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| |  | | --- | | new banner |      |  | | --- | | **Welcome** | | This week I took part in the UK/China automotive dialogue, a joint industry and government initiative to help build greater trade links between our countries. This coincided with the launch of UKTI's five year strategy, outlining measures to promote economic growth through increased overseas trade and investment. The UK motor industry is recognised as a key driver of growth, combining advanced manufacturing, premium products and low carbon technologies, tremendous strengths in the fast growing BRIC economies. There was also good news this week from two UK-based vehicle manufacturers indicating that supply conditions in Japan are beginning to improve and demand for UK built products is increasing.  Paul Everitt, Chief Executive | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **UKTI launches latest trade and investment strategy** | | Business Secretary Vince Cable this week launched the next step of government's strategy to deliver economic growth, through greater international trade and overseas investment in the UK. UKTI's latest report, *'Britain Open for Business',* sets out a five year investment and growth strategy, with useful guidelines that help to develop and encourage international investment in the UK. The initiatives outlined in the report will help UK businesses take advantage of opportunities in emerging overseas markets by helping them to overcome regulatory and cultural barriers to international trade and allowing them easier access to finance and credit. To read the full story, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vaRw6T9yWd2d2ubR6VRzI9QiRIP-sdFTrydMFehFEhU_IKcOAh1j4zcSs07_BtzOVBTtcK8E67vZbGagf-cFU63wmztPUaNr_SfCsWPc-wY5kEwKa2qeN4yBwl45sMZ_BjZjPAnVGBAHkEV_c3EpgL-gplc5GO8NYcUH2ERsoou9l9qilhczeDff7DCx1KxYNE=) |      |  | | --- | | **Optare to build Britain's first new bus assembly plant for 40 years** | | Optare plc is to increase its bus-building capacity in the UK by opening Britain's first new bus assembly plant for 40 years. Production will move this September to a new factory in North Yorkshire, for which it signed a 17 year lease. Improved manufacturing systems and facillities at the 140,000 square foot factory at Sherburn in Elmet, will be used to build up to an estimated 1,200 buses annually at full capacity on two shifts. This will support Optare's current record order book and future growth plans, including the company's increasing level of export activity. To read the full story, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vZ_JRSZa33Z_YTxNwCIhwrTJry34B95jOcHo0pCJ8104g==) |      |  | | --- | | **Grants available for India Auto Expo Show** | | SMMT has nine UKTI Trade Access Programme (TAP) grants available for next year's Auto Expo Show in New Delhi. Each is worth £1,400 to support exhibitor costs at the event, to be held 7-12 January 2012. The Auto Expo Show is the key event for the Indian automotive industry and attracts the main businesses and stakeholders in vehicle manufacturing and component supply. Grants are available to eligible UK companies. For further information, contact Sarah Thevenet, 020 7344 9233 or [sthevenet@smmt.co.uk](mailto:sthevenet@smmt.co.uk) |      |  | | --- | | **Latest Production Outlook suite now available** | | SMMT has released this month's European Production Outlook suite, focusing on topical issues including how exactly the natural disasters in Japan will affect European production. The May edition also provides detailed explanations and analysis of vehicle manufacturers' production plans, new model launches and a forecast of vehicle production volumes by model and manufacturing plant through to 2015. The report is free to SMMT members and costs £4,120 for non-members for an annual subscription of six issues.   