectors. I am sure that his insight at the Summit will be both informative and valuable to all that attend. SMMT has also launched this year's Award for Automotive Innovation competition this week. The Award seeks out pioneering automotive design, engineering and technology, to highlight the capability of the UK automotive industry. AAI 2011 calls for cutting-edge entries which demonstrate the strength and calibre of innovation across the UK sector.    Paul Everitt, Chief Executive | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **New car registrations ahead of expectations** | | New car registrations fell less than expected in April, dropping just 7.4% to 137,746 units, according to data released by SMMT today. Despite economic and supply chain uncertainty, the April new car market was ahead of forecast by 1.5%. "New car registrations in April demonstrated continued stability in the marketplace, with demand remaining lower than in 2010, although slightly ahead of industry expectations," said Paul Everitt,  Chief Executive. "The coming months will remain challenging, but we do expect to see a return to growth in the second half of the year." To read the full press release, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAgkP6CRMUWQ-YSpzl3w_x5gmvCwFdOaY3Q2GLI1R1sdzlqhZzMS9KyVMwIBas-j8DH6gEWkUL1-S8C3npHRjiB8kAmLG4e1kFtbjuOecFfJVHPJDxtHabpCygMwW2e7SR8j6cloPJ5m555nAunr9WvD) |      |  | | --- | | **Commercial vehicle recovery continues** | | April total van and truck registrations were up 24.1% to 21,578, demonstrating an ongoing resurgence of confidence in the commercial vehicle market. April recorded the 15th consecutive monthly rise in new van registrations, up 21% while truck figures saw even healthier growth, up by 40%, the seventh successive monthly rise. "Year to date figures for almost every sector were up significantly on 2010, a trend that is likely to continue throughout the year," said Paul Everitt, Chief Executive. To read the full press release, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAgkP6CRMUWQ-YSpzl3w_x5gmvCwFdOaY3TX4MYKh4zSxeGVenMgrMF-IpMS01I16191llWvbImAPd6QJcsN4ENIW9h5Z-1Ai0jFbGKLWOAI_CAzQQjsy8asmp42_aKVQp4HuEMA0erpJw==) |      |  | | --- | | **SMMT announces keynote speaker** | | Business Minister Mark Prisk will deliver the keynote speech at next month's 2011 SMMT International Automotive Summit in Westminster. An enthusiastic supporter of UK manufacturing, Mr Prisk will discuss the key issues and opportunities facing the automotive industry, including its contribution to the country's economy and its role in government's renewed focus on the manufacturing sector. Other speakers throughout the day will include Stephen Odell, Ford Group Vice President and Chairman and CEO of Ford of Europe; Antony Sheriff, Managing Director of McLaren Automotive and senior representatives from across the automotive supply, manufacturing and retail sectors. To find out more information about the Summit, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAgkP6CRMUWQ-YSpzl3w_x5gmvCwFdOaY3QKHCpicIwsLE3NdA1c0KEXwtfzoR6R0p2_6w8_5RWUfHqg1MeckhkQGTQpss-WA_ftwVaW3lneGYh-FgZncB4a) |      |  | | --- | | **SMMT seeks out 2011 automotive innovation** | | SMMT has launched its Award for Automotive Innovation 2011 competition this week to find the UK's next big idea that will change the face of UK's automotive industry. Recognising excellence in automotive design, engineering and technology, the Award highlights achievements in innovation, acknowledging ideas that have already benefitted the industry, or have the potential to deliver automotive excellence. Companies and individuals from across UK automotive are invited to participate in the competition, which will be judged by a panel of industry experts. AAI 2011 is free to enter and the winner will be announced at SMMT's 95th Annual Dinner on 22 November 2011. To find out more, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAgkP6CRMUWQ-chT5xyiUpo-Vh9jFpbQoi8=) |      |  | | --- | | **Final call for Moscow exhibitors** | | Last chance call for exhibitors to take part at the leading Russian automotive trade event, Automechanika in August. SMMT has two final UKTI TAP grants of £1400 available to support exhibitor costs, and these will be allocated to eligible respondents on a first response basis. For more information about applying for the grants, contact Ruta