

211,000 cars and LCVs have been sold in Russia in February

12.03.2012 / OIB Russia

Association of European Business (AEB) has published the February 2013 sales figures of cars and LCVs in Russia. Accordingly, 210,666 cars and LCVs have been sold in Russia in February. This figure corresponds to a 2% increase, compared to February 2012. As a result, the number of cars and LCVs sold in the country has reached 372,743 (+3%), by the end of the first two months of the year. In other words, the car and LCV markets in Russia maintained a stable course during January-February 2013.

The sales figures of major car manufacturers in Russia by the end of the January-February period are as follows; AvtoVAZ-Renault-Nissan Group: 120,590 (+4%), Volkswagen Group: 40,441 (+7%), GM Group: 35,174 (+5%). The two most popular models of the period were; Lada Granta (22,796 vehicles) and Hyundai Solaris (15,778 vehicles).

Renault may increase production in Russia in 2013

11.03.2013 / Vedomosti

The General Director of Renault Russia Bruno Anselen has stated that the production of the Avtoframos factory may be increased by 12.3% this year, despite the shrinkage in the market, during the Geneva Motor Show.

Avtoframos, established in Moscow, had manufactured 167,400 automobiles in 2012, increasing the production by 19%, in comparison with the year 2011. The models being manufactured at the factory are as follows; Logan, Sandero, Fluence, Duster (CKD), Latitude and Koleos (SKD).

GM AvtoVAZ will reduce the production due to declining demand in Russian market

07.03.2013 / Vedomosti

GM-AvtoVAZ Car Factory, established in Togliatti, is getting ready to reduce Chevrolet Niva production in the forthcoming months. According to the statement made by the press bureau of the factory, the shrinkage observed in the market is the reason behind this decision. Hereunder, the facility will not operate for three working days within the course of March and April.

Previously, GM-AvtoVAZ had announced the production target of 2013 as 62,500 vehicles (-0.7%). The company manufactured 62,981 vehicles in 2012 (+9%).

Ford-Sollers will manufacture the new generation of Mondeo Sedan in Vsevolozhsk

06.03.2013 / ITAR-TASS

Ford-Sollers have announced that the production of the current generation of Ford Mondeo will continue until the end of the year in Vselovozhsk factory. A new generation of Mondeo is planned to be manufactured in the factory in the forthcoming period. However, the officials haven't revealed the exact date the production will start. The experts in the sector share the view that the production of the new generation Mondeo in Vselovozhsk will start in 2014, at the earliest.

The Vselovozhsk factory of the first ever foreign manufacturer in Russia: Ford had been opened in 2002. Ford Focus and Mondeo are being manufactured in the factory, which has an annual production capacity of 125,000 vehicles.

Toyota is planning to increase its production in Russia

06.03.2013 / auto.ru

Toyota is planning to manufacture 35,000 cars in St. Petersburg and 5000 cars in its Vladivostok factories respectively, this year. The relevant statement has been made by the Executive Director of Toyota Motor Europe Didier Leroy. The company manufactured 28,500 automobiles in St. Petersburg in 2012. Accordingly, the production of the company will increase by 22.8% in 2013.

Toyota has set its target in Russian market for this year as: 168-170,000 Toyota and 16,500 Lexus. The company sold 153,000 Toyota and 15,600 Lexus brand vehicles in the country in 2012. In other words, the company is anticipating increase rates of 11% and 5.8% in sales of Toyota and Lexus respectively.

Didier Leroy predicts the volume of Russian automobile market as 3 million vehicles for this year. Leroy has also added that Russia may become the new leader of the European market by the end of the year, in case German market remains at 2.9 million vehicles.

Toyota has been manufacturing Camry in St. Petersburg since 2007. The annual production capacity of the factory is 50,000 vehicles. In addition, Toyota has started to manufacture Land Cruiser Prado in partnership with Sollers and Mitsui & Co. in Vladivostok, in February 2013. The annual production capacity of the facility is 25,000 automobiles.

Russia is second in automobile production in Europe

05.03.2013 / Avtostat

According to the International Organisation of Motor Vehicle manufacturers (OICA) data, 84 million vehicles of all types have been manufactured in the world in 2012 (+5.3%). Three quarters of this figure is formed of passenger cars.

