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| **Welcome** |
| Paul Everitt_NEWThere is an extremely close and strong relationship between the UK and Japan. Many in the motor industry have friends and colleagues impacted by the tragic events of the last week and our thoughts are with them and their families. The full industrial implications may not be clear for some weeks and we do not anticipate any immediate problems for UK facilities. SMMT will continue to work with members to monitor developments and provide appropriate assistance. Earlier this week SMMT hosted a successful Open Forum event in Warwick, attended by over 120 people. It was a good opportunity for Richard Parry-Jones, Co-Chair of the Automotive Council and Dr Matthias Holweg to present the recently completed sourcing roadmap, which identifies the opportunities for UK-based suppliers. Many of you will also have seen that SMMT's new website went live this week. A fresh and more contemporary design reflects the increasing importance of the industry. If you haven't already, take a look at [www.smmt.co.uk](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdocLgB9LDRXCC) and let us know what you think.                                                                                                                                                                                 SMMT Chief Executive, Paul Everitt |

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| **SMMT Open Forum a success** |
| https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/76.jpgOver 120 people attended SMMT's free Open Forum event on Tuesday at Warwick University which provided a full programme of speakers from across the industry. According to feedback, presentations were very insightful, providing good and honest advice. Themes focused on the views of vehicle manufacturers' and examined key issues relating to the UK's automotive supply chain, automotive manufacturing and 2011 priorities for the Automotive Council. Richard Parry-Jones, Co-Chair of the Council and Anthony Harper, Head of Research at Jaguar Land Rover were among the leading speakers at the event. The event was one in a series of Open Forum events offering new business opportunities for attendees. The next free event is on Wednesday 30 March at the NEC Birmingham and will focus on component and CV manufacturing. Click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdoT_s5NLqST_kffb-fHX5ANXGp3twykdj0G53YRMFhHz0NmH2RFH9oQsn3NLg9TJ8AoMJEnWvCeJ7) for more information or to attend, contact Claire Balch cbalch@smmt.co.uk.   |

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| **UK automotive manufacturing up 15% in February** |
| Car output rose by 15.1% in February 2011 and was up 12.0% over the year-to-date, while CV output fell by 3.0% in February, though it remains up 2.6% over the first two months of 2011. UK engine production increased by 10.2% in February and by 11.1% over the year-to-date. Click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdoT_s5NLqST_kffb-fHX5ANWE9FbhRIO1Zy1aIWj1EepFJh8wIqMEVqNZNRiywudfR7vQdQ-PupWNT16qU_ua1Mg=) for the full data. |

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| **SMMT announces agenda for International Automotive Summit** |
| SMMT has announced the plenary programme for the 2011 SMMT International Automotive Summit. Stephen T Odell, Ford Group Vice President and Chairman and CEO of Ford of Europe, will be the keynote speaker at the event, which takes place in Westminster on 28 June. Odell's address will start the day, followed by a Q&A session and panel debate with industry experts representing the breadth of the automotive sector to explore what the UK has to offer the global motor industry. Click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdoT_s5NLqST_kffb-fHX5ANXGp3twykdj0JCuOiSBXLFhfBa5-W2I5dUACPP6WVdtBwhoYMRd6YwXVJibSkr-ak-Was9oTQQdZb9Mf5yLt1z3) to see the agenda. |

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| **Independent report highlights strength of UK automotive industry**  |
| *'Invest Now'* is an independent report, profiling the strengths of the UK's automotive industry. It describes key aspects of the sector, detailing the work of the Automotive Council, the policies which are shaping the automotive landscape and broadening the appeal of industry to new suppliers and investors. Written by the Director of AutoAnalysis, Ian Henry, it describes why now is an opportune time to invest in the sector and provides details of the activities and investment plans of some of the UK's major vehicle manufacturers. To download the report click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_QmtgQRtkHb8uera8lWQ1FZN1umDXC4oCz1_2c_Gi_uvS2DFYL2UFqSCksDHbwbx9tN_aoH9XCiVtzJTbFmHUal4=). SMMT would be grateful if members could send feedback on the report to memberservices@smmt.co.uk.  |

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| **Bentley Motors opens its doors to future apprentices** |
| https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/74.jpgLuxury car manufacturer Bentley Motors is holding an apprentice open day on Saturday 19 March from 09:00 to 13:00 at its worldwide headquarters on Pyms Lane, Crewe, Cheshire inviting students to meet with current Bentley apprentices to learn about some of the skills that they have acquired during their training. Click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdoT_s5NLqST_kffb-fHX5ANXbEe2mUr43jiBHF8WwNyYnAQNGnuOOMhe2HKukDNKDLY9XLnvn6kIAQ3V4cKK3uOuOWBZPhY8VU6vXwUuQ0-1B) to read more. |

