



SMMT New Car Registrations

6 June 2007

Press Release Number 4474

For Release

Immediate

Diesel registrations motor on during quiet May

- Total year-to-date registrations up 2.2 per cent to 1,044,436 units
- Year-to-date diesel registrations rise by 7.2 per cent to 404,658 units
- May total of 185,797 units down 2.2 per cent on previous year
- Market currently remains on target to reach 2.335 million units forecast

'The ever-frugal motorist has helped limit climate change through reduced tailpipe emissions by purchasing more cars with fuel-efficient diesel engines,' says Christopher Macgowan, chief executive of SMMT. 'Ipsos MORI research commissioned by SMMT, *Women and motoring*, indicates that the environment is gradually becoming more of a hot topic for new car buyers – especially with the younger motorist. Hopefully, campaigns such as *Act on CO₂*, will make more motorists aware of both the cost, and climate change advantages, of modern, cleaner engine technology.'

Diesel car market and average new car CO₂ emissions in the UK

Year	Average CO ₂ g/km	% change	Diesel new car market	% change	Market share %
1997	189.8	-	350,913	-4.4%	16.2%
1998	188.4	-0.7%	343,372	-2.1%	15.3%
1999	185.0	-1.8%	303,925	-11.5%	13.8%
2000	181.0	-2.2%	313,192	3.0%	14.1%
2001	177.6	-1.9%	436,591	39.4%	17.8%
2002	174.2	-1.9%	602,623	38.0%	23.5%
2003	172.1	-1.2%	704,637	16.9%	27.3%
2004	171.4	-0.4%	835,334	18.5%	32.5%
2005	169.4	-1.2%	897,887	7.5%	36.8%
2006	167.2	-1.3%	898,521	0.1%	38.3%

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