

## **Volkswagen has started the CKD production of Skoda Yeti in Nizhni-Novgorod**

06.12.2012 / Vedemosti

VW Group Rus has started the CKD production of Skoda Yeti automobiles in the facilities belonging to GAZ, established in Nizhni-Novgorod today. As one may remember, an 8-year term agreement had been signed between VW and GAZ, proposing the production of Skoda Yeti, VW Jetta and Skoda Octavia automobiles in Nizhni-Novgorod. There are plans to manufacture 13,000 Yetis in the city in 2013.

On the other hand, VW is aiming to reach annual production levels of 225,000 and 132,000 vehicles in Kaluga and Nizhni-Novgorod respectively, by the year 2016. According to the rules of the Industrial Assembly Agreement, at least 30% of these automobiles must be equipped with engines and gear-boxes manufactured in Russia.

## **AvtoVAZ has started to manufacture El Lada electromobiles**

06.12.2012 / auto.vesti.ru

AvtoVAZ has started the small-scale serial production of its first electric automobile model: El Lada. The first party production, which consists of 100 vehicles, will be sent to Stavropol Region to be used as taxis. An agreement proposing the sale of 100 electric cars to the regional administration had been signed between OAO AvtoVAZ and the government of Stavropol Region on 30.08.2012. The Russian manufacturer has delivered the first of these automobiles to the regional administration.

El Ladas have a maximum velocity of 130 km/h and can travel a distance of 150 km, once charged for 8 hours. The components used in the vehicles such as; electric engines, inverters and DC/DC blocks are being supplied by the Swiss company: MES. The lithium-phosphate-iron batteries are made in China, on the other hand. Charging equipment belong to another Swiss company Brusa. El Lada, designed based upon Lada Kalina, had been launched during the Moscow Auto Show 2012. The vehicle weighs 1200 kg.

## **KamAZ has manufactured 3728 trucks in November**

03.12.2012 / Avtostat

KamAZ has manufactured 3728 trucks in November (-25%). The company had rolled 5000 trucks out of the production line in the same period of the previous year. However, as one may remember, the Russian manufacturer has been operating only 4-days-a-week since 12.11.2012. The total number of trucks manufactured in the factory within the first 11 months of the year is 47,500 (+11%), on the other hand. KamAZ is aiming to reach a year-end sales figure of 48,500 (+9%).

## **Volkswagen is planning to invest €840 million in Russia over the next 3 years**

05.12.2012 / Finmarket

German automobile manufacturer Volkswagen is planning to make a new investment of €840 million in Russia in between the years 2013-2015. The relevant statement has been made by one of the executives of VW: Michael Macht. Macht has also reminded in his statement that VW has invested around €1 billion in car production in Russia up to today.

According to the aforementioned statement, an important part of the new €840 million investment will be used in the expansion of the Kaluga plant and financing the production projects in Nizhniy Novgorod. €250 million out of the total amount will be spent on the engine factory, which will be established in Kaluga as well. The factory, which will have an annual production capacity of 150,000 engines, will commence operations in 2015, according to plans.

## **AvtoVAZ has increased its sales by 7.3% in November**

04.12.2012 / Autostat

AvtoVAZ has increased its sales by 7.3% in November (45,107 vehicles). Thereby, the number of Lada automobiles sold in the country has reached 494,271 (-7.7%) by the end of the 11-months period. While Lada Granta has become the best-sold Lada model of November with 12,836 vehicles, the sales figure of Lada Priora reached 10,158 (+4.8%). The third most popular Lada model is Samara (7399, -35.8%).

6726 Kalinas have been sold in November (-34.8%). 4x4 was another model with declining sales figures, in comparison with November 2011 (4059, -19.4%). Lada Largus, being on the market since 16.07.2012, has achieved a sales figure of 2790 vehicles. The sales of discontinued Lada models such as; 2107 and 2104 continue to decline rapidly (total sales of two models: 1137). 5875 Ladas have been exported in November (-20.1%). The total number of exports since the beginning of the year is 65,306 (+28%).

## **AvtoVAZ Board of Directors has approved the contract of loan signed with Nissan**

28.12.2012 / Vedomosti

AvtoVAZ Board of Directors has approved the two loan agreements signed with the Russia representative of Nissan Manufacturing Rus. It has been stated in the Board resolution that the Board member: Carlos Gohn is also the Chairman of Nissan Motor Co. and Nissan Motor Co. is the holder of the entire shares of Nissan Manufacturing Rus and the participant of Renault s.a.s company, who holds 20% of AvtoVAZ shares, at the same time. Independent directors, without any expectations of benefit from the aforementioned agreements, have also participated in the voting process. As one may remember, it was announced in July that AvtoVAZ had borrowed a loan of €53.07 million from Renault.

