



SMMT New Car Registrations

4 May 2007

Press Release Number 4464

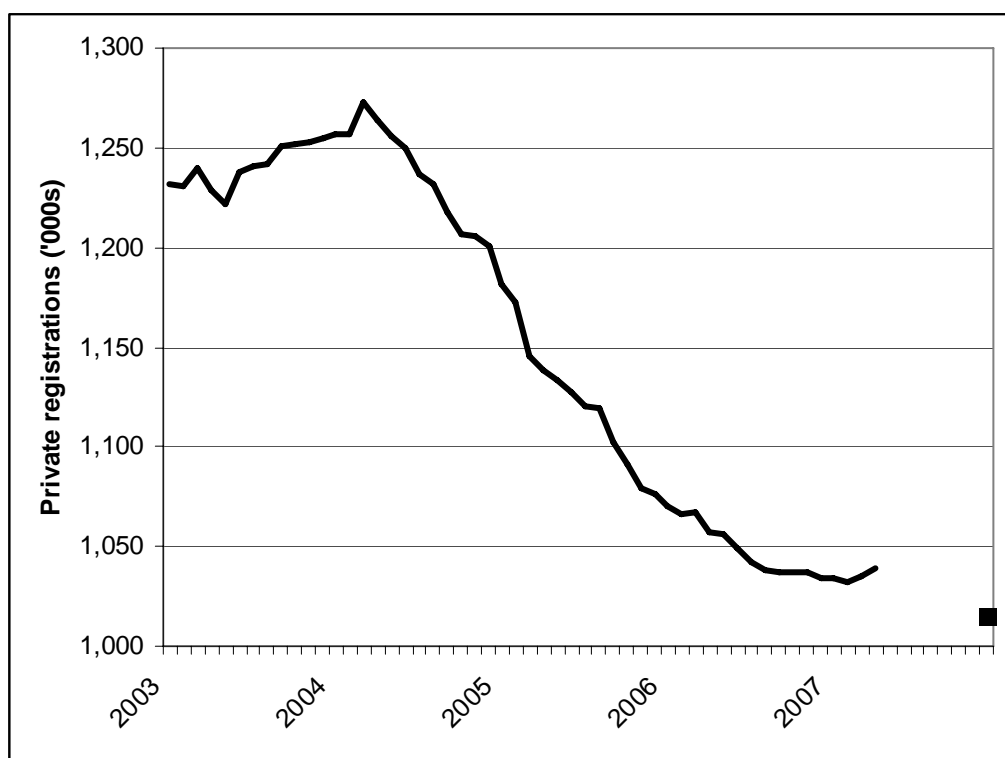
For Release

Immediate

Superminis the key to sustained growth in April

- Supermini growth up 11.3 per cent on 2006 to 56,089 units
- Year-to-date registrations up by over 26,000 units to 858,639 units
- April total of 170,163 units up 4.3 per cent and the third rise in four months
- Private demand at its strongest since March 2004 with 4.9 per cent rise

Private new car registrations, 12 month moving annual total



'April has provided us with yet another boost to new car registrations, continuing the better than expected trend during the first quarter of 2007. Supermini growth of 11.3 per cent has helped to achieve this,' says Christopher Macgowan, chief executive of SMMT. 'Private demand rose too, but heightened speculation that further interest rate rises are on the horizon may tame this performance.'

Notes:

At €20 bn, the automotive sector is Europe's largest investor in R&D, driving industry forward and helping deliver more sustainable motoring for the 21st century. Technological innovation has helped car and CV manufacturers slash CO₂ and air quality emissions from vehicles. New diesel cars, for example, emit 95 per cent less soot from the tailpipe than those made 15 years ago and average new car CO₂ has been cut by 12 per cent since 1997.

Each vehicle made in Britain requires half the energy to produce than it did just five years ago, saving an estimated 700,000 tonnes of CO₂ a year. Waste to landfill per vehicle produced has also been cut by a factor of four, from 66.4 kg in 2001 to 14.5 kg in 2005. For more details, download SMMT's annual Sustainability Report from the SMMT web site www.smmt.co.uk/publications

Media Contacts

Sara Lee
John Procter
Nigel Wonnacott

020 7344 9219
020 7344 9263
020 7344 9226

slee@smmt.co.uk
jprocter@smmt.co.uk
nwonnacott@smmt.co.uk