

### Business Minister, Michael Fallon, speaks at SMMT International Summit

Business Minister, Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP, delivered the keynote political speech at SMMT's International Automotive Summit on Thursday 13 June. The annual event, attended by over 200 senior industry executives, focussed on a number of key themes critical for sustained growth within the sector, namely skills, technology, supply chain and retail. Andy Palmer, Executive Vice President, Nissan Motor Company delivered the industry keynote address, focussing on environmental issues and Nissan's vision of the future that "every car will feature electric motor propulsion of some kind". Mr Fallon focused on the impressive growth that the UK automotive industry has shown in recent years, and highlighted the work of the Automotive Council as being a key conduit for industry and government to address critical issues. Mr Fallon also noted the Automotive Industrial Strategy, due to be published in July, stating that it "will set out the action that Government and the industry commit to each other to do together". Mr Fallon expressed a desire for UK government to work with the EU to form a "more outward looking approach" to industry legislation, stating that better regulation is key to economic growth and also emphasised the importance of free trade agreements for the EU, noting that the ongoing EU-US agreement as a top government priority.

(Source: SMMT)

<http://www.smmt.co.uk/2013/06/speech-by-business-and-energy-minister-michael-fallon-to-the-smmt-international-automotive-summit/>



### Joe Greenwell to lead Automotive Investment Organisation

Business Secretary Vince Cable has announced that he is setting up the Automotive Investment Organisation (AIO), which will be led by Joe Greenwell, the former Chairman of Ford of Britain, to help build on the success of the recent significant investment from global automotive manufacturers in the UK. Funded with up to £3 million over the next two years, the AIO will spearhead a campaign to attract further inward investment to the UK. The AIO will be led by UK Trade and Investment (UKTI), and will take strategic direction from the Automotive Council, to develop a strategy to repatriate the supply chain and build on the opportunities identified in the UK. Commenting on the announcement Business Secretary and co-Chair of the Automotive Council Vince Cable stated, "On average only a third of the parts that go into cars manufactured here are sourced from the UK. We know that global manufacturers in the UK want to buy more from the UK. As the former chair of a global automotive company, Joe Greenwell brings all the experience that the Automotive Investment Organisation needs. He will help to build on the success of the unprecedented investment we have seen in the UK automotive sector and encourage a more extensive supply chain." Following this announcement, Business Minister Michael Fallon and the Automotive Council co-chair Professor Richard Parry-Jones will speak at a UKTI organised event next month for global automotive supply chain companies to outline the benefits of investing in the UK. At this event vehicle manufacturers will also be in attendance to meet suppliers and discuss potential business opportunities.

(Source: BIS)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joe-greenwell-to-lead-automotive-investment-organisation>

## UK promotes G8 agenda ahead of Summit

In January 2013 the UK assumed the one-year Presidency of the G8, with Prime Minister David Cameron highlighting three issues which are critical for growth, prosperity and economic development across the world, namely advancing trade, ensuring tax compliance and promoting greater transparency. Ahead of the G8 Summit on 17-18 June, where leaders from Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, USA and UK will meet at Lough Erne in Northern Ireland, the UK has been promoting its G8 agenda at a number of conferences and events. On 12 June Science Ministers and Presidents of the Science Academies in G8 countries met to discuss the role of science in tackling global challenges, discussing issues such as climate change and energy security. On Friday 14 June, an Innovation Conference will be held, bringing together today's leading innovators and thought leaders across disciplines, from the G8 and beyond. Finally, on Saturday 15 June a pre-Summit event will be hosted, where wider discussions will take place on trade, tax, and transparency with business, civil society and governments. This event will focus on why open governments, open societies and open economies are essential for growth, jobs and sustainable development. Discussions will centre on how governments can work together to promote and practise fairer trade, proper taxes and more transparent investment in land, minerals, oil and gas. (Source: Number 10)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g8-events>



## New UK-India research partnerships unveiled

UK Minister for Universities and Science, David Willetts MP, has announced 12 new research collaborations between the UK and India in the areas of advanced manufacturing, smart energy grids and energy storage. The new projects will be supported by £8.3 million from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) through the Manufacturing and RCUK Energy Programme themes. This will be match-funded from India's Department of Science and Technology (DST). There will be seven projects in advanced manufacturing and five in smart energy grids and energy storage and the new research grants will involve over 30 industry partners from the UK and India contributing over £1m to the research projects. Partners include: Rolls-Royce, Bharat Heavy Electricals, E.ON, National Grid and Mott MacDonald. Commenting on the announcement, Mr Willetts stated: "Since 2008 the value of co-funded research between the UK and India has rocketed from £1 million to over £100 million. These projects will build on this already strong relationship, boosting collaboration between researchers and industry in advanced manufacturing and energy infrastructure. These are priority areas for both our countries."

(Source: BIS)

<http://news.bis.gov.uk/Press-Releases/A-perfect-match-New-UK-India-research-partnerships-unveiled-68e13.aspx>

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## Week ahead

### Commons Committee

Monday 17 June

Transport Committee (4:05pm, Grimond room)

Cost of motor insurance: whiplash

Science & Technology Committee (4:15pm, Thatcher room) – Digital by default

Wednesday 19 June

Science & Technology Committee (9:15am, Thatcher room) – Public understanding and policy implications

### Westminster Hall

Wednesday 19 June

4:30pm – 5:00pm: UKTI support to enable British small and medium-sized enterprises to export to the Middle East and North Africa (Daniel Kawczynski, Con, Shrewsbury and Atcham)