To download the report, click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UZEdV7vv45tX8K1LmZqV5NqjENvE2S59ZKz3bh7yCVfFoureybZ87xXI2-UO9JjnlZB8NXiMKDDnkNJOztQUuk46EUs0_GHp4_sb9_ZZTHykDmoVfs7k2W8BdDYxKFm79K0Uzi2cCwR6aYBrfCwo7SiK56iDlAcEugugZlSDBhPbxDt5olJZKztf8JQRv8V92-hQ9YMfwk7Hr6MoobBav3kCgrPZTfHy1OYBX1C8qXxttx1A5C4x054W23Y3WkuNcA==) or to watch a free 10 minute analyst briefing, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vaj0KECoMf2oxt57ydKTboTjOv_UZVtaL6mYXnGgLQZ_moVObEp5kCWw29CyW9XIcgbbOMIr0yRL9cA05fJM2PK) |      |  | | --- | | **SMMT's Industry Forum lowers emissions with UK-built fleet** | | Industry Forum has replaced its fleet of Toyota Avensis saloons, after five years, with Auris Hybrid electric vehicles to improve fuel economy and deliver better environmental performance across its business fleet. The new Auris, which is manufactured by Toyota at it's Burnaston plant in Deeside, has an average fuel consumption of 70.6mpg and emits 93g/km CO2, a significant improvement on the outgoing older vehicles. Industry Forum is a subsidiary company of the SMMT and delivers practical training to automotive companies across the UK, helping them to reduce waste, improve profitability and lower costs throughout the supply chain. To read the full story, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vaRw6T9yWd2d2ubR6VRzI9QiRIP-sdFTrxJ3wLGZi6ruY9U3NF0eFtZ2kYSh_lLctJLxoW_wfF9278z5-xXQV25BvPy7oHihKV4wIZFOcpUePqIpkgNUO-4Byc61BzYdOkbWxWpDBhEUA==)   |  | | --- | | https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/87.jpg | | Paul Everitt, SMMT Chief Executive, and Michael Baunton, Chairman of Industry Forum, visited Toyota, Burnaston to receive the vehicles. | |      |  | | --- | | **SMMT looks for new Technical Manager** | | SMMT is seeking an expert on engines, fuels and noise to work within the Environment Team as the Technical Manager, responsible for shaping policy in collaboration with SMMT members, colleagues and stakeholders. Educated to degree level or equivalent in an engineering discipline, and ideally with a minimum of five years experience in the automotive industry, the Technical Manager will be confident in their knowledge and understanding of at least one of the role's core technical fields of powertrain or fuels and be able to competently undertake the key duties of the role. For more information about this vacancy, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vaRw6T9yWd2d8FbJsHQvSFlFFXHUBQhK7HIUVW8iEwUQl176qHZ3ysfq3ENWjBrH2P536f4eRu_uu-7lwKMvR-xPjhDDUrGni4=) |      |  | | --- | | **Regional Growth Fund webinar provides invaluable advice** | | SMMT hosted a free webinar event this week, focusing on the second round bidding process of the Regional Growth Fund. This round opened on 12 April and will allocate the remainder of fund (nearly £1bn), closing at noon on 1 July. Paul Everitt chaired the event and the Department of Business Innovation and Skills presented a 30 minute session with the opportunity to have questions answered by the panel. Issues discussed included eligibility of applicants, fundamentals of a good bid, advice on partnerships and case studies from round one. To view the webinar slides or a video of the session, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UZEdV7vv45tX8K1LmZqV5NqjENvE2S59ZKz3bh7yCVfFQTI82HXQfTG1tZdMNN5A16_EDcC2L5q2olUJZrPgbJeFUowcxFjIP1AFqftQeeWJOGHHd_YkBjg=) |      |  | | --- | | **Opportunity to Shape an Intelligent Future** | | The Technology Strategy Board and Transport KTN are launching an event to explore the issues and opportunities arising from growth and development in digital communications. On 25 May in London, the event will include a series of presentations, discussions and workshops exploring how increased connectivity and visibility within Intelligent Systems may create better transport networks and promote efficient travel for people and freight across the Road, Rail and Marine sectors. For more information or to register your interest, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UZEdV7vv45tXl_c1HsRwgjw5BiRFZRjEL8AcyuJUwctax4wiHayZIrgD2Gqxt1qX0W4GJ9IIyeqY) |      |  | | --- | | **Tickets available for Italian automotive show** | | SMMT has secured a limited number of free visitor passes to attend this year's Autopromotec Show, held on 25-29 May, in Bologna, Italy. For more information, contact Ruta Aisthorpe, 020 7344 9231 or [raisthorpe@smmt.co.uk.](mailto:raisthorpe@smmt.co.uk) |      |  | | --- | | **Week in Brussels and Westminster** | | This week in Brussels, the European Transport Safety Council (ETSC) has welcomed the launch of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety. The UN Decade will enable the EU to join forces in tackling road safety at a global level. The World Health Organisation predicts that road traffic injuries will rise to become the fifth leading cause of death by 2030 in the world. ETSC has prepared a short film featuring leading figures from across Europe, all calling for a strong decade of concerted action on road safety. To read the full story, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vaRw6T9yWd2d2ubR6VRzI9QiRIP-sdFTrxAMD9xtWQpPfFYRhhznbp9JLvLO0BOFclz601c9nujq90tR5C8FG-uiqsIGVIezHt58O1X0h0cHC4tTH-zRwQkFDowCObFQNg=)    This week in Westminster, the Department for Transport (DfT) has set out a 10 year strategic plan for road safety, in coordination with the UN's Decade of Action for Road Safety. Philip Hammond, Secretary of State for Transport, announced the framework, setting out a range of policies aiming to continue a reduction in deaths and injuries on the UK's roads. Government expects central and local government to continue to prioritise road safety and seek improvements. To read the full story, click [here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vaRw6T9yWd2d2ubR6VRzI9QiRIP-sdFTrxAMD9xtWQpPZ3D7PBffVyAMQ39SCpp3N1EbOPM86KibppBZJICyD6mOhXxN0mZjYwViDD8HGEIPB76w-i4tP8Ul0udQHtmwZRoRmPNwUKAhw==) | | |  | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Twitter** | | [twitter](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnVcYIKa5PuW2r4FufV6Mf3rgFTTgiSUIin2Y9CowI7Dj_EFddmmOMmA==) |  |  | | --- | | **Automotive Council** | |  |  |  | | --- | | **Flickr gallery** | | [https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/62.jpg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vZCa0Ep-q7dC49yy3X1EOP2Qhl0Df3eUoKB9rddYRu95jZnmYw8TncQ7rqzkycyAaE=) |  |  | | --- | | **Motor  Codes** | | [https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/47.jpg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vbUOrL0PiXr-eR4r3adhajOH1xTndLt76w=) |  |  | | --- | | **SMMT IATF Oversight** | | **[https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/70.jpg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vZRIMWlPWspFPD4tY8g7Vap8VdKm-yUB62m7v6BCsmV3g==)** |  |  | | --- | | **Industry Forum** | | [https://origin.ih.constantcontact.com/fs041/1103225665917/img/72.jpg](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105460756862&s=0&e=001M1PmN6jLJ4B8VOxWzZaipO0_9nMJA9YgG3eVGXy6tDsNNkhq_bs-UXQEnZHhXFGnosw7ov0G0vYwkJ9fAnlQg0BTAv7tGO8MUn-5rgea_uEBch1IJo43qA==) | | | |  |
| |  | | --- | | **Diary dates:**  SMMT International Automotive Summit, Westminster, 28 June 2011 - [www.smmtsummit.co.uk](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&et=1105090549166&s=0&e=001eMALXY3GhAC45PzxUHPJPR7HDw7xmhO8R515Yle2WEa6LjnawM4DXi9cEOk7jROhfVcsEQ20WmiNpbp6bDIgLJW_IIrt8lUdly5AxzR7r8-1b5dpW5v0bA==&id=preview).  SMMT Annual Dinner, London Hilton Park Lane, 22 November 2011 - [annualdinner@smmt.co.uk](mailto: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&t=5larjrfab.0.0.6lo4vodab.0&id=preview&p=http%3A%2F%2Flib.smmt.co.uk%2Farticles%2Fnews%2FNews%2F2011%2520News%2520release%2520dates.docx)  To download Industry Forum's latest information on sustainable business improvement click [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=6lo4vodab&t=5larjrfab.0.0.6lo4vodab.0&id=preview&p=http%3A%2F%2Flibrary.constantcontact.com%2Fdoc203%2F1103225665917%2Fdoc%2Fpy9mtbWqPguBYhh8.pdf).  Bottom banner | |  |