

Truck sales have declined in Russia during the January-August period

03.10.2014 / Kommersant

Truck sales continue declining in Russia, as well as car sales. According to data published by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, 62,700 trucks have been sold in the country within the January-August period (-16%).

49% of the aforementioned sales belong to domestic brands such as; KAMAZ, Ural and GAZ (30,700 vehicles). The sales of these brands have shrunk by 6.1% within the January-August period, in comparison with the same period of the previous year. The total sales figure of foreign brand trucks manufactured in Russia such as; Volvo, Scania, Fuso etc. is around 6500 (-7%). The shrinkage in the market is most likely related to declining truck imports. The number of imported trucks sold in the country within the aforementioned period is 20,700 (-27.4%). The Russian sales figure of MAZ, imported from Belarus, in particular, is 4700 for the first eight months of the year (-29.3%).

The information sources of Kommersant newspaper state that the shrinkage in the truck market was being expected, due to the high utilisation tax implemented on heavy trucks. “Depreciating ruble effect” and the accumulated stock held by importers from previous prices are other factors behind the shrinkage.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce predicts this year’s truck sales figure as 92,000 (-23%). According to a more pessimistic scenario, the annual sales figure will remain at 87,000 (-26.7%).

The manufacturers doubt the efficiency of the utilisation programme started in September and the decision to give priority to domestic products in government purchases. The main expectation is on the limitation of the usage period of commercial vehicles.

AVTOVAZ has suspended the production of all models except Largus

02.10.2014 / koleza.ru

AVTOVAZ has suspended the production of all models except Largus between 1-5 October, in order to optimise the stocks. According to information obtained, there are currently 54-55,000 automobiles in the stocks of the factory and the dealers.

The production line will resume operations as of 5 October at the factory. Lada Priora production will restart after 15 October. Lada 4x4 production line will operate in a single shift from 5 October until the end of the month.

Chery has started car production in Cherkassk

01.10.2014 / [AutoBusiness Review](#)

As announced by the press office of Chery Avtomobili Rus, Cherkassk based Derways factory has started the assembly production of Chery model automobiles. 300 Bonus3 and Tiggo5 have been manufactured at the factory in September.

The factory plans to manufacture 2400 automobiles in October. The monthly capacity has been announced as 3000 automobiles. Chery aims to increase the localisation rate of the factory to 50% and establish an engineering centre in partnership with Derways, in the forthcoming period.

Dongfeng intends to make production in Tatarstan

30.09.2014 / [Autonews.ru](#)

The press office of Tatarstan presidency has announced Chinese Dongfeng's plans to make car production at Alabuga Special Economic Zone. According to the announcement, the production will start in January 2015. The project will start as assembly production, to be followed by bodywork welding and painting processes within the next two years.

The news has also been confirmed by the executive secretary of Russian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, in charge of machinery and technical and innovative products: Sergei Sanakoyev.

The Chinese company will invest \$500 million in the project. The planned annual production capacity is between 120-170,000 automobiles.

VEB will finance AVTOVAZ and IzhAvto

26.09.2014 / [Russian Automotive Market Research](#)

Russian bank VEB will give 30 billion rubles credit to AVTOVAZ and AVTOVAZ affiliate: United Automobile Group (OAG). The aforementioned amount will be used in the modernisation of AVTOVAZ production line, new generation engine design and the development of new models planned to be manufactured at IzhAvto.

Scania and GAZ Group extend cooperation in bus production

29.09.2014 / Avtostat

Swedish Scania and Russian light commercial vehicle manufacturer GAZ Group have signed a new partnership agreement. Accordingly, the two companies will deepen the cooperation in bus production and sales.

The senior vice president of Scania CV AB Bus and Coach Department: Klas Dahlberg has made the following statement:

“We have been working together for more than ten years and our cooperation continues to develop successfully. Over 700 GAZ Group buses manufactured on Scania bodyworks, for the Winter Olympics held in Sochi, prove this cooperation. The partnership agreement we have signed will enable us to take our mutual cooperation to a new level, making use of the experiences of the two companies and the potential opportunities.”

The general director of GAZ Group affiliate Russkie Mashini: Manfred Eibeck, on the other hand, has said the following:

“The agreement signed creates new opportunities for the development of GAZ Group’s investments in buses. Our company combines the most advanced designs and technologies, in order to manufacture comfortable and secure buses.”

The cooperation between GAZ and Scania in bus production started in 2005. That year GAZ started manufacturing touristic Cruise buses on Scania frames for the first time. The cooperation of the two companies continued with the production of Voyage series buses in 2011. GAZ buses are being tested at facilities belonging to Scania, since 2012. The current models manufactured by GAZ using Scania frames and engines are as follows: Voyage, Voyage L, Cruise and LIAZ-529230.

Yekaterinburg car and LCV market has shrunk at a record level in August

24.09.2014 / Auto-Dealer-Yekaterinburg

According to Auto-Dealer-Yekaterinburg data, 50,605 new cars and light commercial vehicles have been sold in Yekaterinburg within the January-August period (-18%). August sales figure is 5519 vehicles. Thereby, the market has shrunk by 31%, in comparison with August 2013. This is also the highest shrinkage rate observed in 2014, on a monthly basis.

Out of the city’s 30 best-sold brands, only Renault, Mercedes-Benz and Lexus managed to increase their sales in August. The share of Yekaterinburg within the Russian car and light commercial vehicle market has been calculated as 3.2% for the January-August period.