## **GAZ Group will start production in Turkey/Sakarya**

03.12.2012 / IHA

The Sakarya plant of Russia's most important commercial vehicle brand GAZ Commercial Vehicles will commence operations with a ceremony, participated by Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak, Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce Alexei Rahmanov and executives from GAZ Group and Mersa Automotive, the distributor of "GAZelle Business" models manufactured by GAZ, who resumed its operations in Turkey from its plant in Sakarya.

GAZ Group CEO Bo Inge Andersson has stated that they have restarted exports in Turkey and continued as follows: "Initially, we will have vehicles based on five different chassis' and cabins in Turkey, which will be sold for prices starting from 30,400 TL. We're establishing an excellent network of components and services within our distribution system, for our operations due to start in January."

Andersson, who expressed the need for a strong local partner has added the following: "Mersa's 12 branches and existing service outlets provide great advantages. The investment in Turkey will enable us to make sales anywhere we like in Europe. Turkey is a very profitable and competitive market. We sell 2005 vehicles in Russia per week. This is the first stage in fulfilling our aim of global growth. We'll manufacture 300 vehicles this year, 2500 the following year and 3700 the year after."

## **GAZ Group is ready for the shift to Euro-4**

27.11.2012 / Avtostat

According to the statement made by the GAZ Group, Gorky Car Factory (GAZ) is ready to shift to Euro-4 standards in engine production for the entire range of engines manufactured in the factory, besides GAZel, Sobol, Valday, Sadko and GAZ-3309. The company executives state that the necessary tests and the certification process have been completed.

Increases between 2% and 5% are anticipated in the prices of GAZ models, due to the shift to Euro-4 standard. The company will continue to manufacture for CIS countries, where Euro-3 standard is still valid.

On the other hand, the Group will supply St. Petersburg with 10 medium-class PAZ-320412 model buses before the end of the year. The buses, equipped with engines belonging to Euro-4 standard YaMZ-530 family, will be used in St. Petersburg inner-city routes.

The engine powers of 4-6 cylinders YaMZ-530 engines vary in between 120-312 hp. According to the statement made by the manufacturer, the engines with a minimum life span of 600,000 km, have a fuel consumption rate of 22 lt /100 km.

## **317,000 automobiles have been manufactured in St. Petersburg in January-October period**

22.11.2012 / Avtostat

According to Auto-Dealer-SPb data, Toyota, GM, Nissan and Hyundai factories established in St. Petersburg have manufactured a total number of 317,000 automobiles in January-October period. This figure is 61% better, in comparison with the production performance of the same period of the previous year. The number of automobiles manufactured in October-only is 35,000, on the other hand (+18%).

The share of St. Petersburg factories in the total production of Russia has reached 19.8% by the end of the aforementioned period. The growth rate of the automotive sector in the city has surpassed the country average. The country-wide production increased by 14% in January-October period and 11% in October-only.

Auto-Dealer-SPb predicts that 35,000 automobiles will be manufactured in each of the remaining two months of the year, thus bringing the year-end total production number to approximately 390,000.

The brands and models manufactured throughout the four factories in the city are as follows; Chevrolet Cruze, Opel Astra, Nissan Teana, Nissan X-Trail, Nissan Murano, Infiniti FX, Infiniti M, Toyota Camry, Hyundai Solaris and KIA Rio.

## **ZiL has signed an Industrial Assembly Agreement**

21.11.2012 / auto.vesti.ru

MosavtoZiL -an affiliate company of ZiL Car Factory, established in Moscow- has automatically signed an Industrial Assembly Agreement by acquiring another company: Gruppa Himeks. Himeks held an inactive Industrial Assembly Agreement, signed with the Russian government. ZiL will be able to speed up the ongoing partnership negotiations with several car manufacturers and organise the car production in its Moscow factory, with the help of this agreement.

As one may remember, ZiL has recently signed a contract-based assembly agreement with Hyundai. In accordance with the agreement, Hyundai LCVs will be manufactured in Moscow. ZiL currently continues its negotiations with FIAT and Renault, on the other hand.

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