



Mark Prisk addresses industry representatives at SMMT Parliamentary Reception

Mark Prisk MP, Minister for Business and Enterprise, made a keynote speech at SMMT's Summer Parliamentary Reception in Westminster that identified overseas investment and UK manufacturing as key drivers behind the UK's economic recovery. In his address to over 100 delegates from across industry, Mark Prisk, detailed government plans to support entrepreneurial growth through decreased regulatory burden and a more supportive fiscal framework for UK businesses. Hosted by the SMMT and sponsored by Richard Burden MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Motor Group, the reception offered delegates from automotive, financial, political and environmental sectors the opportunity to hear from senior MPs on the importance of increasing overseas trade and on driving forward a sustainable low carbon agenda. (Source: SMMT)

<http://www.smmmt.co.uk/2011/07/ministerial-address-bolsters-confidence-for-an-export-led-recovery/>

“Made by Britain” campaign to promote UK manufacturing launched

The Associate Parliamentary Manufacturing Group launched its 'Made by Britain' project to showcase the variety of products made in the UK and promote the nation's manufacturing industry. The Group's campaign asks every MP to nominate an example of manufacturing excellence from their constituency in order to demonstrate the calibre of UK manufacturing. Over 40 UK manufactured products have so far been nominated by MPs, including several from the automotive industry. Business Secretary, Vince Cable, who launched the initiative, said: “British industry remains among the very best for the quality and originality of what it makes. We export goods to every corner of the world, from famous international brands to products which, while less well known, make a real difference to the lives of millions. With the Olympics bringing so much attention to Britain, this is a fantastic opportunity to show the rest of the world that we make world-beating products”. (Source: SMMT)

<http://www.smmmt.co.uk/2011/07/parliamentarians-launch-%e2%80%98made-by-britain%e2%80%99-campaign-to-promote-uk-manufacturing/>



Technology Strategy Board announces funding for battery recycling projects

The Technology Strategy Board has announced funding for feasibility studies into the recycling and re-use of batteries for low and ultra low carbon vehicles. Almost £500,000 will be allocated to six companies – Axion, Energy Cost Advisors Ltd, LiFeBATT Ltd, Narec, OXIS Energy Ltd and TRL – who will carry out seven studies. The funding awards follow the companies' success in the 'Batteries for Low and Ultra Low Carbon Vehicles: Recycling and Re-use' funding competition, which was developed by the Technology Strategy Board with the assistance of the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV). Michael Hurwitz, Director of OLEV said: "I welcome the Technology Strategy Board funding in this area and congratulate the successful companies. Understanding the economic opportunities available from batteries after their primary use in low and ultra low emission vehicles is an important element of the overall picture. We want this to contribute to the UK's leading position in the design and uptake of these vehicles." (Source: Technology Strategy Board)

<http://www.innovateuk.org/content/news/studies-to-improve-recycling-and-re-use-of-batteries.ashx>



June commercial vehicle registrations up 12.7%

Figures released by SMMT this week show the recovery in the commercial vehicle market continuing, with June registrations up 12.7%. However the June new car market fell 6.2% to 183,125 units, continuing the trend seen over the past 12 months. Fleet demand continues to grow, up 2.0% in June and by 3.4% over the first half of 2011, and average new car CO₂ car emissions fell to a record low of 138.9g/km in quarter

two, below 140g/km for the first time. Paul Everitt, SMMT Chief Executive, stated: "June new car registrations continued to perform in line with industry expectations with robust demand in the fleet sector and a relatively weak retail market. The balance of demand makes this a tough time for vehicle manufacturers and their dealer networks. Slow, but steady economic growth in the second half of the year should see volumes increase, although the overall market is still expected to be around 1.93 million units". (Source: SMMT)

<http://www.smmt.co.uk/2011/07/june-shows-strong-fleet-registrations-and-co2-dips-below-140gkm/>

<http://www.smmt.co.uk/2011/07/commercial-vehicle-recovery-continues-with-june-registrations-up-12-7/>

Week ahead

House of Commons

Thursday 14 July

Business, innovation and skills questions – 11:15am

Topical questions

Westminster Hall

No relevant activity

Commons Committees

Wednesday 13 July

Environmental Audit Committee (2:15pm Thatcher Room)

Subject: Carbon budgets

Lords Chamber

No relevant activity