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|  | http://i1.cmail4.com/ei/r/CF/A94/E7D/csimport/PaulEveritt_SMMTChiefExecutive191814.jpg |  | Welcome This week SMMT announced that UK car manufacturing saw a return to growth in June as the sector bounced back from the impact of the Japanese earthquake. Boosted by recent investment announcements, automotive production should continue to see an upward trend as we move through the remainder of the year.In line with the UK’s leading position in low and ultra-low carbon technologies, innovation, R&D and e-mobility; SMMT has reorganised some of its teams to place a greater focus on these areas. The new E-mobility and Innovation taskforce will concentrate its attention on furthering the market for ultra-low carbon vehicles, championing the latest advances in technology and partnering the Automotive Council to enable industry to fulfil its potential.[Follow Paul on Twitter](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/t/) |  |
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|  |  |  | Innovation and e-mobility functions integrated by SMMTSMMT has announced that industry co-ordination of electric vehicle development, new technologies, innovation, e-mobility and low carbon motoring will now be handled by a [dedicated team](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/a/) following the integration of internal several resources. SMMT has made the changes in recognition of the increasing importance of these areas to UK automotive, aligning itself with the Automotive Council’s strategic approach to supporting innovation and R&D. In light of these recent departmental changes, an exciting vacancy has arisen to join the new Innovation and E-mobility taskforce as a Technology and Innovation Officer, providing support to the Manager and the wider team. For further details of this vacancy and to apply, click [here](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/f/). |  |
|  |  |  | Business Secretary visits Group LotusBusiness Secretary Vince Cable, visited Group Lotus in Hethel, Norfolk this week, highlighting the breadth and depth of engineering and manufacturing expertise in the area. As well as seeing the car production facilities and meeting apprentices, Mr Cable had a ride in the zero-emission fuel cell taxi. He also visited Hethel Engineering Centre, which supports high performance engineering companies and the wider manufacturing sector in the region. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/z/) |  |
|  |  |  | Countdown begins to SMMT’s Award for Automotive Innovation 2011SMMT is calling on all automotive innovators to finalise their submission for SMMT’s Award for Automotive Innovation as there are just five weeks until the submission deadline passes on midnight 24 August 2011. Sponsored by GKN Driveline, the Award recognises innovations within UK automotive manufacturing, retail, design and engineering, acknowledging ideas that have already benefitted, or have the potential to deliver, automotive excellence. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/v/) |  |
|  |  |  | Chargemaster announces UK’s first privately funded EV charging networkEV charging infrastructure provider, Chargemaster plc, announced this week that it will launch the UK’s first privately funded nationwide electric vehicle charging network in September 2011. By the end of 2012 the scheme, named POLAR, will be in around 100 towns and cities across the UK, with approximately 40 points in each area, providing a total of 4,000 charging bays.  Chargemaster is working with the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) to ensure its network complements the government-supported Plugged-In Places charging areas. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/e/) |  |
|  |  |  | New engineering jobs announced at Nissan’s Sunderland plantNissan has launched a major recruitment campaign to find engineers and maintenance technicians to join the workforce at its Sunderland Plant. Up to 200 new positions will support current production, the introduction of electric vehicle technology and the development of two new models: the LEAF and the next generation Qashqai. A [website](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/s/) has been launched for prospective employees to find out more about the Sunderland Plant, and features case studies of current engineers explaining what life is like working in the UK automotive industry. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/g/) |  |
|  |  |  | Vauxhall’s Ellesmere Port plant celebrates manufacturing milestoneVauxhall’s Ellesmere Port plant is celebrating a manufacturing milestone this week as the 100,000th Astra Sports Tourer leaves the production line in Cheshire. 2,100 people are employed at the plant, which is the sole General Motors facility producing the Sports Tourer model. 92.5% of the cars built are exported from Ellesmere Port to Europe, as well as countries including Chile, Israel and South Africa. Within the first nine months of production, Vauxhall had also sold 6,316 Sports Tourers to buyers in the UK. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/w/) |  |
|  |  |  | Ford Dagenham’s third wind turbine takes shapeFord Dagenham is installing a larger, more powerful third wind turbine, that will double the annual CO2 saving from 2,500 to 5,000 tonnes per year. The turbines on the Ford Dagenham estate convert wind energy into electricity to power production in the Dagenham Diesel Centre (DDC). Increased output at the DDC required the installation of a third turbine to remain 100% wind powered. To read the full story, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/yd/) |  |
|  |  |  | Webinar highlights industry benefits created by the Logistics Growth ReviewSMMT hosted a webinar this week to assess how UK automotive businesses can benefit from opportunities created by government’s recently announced Logistics Growth Review. The webinar covered a range of topics including opportunities for growth and expansion for VMs, SMEs and LSPs, tackling barriers to international competitiveness and low carbon technologies. To download the slides, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/yh/) SMMT is working with government to gather information on key logistics issues and is asking members to take part in a short survey to help shape the future of logistics. Once collated and reviewed, the results will be presented to government and will be used to decide what reforms or investment will take place under the review. To take part in the survey, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/yk/) |  |
|  |  |  | Week in Brussels and WestminsterThis week in Brussels, European Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn announced a funding package of nearly €7 billion, to kick-start innovation through research. The European Commission's biggest ever such funding package, under the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research, is expected to create around 174,000 jobs in the short-term and nearly 450,000 jobs and nearly €80 billion in GDP growth over 15 years. To read all the news from Brussels, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/yu/)This week in Westminster, the House of Commons Education Select Committee has this week published its report: "Participation by 16–19 year olds in Education and Training", focusing on government’s plan for implementing the proposals made by Lord Leitch in his Review of Skills. The report outlines the Committee’s support for the focus on apprenticeships but urges government to protect quality at the same time as increasing participation.  To read all the news from Westminster, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/jl/) |  |
|  |  |  | Diary datesSMMT Annual Dinner, London Hilton Park Lane, 22 November 2011 - annualdinner@smmt.co.ukCV Show 2012, NEC, Birmingham,24-26 April 2012 - enquiries@cvshow.comSMMT International Automotive Summit,12 June 2012 - summit@smmt.co.uk  |  |
|  |  |  | Automotive informationTo download SMMT's 2011 new vehicle and UK automotive manufacturing release dates, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/jr/)To download Industry Forum's latest information on sustainable business improvement, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/jy/)To download the latest Automotive Council newsletter, click [here.](http://smmtacuknewsletters.cmail4.com/t/r/l/tltdlhy/njluytult/jj/) |  |
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