

SMMT – Manufacturing figures released

SMMT published automotive manufacturing figures this week, which demonstrate a continuously positive market with year-to-date volumes growing.

UK Car manufacturing reveals steady growth

New figures from SMMT reveal a steady growth in UK car manufacturing in May, with 119,338 cars built – a rise of 2.3%. The strong domestic market played a significant part with a 13.3% increase outweighing a small dip in production for export. Industry prepares itself for a more prolonged period of growth in the mid-to long-term, as multi-billion pound investments will see new models hitting the production in line.

Commercial vehicle production

Figures show a boost to UK commercial vehicle (CV) production in May 2014. 6,808 vans, trucks and buses were made in Britain last month – a 32.8% rise compared with last year. Data for the first five months of 2014 further demonstrate a CV manufacturing resurgence, with production volumes up by almost a quarter. The sector benefitted from increasing European demand in May, as exports rose 69.4% last month with 3,710 vehicles destined for overseas markets. Half of all CVs produced to date in 2015 have been built for export.

Engine Manufacturing

British engine manufacturing remains steady in 2015, surpassing one million units in May. 1,038,110 units were built in 2015, down -4.1% as new plants prepare for production. European demand for the UK's latest low emission Euro-6 engines poised to drive exports. (Source: SMMT)

<http://www.smmmt.co.uk/category/news-events/news/>

CBI – Economic update

According to the latest monthly [CBI Industrial Trends survey](#), a fall in export demand slowed the recovery in the UK's manufacturing sector in June. Output growth improved again in the three months to June and is expected to improve slightly in the next three months, although growth still remains below rates reached in late 2013 and early 2014. The latest [ONS labour market statistics](#) showed the number of people in employment increased by a further 114,000 in the three months to April and the employment rate rose to 73.4%. The unemployment rate fell to 5.5% (the lowest since 2008) and continued to edge back towards its pre-recession level of 5.2%. In line with expectations, [CPI inflation](#) turned positive again in May (+0.1%) compared with a 0.1% fall in the year to April. A further fall in the coming months is not out of the question, however, with oil prices expected to continue trending up (they are currently some 40% above their trough in January 2015), inflation is expected to rise relatively quickly from end-2015, reaching 0.7% by the end of the year and surpassing the 1% mark in February-2016, as the effects of past falls fade. (Source: CBI)

<http://news.cbi.org.uk/news/economic-update5/>



LowCVP launches low emission vehicles guide

The Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership (LowCVP) has launched a "[Good practice guide for local measures to encourage the uptake of low emission vehicles](http://www.lowcvp.org.uk/news/lowcvp-launches-guide-to-local-measures-for-encouraging-the-uptake-of-low-emission-vehicles-the-five-ps-for-success_3268.htm)". A key recommendation is that policy measures implemented at the local level should be consistent with each other, that common definitions and vocabulary for low emission vehicles should be established. The Good Practice Guide aims to assist local and city authorities in understanding a broad range of policy measures and initiatives that can be utilised to encourage the uptake of low emission vehicles. The Guide - published to a timescale intended to benefit the bidders for the £35m available from OLEV's Go Ultra Low City scheme - covers 12 distinct areas including planning; procurement; taxis and private hire vehicles; parking and infrastructure provision. (Source: LowCVP)

http://www.lowcvp.org.uk/news/lowcvp-launches-guide-to-local-measures-for-encouraging-the-uptake-of-low-emission-vehicles-the-five-ps-for-success_3268.htm

London Mayor announces proposed changes to taxi regulations

The Mayor of London has announced proposed changes to taxi regulations for the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ). Transport for London will shortly undertake a further consultation on changes to taxi and private hire licensing as part of the ULEZ proposals. This will include a new proposal to retain the existing 15 year age limit for all taxis and a voluntary scheme to retire the oldest, most polluting taxis. The Mayor has also reaffirmed his commitment that, subject to consultation, it is proposed that from 1 January 2018 all newly licensed taxis – and new PHVs – must be zero emissions capable. (Source: Mayor of London).

<http://www.london.gov.uk/media/mayor-press-releases/2015/06/mayor-hails-150th-anniversary-of-the-knowledge-and-sets-out>

Week ahead

Monday 29 June

Lords Chamber

- Main business: Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill

Tuesday 30 June

Lords Committees

- Economic Affairs Committee (3:35pm, room 1)
- European Union Committee (4:10pm, room 1)

Thursday 2 July

Commons Chamber

- 10:30am: Business statement

