



SMMT launch 12th Annual Sustainability Report

SMMT has published its 12th Annual Sustainability Report, which looks at the economic, environmental and social performance of the sector. The report illustrates that UK automotive manufacturing bucked the economic trend last year, increasing its production volumes, turnover, level of investment and number of employees, all while continuing to make major strides in reducing the environmental footprint of its products and manufacturing processes. The report, which is based on 2010 data, highlights that manufacturing turnover increased 20% to £49 billion, energy use per vehicle produced was down 8% and new automotive apprenticeships were up 9%, adding to the 737,000 jobs that are dependent on the sector. The launch of the report coincided with SMMT's annual dinner event where SMMT President Nigel Stein reiterated the belief that support for manufacturing will drive economic growth, and called on the Chancellor to create the right environment for growth in his Autumn Statement on 29 November, particularly with regards R&D tax credits reform. The annual dinner also included the presentation of the Award for Automotive Innovation, sponsored by GKN, and presented by Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Transport, Norman Baker. The award was won by Jaguar Land Rover's prototype Range_e, - the world's first luxury Plug-in Hybrid Electric 4x4 with integrated V6 diesel engine. (Source: SMMT)

<http://www.smmt.co.uk/sustainability>

£100 million Toyota investment in UK automotive manufacturing

Toyota has announced that it will invest more than £100 million in Toyota Manufacturing UK (TMUK) to produce new generation C-segment hatchbacks - including hybrid, petrol, and diesel models, in their Burnaston factory in Derbyshire. The introduction of new generation hatchback models will increase Burnaston production volumes creating up to 1,500

additional jobs in the next two years, with the first phase of 500 people to be recruited in the middle of 2012. This announcement takes Toyota's total investment in the UK to more than £2.1 billion since 1989. Commenting on the announcement, Prime Minister David Cameron stated: "This major announcement from Toyota is fantastic news and a massive vote of confidence for UK manufacturing. It is vital that we build a more balanced economy, one with manufacturing, innovation and exports at its heart. The automotive sector is leading the way in helping us achieve this - it is an extraordinary success story and one that we are very proud of". (Source: SMMT) <http://www.smmt.co.uk/2011/11/toyota-strengthens-commitment-to-uk-manufacturing-with-100-million-investment-into-burnaston-facility/>



£61 million investment in Sector Skills Councils to boost growth

Government has announced over £61 million of investment in projects to drive employer investment in skills across the UK. The investment, provided through the Employer Investment Fund administered by the UK Commission for Employment and Skills, will support 18 Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) with a range of employer designed and led skills solutions. The UK Commission received 109 proposals into the fund totalling over £119m. Following an assessment process, Commissioners chose the 63 best solutions with the greatest potential to drive growth and employer investment in skills. The investments will be

across a range of sectors including manufacturing which will receive almost £15m; the service sector which will receive almost £16m and the creative and digital sector which will receive over £13m. The funding will start in April 2012 and last until March 2014. Automotive SSCs are set to benefit from this announcement, with SEMTA receiving £5,000,000 and the IMI receiving £3,150,535. Government has also announce that the Growth and Innovation Fund (GIF) has been reopened for its second phase. The fund aims to support businesses to develop their skills solutions tailored to their own needs, transforming growth in their sector, region or supply chain. BIS will be providing £34 million for 2012-13 and there is still £29 million available to bid for. With matched funding from businesses there will be around £60 million available under GIF this year. Comparable levels of investment are planned for the following two years. (Source: UKCES)

<http://www.ukces.org.uk/news/Press-releases/2011/eif2>



Motor Codes Service receives full OFT approval

Motor Codes has received full OFT approval for its Service and Repair Code, meaning that subscribing garages can now display the OFT logo alongside the Motor Codes tick, to further reassure motorists. Three years on from the inception of the Service and Repair Code, developed following the effectiveness of the OFT-approved New Car Code in reducing consumer complaints, this endorsement demonstrates continued confidence in the self-regulation consumer codes model. Standards for Motor Codes garages are upheld through a combination of regular RAC Compliance Checks and the support of a structured advice and conciliation service, with a team of independent customer service professionals on hand to offer advice both to motorists and garages.

(Source: SMMT) <http://www.smmt.co.uk/2011/11/full-oft-approval-for-motor-codes/>

Q3 used car sales down 2.9%

Figures released by SMMT and Experian show sales of used cars in Q3 2011 dropped just 2.9% on the same period in 2010 to 1,749,417. However figures for the first three quarters of 2011 show used car sales are down just 0.1% to 5,250,070. (Source: SMMT)

<http://www.smmt.co.uk/2011/11/used-car-sales-2011-q3/>

Week ahead

Autumn Statement (Chancellor of the Exchequer – 12:30pm)

Tuesday 29 November

Commons Committees

Tuesday 29 November

Energy & Climate Change Committee (10:15am – Room 18) – Consumption-based emissions reporting

Environmental Audit Committee and Energy and Climate Change Committees (1:40pm - Boothroyd room) - Solar power feed-in tariffs.

Thursday 1 December

Environmental Audit Committee and Energy and Climate Change Committees (11:30am - Boothroyd room) - Solar power feed-in tariffs.

Westminster Hall

Tuesday 29 November

Investment in public transport in London (2:30 – 4:00)

Lords Chamber

No relevant activity

Lords Committees

No relevant activity