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| SMMT Update 170 | [http://i2.createsend2.com/ti/r/2B/DE7/111/071222/images/logo.png](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/j/) |

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| http://i1.createsend2.com/ei/r/BC/3CF/699/nri/aklwj/PaulEveritt_SMMTChiefExecutive232639.jpg |  | This has been an outstanding week for the UK automotive industry, with news of investment coming from BMW and Nissan. This latest boost to the industry will safeguard thousands of jobs and open up new opportunities at all levels of the UK supply chain.  We also welcomed the ACEA Board of Directors to SMMT this week; they acknowledged the positive contribution that the UK makes to the European and global automotive industry. During their visit, board members met the Prime Minister at Downing Street and hosted Vince Cable at an evening reception. David Cameron and his Business Secretary reinforced the government’s commitment to a rebalanced economy and a collaborative partnership with industry to achieve increased investment.  Paul Everitt, Chief Executive  [Follow Paul on Twitter](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/t/) |

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|  |  | May 2011 new car market on par with 2010 With 150,431 registrations, the May new car market was just 1.7% down on 2010 levels, according to data released this week. Fleet and diesel volumes performed well, growing over 10% in May and despite economic uncertainty, the data indicates that the market remains on track to achieve full year forecast of 1.93 million units. “Consumers remain cautious, but with significantly improved fuel economy, service plans and more affordable finance, there is great value on offer across the market,” said Paul Everitt, Chief Executive. To download the full release, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/a/) |
|  |  | Commercial vehicle registrations up 17.7% in May May total van and truck registrations were up 17.7% to 23,026 units, illustrating the ongoing resurgence in the commercial vehicle market. Trucks were up 20.6% in May to 3,060, while vans increased 17.3% to 19,996. “May’s van and truck registration totals showed sustained confidence in the commercial vehicle market,” said Paul Everitt, Chief Executive. To download the full release, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/f/) |
|  |  | BMW announces next generation MINI will be built in UK BMW announced this week that it will build its next generation MINI in Britain in a move that will help safeguard more than 5,000 jobs. The company said it would be investing another £500 million in UK automotive manufacturing in what Prime Minister David Cameron said was a “tremendous vote of confidence” in the workforce. There will be investment in new facilities and equipment at the MINI assembly base in Oxford, the pressings plant in Swindon and engine plant at Hams Hall. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/z/) |
|  |  | New Nissan Qashqai to be designed, engineered and built in Britain At a meeting this week with Prime Minister David Cameron, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Nissan Motor Co., Carlos Ghosn, announced that workers in Britain will design, engineer and build the next version of the company’s Qashqai model. New model production will safeguard 6,000 jobs, both direct and indirect through the UK supply chain, and represents a significant endorsement of the quality and calibre of UK automotive manufacturing. Each Qashqai produced has 3,779 parts, of which 83.6% come from one of 224 UK suppliers. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/v/) |
|  |  | Aston Martin Rapide production moves to UK Aston Martin confirmed that production of its Rapide four-door sports car will move to the company’s Gaydon headquarters in Warwickshire in the second half of 2012. The company appointed Magna Steyr in 2008 as a partner to produce the car at its facilities in Austria, following a feasibility study that highlighted constraints at Gaydon at that time. Work on readying Aston Martin’s Gaydon facility for Rapide will begin immediately with a view to production commencing in the second half of 2012. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/e/) |
|  |  | Toyota achieves UK industry first with large scale solar panel Toyota Motor Manufacturing UK is set to be the first car manufacturer in the UK to install a large scale solar panel array after the scheme gained approval from its local planning authority. Work has started on installing the ground-mounted system at Toyota’s vehicle plant in Derbyshire, where Auris hybrid, Auris and Avensis cars are built for the UK and export markets. The solar array consists of around 17,000 panels, and will generate electricity for use on site. This will reduce the plant’s carbon footprint by saving up to 2,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions a year. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/s/) |
|  |  | International Business Growth Support Survey SMMT is conducting a survey 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. The survey is open to all members, and those who participate will be entered into a prize draw to win a Jonathan Palmer Sport corporate driving experience. To take part in the survey, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/g/) |
|  |  | Chinese exhibition opportunity SMMT is offering the opportunity to exhibit at one of Asia’s largest trade fairs, Automechanika Shanghai on 7-10 December. China is rapidly becoming the world’s largest automobile market, and as it continues to expand, opportunities also develop in the automotive aftersales market. To register your interest in exhibiting at the show, contact Sarah Thevenet on 020 7344 9233 or [sthevenet@smmt.co.uk](mailto:sthevenet@smmt.co.uk). |
|  |  | Week in Brussels and Westminster This week in Brussels, The European Commission has published recommendations that each member state should take to stimulate economic growth, create more jobs and keep public finances under control. These recommendations come as a response to plans each government submitted earlier this year, in order to meet common EU economic goals. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/w/)  This week in Westminster, government has announced the next phase of the Growth Review, which will focus on infrastructure, education and skills, logistics, the rural economy, medium sized businesses and open data. The logistics growth review aims to fundamentally examine the conditions for logistics sector success, addressing the barriers to growth of the industry and putting private sector growth first when making decisions on tax, regulation and spending. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/yd/) |
|  |  | Diary dates SMMT International Automotive Summit, Westminster, 28 June 2011 - [www.smmtsummit.co.uk](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/yh/)  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://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/yk/)  To download Industry Forum's latest information on sustainable business improvement, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.createsend2.com/t/r/l/jhluitk/njluytult/yu/) |

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