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| **New report demonstrates decade of CO2 emissions progress** |
| https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/75.jpgSMMT published its 10th annual New Car CO2 Report this week showing ongoing reductions in average emissions of new cars. 2010 figures drop by 3.5% on the previous year to 144.2g/km CO2 (equivalent to about 50mpg), down by over 20% since 2000. The Report shows that in 2010, almost 40% of cars had emissions below 130g/km CO2 - the European fleet emissions target for 2015. To download the full report click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdoT_s5NLqST_kffb-fHX5ANUpzBqzHiGJ0j61eXTTfqeM). |

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| **£10m funding confirmed for three low carbon vehicle R&D projects** |
| The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) is providing £10 million for three major projects to address fundamental research questions in developing low carbon vehicles, Business Minister Mark Prisk announced this week. The projects will be based at Loughborough, Brunel and Warwick Universities and have been developed by EPSRC with the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) through the Low Carbon Vehicle Innovation Platform Integrated Delivery Programme. Click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdoT_s5NLqST_kffb-fHX5ANWER4Sl6mzTwgpShXmhOWzZQRQd8i003yC0AXCARSaL-NweeKbHGGPPnC8vggb9qq_o1rzV0_Q1WgJ4ikZ_SikF6pTWf-8-ESA=) to read more. |

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| **Budget should back business says UK automotive** |
| The UK motor industry's Budget submission to the Chancellor calls for measures to encourage recovery, assist business growth and boost consumer confidence. SMMT expects consistent growth across the automotive sector by 2012 but to ensure and sustain this, positive government action is essential. Click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdoT_s5NLqST_kffb-fHX5ANUgiPlrwKEZxhoN2UC6fJdVwt1d-DbAbvcwS7eg2U2FCQBpbPswKVkdqFJ07qMcFekjHZspbnAVqw==) to read the full story. |

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| **Week in Westminster and Brussels** |
| In Westminster this week, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills outlined a new business support package, titled 'Solutions for Business'. The portfolio was established during the recession to highlight to businesses the various support measures available. Government has streamlined this package from 32 measures to 16. "The new 'Solutions for Business' portfolio has been designed to give businesses the help they need to expand and grow," said Business Minister Mark Prisk. To read more click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlMxJaGIkVhdoQQM6THu4eBAYZu70xG3L0LaPrj0QUEy3ujyHAmgTw-gklxeY0xXjuc1iCM8NO4_f6XpAn1O6CwW).   In Brussels this week, the European Commission has proposed to auction 120 million EU allowances early in order to ensure a smooth transition to phase three of the EU emissions trading scheme in 2013. The early auctions should be held in 2012. The Commission has been considering early auctions for some time and consulted over the New Year on plans to auction between 100 million and 300 million phase three allowances in 2012. EU member states will make a final decision this summer through the EU Climate Change Committee. To read more click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_QmtgQRtkHb8uera8lWQ1FZN1umDXC4oCz1_2c_Gi_uvS8mEONHg4By4njbDcXxEnO8G8AyLGwAquXL9DdNWcZPbMF9_tfG0qEFodACrAlDCTxQzkmdLYy3tXTwYOiAp3HfO1LHc3_eApUrSPoPBK2U1lnDqVfeRNxw==).  |

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| **Dates for your diary:**Commercial Vehicle Show 2011, NEC Birmingham, 12-14 April 2011 - enquiries@cvshow.com2011 SMMT International Automotive Summit, Millbank Tower, Westminster, 28 June 2011 - [www.smmtsummit.co.uk](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOjsokVJ7nlHlN0IAVAeDdHpmey2x6OV1_droiQbwV-7uw=).SMMT Annual Dinner, London Hilton Park Lane, 22 November 2011 - annualdinner@smmt.co.uk  **Automotive information:**To download SMMT's 2011 new vehicle and UK automotive manufacturing release dates click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOj5DseSh6mssPIkxQne64H24MhfHF_S9aLiKEI1gYQeemKOwpjo7xAgnkok4nVmNzqmn8SgToesf51ZLp3TqyZ6a294xnCC-txy55e4LLEddqSg60d44A-0flE6RauLDeX) To download Industry Forum's latest information on sustainable business improvement click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1104872135417&s=0&e=001YfkfqquLmwrbgorCCL12uPN2lumw4KBEURvhxaYd1tsHtZACTK5_Qm6u0nWyfXOj5DseSh6mssPrQhF3dOeh7Jn54W4LSjgxt8EPxmldFkx1PFRnO3VDNOz1_GcNbKk9cUMzsFWbeBhwh5ZWN_yuzSRaNmMYLfQ1xeMyzQ3KiFESA74lcF8dJg==). Bottom banner  |

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