11,000 vehicles have been sold in three weeks within the scope of the utilisation programme

26.09.2014 / Vedomosti

Russian Ministry of Industry and Commerce officer Alexander Morozov has announced that 10,937 vehicles have been sold within the scope of the utilisation programme, between 1-21 September. 85% of the sales took place within the third week of the programme. The ministry officers anticipate that 170,000 vehicles will be sold within the frame of the programme, until the end of the year. 10 billion rubles have been allocated for the programme.

According to data published by the ministry, 90% of the aforementioned sales figure is formed of automobiles. While the light commercial vehicles had a share of 7.5%, the sales of buses and trucks formed 0.58% and 0.02% of the total sales, respectively.

As expected, Lada has become the leader on the basis of brands (74.63%). Lada is followed by: Ford Sollers (8,71%), GAZ (5,39%), Volkswagen (3,16%), UAZ (3,15%), Sollers Far East (2,89%) and other manufacturers (2,07%).

The ministry officer Alexander Morozov has stated that opportunities to extend the programme to the next year are being sought at the moment, in accordance with manufacturers' demand.

The magnitude of Russian vehicle park has exceeded 48 million

23.09.2014 / autonews.ru

According to Avtostat data, as of today, the magnitude of Russian vehicle park has exceeded 48 million. The breakdown of the total figure is as follows: 40.2 million cars, 3.87 million light commercial vehicle, 3.75 million trucks and 393,000 buses.

As assessed by Avtostat analysts, the vehicle park has grown by 5% this year. Thereby, the number of cars per 1000 Russian Federation citizens has reached 340. However, this figure drops to 283, when cars-only are taken into consideration.

The survey also includes the ages of the vehicles. Average ages of 12, 13, 15 and 19 for cars, light commercial vehicles, buses and trucks respectively, indicate a rather old vehicle park for Russia.

The president of Ford Sollers does not expect a recovery in the Russian market until 2017

23.09.2014 / gazeta.ru

The president of Ford Sollers: Ted Cannis has told that the political and economic instabilities will have negative effects on the Russian automobile market during the course of the next couple of years and the market will start to shrink seriously as of the first half of 2015, unless government subsidies come to rescue. The Russian market shrank by 5.5% in 2013, with 2.78 million vehicles. 1.58 million automobiles have been sold within the first eight months of 2014, on the other hand, indicating a shrinkage rate of 12%. Ted Cannis has admitted the benefits of the utilisation and incentive credit programmes, however added that the establishment of customer confidence, in other words: stability, is compulsory in order to achieve market recovery.

St. Petersburg car production has been on the decline for four months

22.09.2014 / Auto-Dealer-SPb

According to Auto-Dealer-SPb data, St. Petersburg based Toyota, GM, Nissan and Hyundai factories have manufactured 242,600 automobiles within the first eight months of the year (-4%). Thereby, the share of St. Petersburg in Russian automotive has reached 20.2%. 25,900 automobiles have been manufactured in the city in August (-8%).

The factories have taken Summer holidays in August, as it's the custom every year. The holiday term was two weeks at Toyota. GM, on the other hand, has worked for less than a week in August. Toyota, GM, Nissan and Hyundai manufacture ten different models: Chevrolet Cruze, Opel Astra, Chevrolet Trailblazer, Nissan Teana, Nissan X-Trail, Nissan Murano, Nissan Pathfinder, Toyota Camry, Hyundai Solaris and KIA Rio.

Russian LCV market has shrunk by 30% in August

22.09.2014 / Avtostat

10,600 new light commercial vehicles have been sold in Russia in August. Thereby, the market has shrunk by 30%, in comparison with August 2013. Such a high shrinkage rate in LCV market was observed in 2009, the year of crisis, for the last time.

89,200 LCVs have been sold within the first eight months of the year (-18%). 68% of the sales belong to domestic brands.

GAZ has become the market leader in August, with a sales figure of 5100 vehicles (-31%). UAZ occupies the second place with 1500 vehicles (-13%). Mercedes-Benz follows the top-two with 740 vehicles (+40%). Lada is ranked fourth with 680 Largus and VIS sales (-34%). Volkswagen has sold 460 vehicles (-44%).

St.Petersburg car and LCV market has shrunk by 24% in August

18.09.2014 / Auto-Dealer-SPb

According to Auto-Dealer-SPb data, 121,369 new cars and light commercial vehicles have been sold in St. Petersburg within the first eight months of the year (-7%). The number of vehicles sold in the city in August is 12,813 (-24%). Thereby, the share of St. Petersburg within the total Russian market has reached 7.7%.

Renault has become the market leader. KIA occupies the second place. Only two brands out of the top-20 have achieved to increase their sales: Skoda and Volvo.

The agency executives state that due to uncertainties experienced during the initiation of the utilisation programme, the decline in sales will continue in September.

GM will lay off 500 workers from its St. Petersburg factory

17.09.2014 / ITAR-TASS

The representative of St. Petersburg GM factory has announced that the number of shifts will be reduced to one, as of October. In addition, the production will be cut at the factory and around 500 white and blue collar workers will be laid off. The company's current number of staff is approximately 2000 people.

The GM representative has stated that as announced before, the factory will suspend operations for the duration of one and a half month, between the end of August and November. The representative has added that the localisation process will be accelerated. The company had previously announced plans to increase the localisation rate to 60% before 2018. However, the representative avoided going into details.

Currently, TrailBlazers are being assembled at the factory, along with Chevrolet Cruze and Opel Astra production.