The highest number of automobiles were manufactured in China. The automobile production of the country has increased by 7.2%, reaching 15.5 million vehicles. The second place is occupied by Japan (8.5 million, +19.5%). The number of automobiles manufactured in the European continent, including Turkey and the CIS countries, is 17.4 million. While Germany became the biggest manufacturer in Europe (5.4 million vehicles), Russia came second, overtaking France. The number of automobiles manufactured in the country reached 1.9 million vehicles. The total production number in NAFTA countries is 6.9 million (+23.7%), on the other hand, 60% of this figure has been manufactured in USA. 3.2 million vehicles have been manufactured in South America in 2012. Brasil is the regional leader of production with a share of 82%. The total automobile production of the African continent is 381,000 vehicles. 103,000 of this figure belongs to Morocco.

Japan is ready to invest in component manufacturing in Russian Far-East

04.03.2013 / Vedomosti

Japan is currently doing a feasibility study on establishment of a number of facilities in Far-Eastern and Siberian regions of Russia, in order to manufacture automobile components. The relevant statement has been made by the Assistant Secretary General of the Japanese government Hiroshige Seko.

There aren't any major automotive supply industry companies in Far-Eastern regions of Russia at the moment. However, Russian Sollers owns three assembly plants in the region, with foreign partners. SsangYong, Mazda and Toyota Land Cruiser Prados are manufactured in these plants. The components used in the vehicles are being imported from Japan and S. Korea. An executive from Sollers has stated that the company is currently evaluating the localisation issue of several components within the frame of Mazda Sollers and Sollers Busan projects and relevant negotiations will start with the Japanese suppliers in near future. KamAZ also has a company in the region: KamAZ Vostok, which works with Chinese and Korean suppliers. KamAZ Vostok has manufactured 15 trucks in 2012.

The executives from St. Petersburg Toyota factory have stated that they would also prefer to work with Japanese supply companies in Siberian and Far-Eastern regions of Russia, in case they invest in these regions. St. Petersburg Toyota factory is currently receiving the majority of its supplies from Japan by sea-shipment.

Volvo Vostok manufactured 6000 and sold 7000 vehicles in Russia in 2012

27.02.2013 / Avtostat

Volvo Vostok has sold 6976 Volvo (+34%) and 1642 Renault (+22%) trucks in Russia in 2012. Thereby, Volvo has overtaken Scania, who sold 5283 vehicles in Russia in 2012. MAN has become the leader of the foreign brand trucks market of the country in 2012 (7620, +6.3%). Renault's ranking remained unchanged.

The total number of foreign brand trucks sold in Russia in 2012 is 34,477 (+23%). The sales figure of domestic brands reached 109,818, on the other hand. 45,823 of this figure belongs to KamAZ and 12,589 to MAZ. The number of trucks imported reached 11,607 (+4%). Chinese brands are excluded from this figure.

Volvo Vostok factory, established in Kaluga, manufactured 5959 trucks in 2012 (+17.6%). The relevant statement has been made by the General Director of Volvo Piter Andersson. Andersson has told that 4287 of the manufactured trucks are Volvo (+17%) and 1572 are Renault (+19%). The factory is currently making preparations to manufacture Volvo FH series trucks. Additionally, from 2014 onwards, new models of Renault Trucks will be manufactured in the factory.

As one may remember, Volvo Group had announced its plans to localise the cabin production in Kaluga with an investment of €90 million, in September 2012. The cabin production in Kaluga is anticipated to start in 2014. The group is planning to make an additional investment of €53 million in parts and components production in the country.

Volvo will open an excavator factory in Kaluga in May 2013. Piter Andersson has declared the investment value of the factory as €41 million. The factory will have an annual excavator production capacity of 2000.

VTB Bank will finance the primary investment projects of GAZ Group

26.02.2013 / Avtostat

VTB Bank and GAZ Group have signed five separate five-year term loan agreements with a total value of 6 billion rubles. The loans will be used in financing the important investment projects of the Group. Light commercial vehicle production, formation of a new line of bus models, development of production lines for gas operated commercial vehicles, renewal of the model range of heavy tonnage vehicles, industrial partnership projects with international manufacturers and upgrading of components production are amongst these projects. The Group Chairman Bo Anderson has highlighted the renewal of the product ranges according to the demands of the market, as a crucial factor, which should be taken into consideration by all manufacturers operating within the structure of the Group.