Aisthorpe, tel: 020 7344 9231 or via e-mail: [raisthorpe@smmt.co.uk.](mailto:raisthorpe@smmt.co.uk) |      |  | | --- | | **SMMT launches International Trade Survey** | | SMMT is conducting research to further its understanding of the key areas of international interest for the UK automotive sector. Findings will help to shape SMMT's trade support events and determine the advice given to UKTI and other government decision makers. SMMT promotes the interests of the UK motor industry both in the UK and also overseas through leading effective participation in international events, trade missions, seminars and exhibitions often in collaboration with UKTI, finding and publicising international business opportunities and promoting growth activities such as joint ventures, outsourcing and R&D collaboration. For more information, contact: [dcroxson@smmt.co.uk](mailto:dcroxson@smmt.co.uk) |      |  | | --- | | **Week in Brussels and Westminster** | | This week in Brussels, Europe's industrial pollution register has been updated to include emissions to air, land and water from facilities across 32 countries in 2009. Interpretation of the data is still under way. The European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR), updated by the European Commission and European Environment Agency (EEA), covers releases of 91 substances from 28,000 industrial sites. The data will continue to be revised until the autumn when the EEA will publish its analysis of the figures. To read more, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAgkP6CRMUWQ-YSpzl3w_x5gmvCwFdOaY3QVfK7ibs8dlk1BXPyPwWySG_Khh3I0jLgnhpJnQMnlD5Hej7eKEUT4b6Re7Bye0W63y2_uLpJFt8xPayvieeKiett7Q01wt_w=)    This week in Westminster, the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, has announced that more major vehicle manufacturers have signed up to offer significant discounts for drivers of vehicles set to be affected by changes to the Low Emission Zone (LEZ) next year. This will enable further owners of larger vans and minibuses to avoid daily charges when changes to the LEZ come into effect in January 2012. 80% of vehicles affected by the 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 more, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAgkP6CRMUWQ-YSpzl3w_x5gmvCwFdOaY3QVfK7ibs8dlhoiutL8OAdmxUn22Qa-1nP94XMqe9nppxfv7Lkb6N4gHyIIqnYavzuy4aancgxvY1JsRx9vZSp-ZQJtFcj0Sms=) | | |  | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Twitter** | | [twitter](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FyeumggKPD6Z1eM_l9JwwQTEWUkZvONsss4SlrUDlA-QeUXlQ1Jd_Rw==) |  |  | | --- | | **Automotive Council** | |  |  |  | | --- | | **Flickr gallery** | | [https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/62.jpg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAj15AlON0ZdO9wrJZjMmI8_25fL9qyyq1BiQO1Im7PWPX4wfY4Tp3okPAufvDve-P0=) |  |  | | --- | | **Motor  Codes** | | [https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/47.jpg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAi2DVySMqIzShuaMjctCmvo3pErfpHLQdU=) |  |  | | --- | | **SMMT IATF Oversight** | | **[https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/70.jpg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAg2gF7jYvRj0LE7bMERQYslcMKbClOCPyIkr753-DOVdw==)** |  |  | | --- | | **Industry Forum** | | [https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/72.jpg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105386767754&s=0&e=001F43UGaurOcTqlYx1-pGZYEW-sSMccVVJ6nIIIIGmDqDiPxcAgyXHP_5abrg6DB1FitqvmrsWbAjADWbGCyo-diX7mllzxrf0FdxAmDihF3kcG2_ic-p_Vg==) | | | |  |
| |  | | --- | | **Diary dates:**  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=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEa6LjnawM4DXi9cEOk7jROhfVcsEQ20WmiNpbp6bDIgLJW_IIrt8lUdly5AxzR7r8-1b5dpW5v0bA==&id=preview).  SMMT Annual Dinner, London Hilton Park Lane, 22 November 2011 - [annualdinner@smmt.co.uk](mailto: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&t=kmb4cpfab.0.0.6lo4vodab.0&id=preview&p=http%3A%2F%2Flib.smmt.co.uk%2Farticles%2Fnews%2FNews%2F2011%2520News%2520release%2520dates.docx)  To download Industry Forum's latest information on sustainable business improvement click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&t=kmb4cpfab.0.0.6lo4vodab.0&id=preview&p=http%3A%2F%2Flibrary.constantcontact.com%2Fdoc203%2F1103225665917%2Fdoc%2Fpy9mtbWqPguBYhh8.pdf).  Bottom banner | |  |