St. Petersburg manufactured one-fourth of all automobiles produced in Russia

25.02.2013 / Auto-Dealer-SPb

According to Auto-Dealer-SPb data, Toyota, GM, Nissan and Hyundai factories established in St. Petersburg have manufactured a total number of 31,400 vehicles (+17%) in January. In other words, a quarter of all automobiles manufactured in Russia during the first month of the year are from St. Petersburg. This ratio was 19.7% in 2012. The experts predict that the monthly automobile production of the city will range between 32-33,000 vehicles throughout the year. The models manufactured 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.

Approximately 9000 LCVs have been sold in Russia in January

22.02.2013 / Avtostat

The number of light commercial vehicles sold in Russia in January 2013 has increased by 9.2% in comparison with the same period of the previous year, reaching 8895 vehicles. 67.7% of the market belongs to Russian brands.

GAZ has once again become the leader of the market in January (4108 vehicles, +3.9%). The second place is occupied by UAZ (1263, -3.4%). The leadership amongst foreign brands has passed to Ford from Volkswagen with 791 vehicles (+80.6%). The sales figure of the German manufacturer remained at 581 vehicles (-12.4%). Lada is ranked fifth in the list with 555 vehicles. Lada has reached this figure with the help of the sales of Largus and VIS models.

GAZ Group has spent 5 billion rubles for the production preparations of GAZel Next

22.02.2013 / Avtostat

GAZ Group has invested approximately 5 billion rubles in the production of GAZel Next light commercial vehicles. The aforementioned figure has been spent on the establishment of the new automatised weld line and the purchase of test platforms and control equipments. GAZel Next had been launched for the first time during the Moscow motor Show, in August 2012. The serial production of the model will start in March. The GAZel Next, equipped with Euro-4 standard 2.8 litres Cummins ISF engines, will be under warranty for three years or 150,000 km. The service interval for the vehicle is 20,000 km.

AEB has published the commercial vehicles market data for the year 2012

22.02.2013 / Avtostat

Association of European Business (AEB) has published the commercial vehicles market data in Russia for the year 2012. AEB covers the commercial vehicles market in four segments. The first one being the sales of the light commercial vehicles within 2.8 and 6 tonnes. 188,905 light commercial vehicles have been sold in the country last year (+7%). GAZ, whose sales figures more or less remained stable, has become the leader of the LCV segment (90,247 vehicles). UAZ occupies the second place (27,885, +6%). This duo has been followed by Volkswagen (16,161, +31%) in the third place.

11,522 trucks have been sold in Russia from the 6-16 tonnes segment in 2012. The rate of increase in comparison with the previous year is 14%. Despite the decline in its sales figures, Hyundai has become the leader of the segment once again (4208 vehicles, -20%). The second and third places are occupied by Mitsubishi-Fuso (2026, +86%) and Hino (1779, +61%), respectively.

The number of 16+ tonnes trucks sold in 2012 is 18,507 (-12%). MAN has become the segment leader (7620 vehicles, +6%). The German manufacturer is being followed by Scania (5823, -14%) and Ural (5292, -48%). It should be remembered that the sales figures of the real market leader: KamAZ have not been included in AEB data. According to statements previously made by the company, which manages the distribution network of KamAZ, 41,000 KamAZ vehicles have been sold in Russia, on the other hand.

Finally, 5202 buses have been sold in Russia in 2012 (-2%). The leaders of the bus market are: PAZ (1916, +17%), LiAZ (1839, -15%) and KAVZ (549, +6%).

The AEB executives have drawn attention to the "lower than anticipated" figures of the fourth quarter. Concerns have been raised especially on the 16+ tonnes trucks segment. However, the executives could not identify the reasons behind the declining sales. The crisis experienced within the Euro Zone and the Renewal Tax implemented since 01.09.2012 are being perceived as the main suspects.