

Takata Rus has started production in Ulyanovsk

16.04.2013 / AutoBusiness info

Takata Rus has started manufacturing steering wheels, seat belts and airbags in its new facility in Ulyanovsk. €20 million investment has been made in the factory up to today. The factory employs 350 people. Takata Corporation supplies security systems for manufacturers such as; Audi, BMW, Ford, GM, Hyundai, Mazda, Nissan, Toyota and Volkswagen.

Bridgestone will establish a winter tyre factory in Ulyanovsk

15.04.2013 / Vedomosti

Bridgestone has announced its plans to establish a winter tyre factory in Ulyanovsk region. The company signed an investment agreement with the regional administration on 12.04.2013. Bridgestone will make this investment with Mitsubishi. The shares of Bridgestone and Mitsubishi in the company, which will be established under the name of Bridgestone Tyre Manufacturing CIS, will be 90% and 10% respectively. The total investment value has been declared as 12.5 billion rubles. The production in the factory will start during the first half of 2016. The minimum planned annual production capacity is 3.5 million tyres. It's aimed to reach this capacity by the second half of 2018.

The manufactured tyres will be marketed by OOO Bridgestone SNG (BS CIS), based in Moscow. Mitsubishi holds 20% shares of the company, which will be established with a founding capital of 600 million rubles.

The foreign tyre manufacturers, currently operating in Russia, are as follows; Nokian Tyres (Vsevolozhsk), Michelin (Davidovo) and Yokohama (Lipetsk). Continental will start production in Autumn 2013 in Kaluga. Pirelli, on the other hand, is manufacturing tyres in partnership with Rosteh, in Kirov and Voronezh factories.

AvtoVAZ has increased its net profit 4.4 times in 2012

15.04.2013 / Avtostat

AvtoVAZ Group has declared its net profit for the year 2012 as 29.2 billion rubles. This figure was 6.7 billion rubles in 2011. The turnover of the Group has also increased by 15 billion rubles in comparison with the previous year, reaching 190.1 billion rubles. The gross profit, on the other hand, has fallen by 1.1 billion rubles in comparison with the previous year, trailing at 21.8 billion rubles. The Group is relating this decline in the gross profit to the growing expenditures, caused by the launching of production of new models. AvtoVAZ had started the production of Lada Granta in Tolyatti and Lada Largus in Izhevsk in 2012. AvtoVAZ Group has invested 20.1 billion rubles in the expansion of production in Tolyatti and Izhevsk in 2012.

Audi will start assembly production in Russia during the second half of 2013

15.04.2013 / Prime

An Audi AG representative speaking to Prime News Agency has stated that the company will start assembly production in Russia during the second half of 2013. The production will be organised at the Kaluga factory of Volkswagen. The required components will be supplied from Germany. Q3, Q5 and Q7 models are planned to be manufactured.

RusAL and Israeli Omen will establish an aluminium components factory in Russia

12.04.2013 / Finmarket

OO RusAL and Israeli Omen High Pressure Die Casting have signed an agreement proposing the establishment of a partnership, in order to manufacture various types of aluminium components in Russia. The partnership, which will be established with equal shares, will settle on one of the Volgograd, Volhov, Kandalaksha or Nadvoitsi factories, known as the “Western Division” of RusAL. While RusAL supply the facility with liquid aluminium, Omen will be responsible for the production of modern, high-tech components.

Omen High Pressure Die Casting, established in 1946, is a company, which is specialised in the production of several components belonging to carburettors, oil and water pumps and oil pans, by the way of press and casting, out of metal such as; copper and aluminium.

Ford Sollers will manufacture 200,000 vehicles annually in Tatarstan

12.04.2013 / Prime

The Chairman of Ford Sollers: Ted Cannis has announced that the production capacity available in Tatarstan will be fully employed by 2015. The total annual production capacity of the partnership in Elabuga and Naberezhnie Chenlny is 200,000 automobiles. Ted Cannis has stated that reorganisation and modernisation works continue in Naberezhnie Chelny factory, which will commence operations in 2014 and hold a key position amongst factories belonging to Ford Sollers in Tatarstan. Cannis has declared the capacity of Elabuga factory as 65,000 vehicles. As one may remember, the factory started to operate at the Special Economic Zone in January 2012. Ford is currently manufacturing Explorer, Kuga, Galaxy, S-Max and Transit models in Elabuga and Focus and Mondeo models in Vsevolozhsk. Cannis has added that the current localisation rate of Ford models manufactured in Russia is approximately 35%. Ford Sollers will increase the localisation rate to a large extent in future, by carrying out the engine production and press operations in Russia. At this stage, the company is getting ready to begin the establishment of an engine factory in Elabuga.

Mazda 6 production has started in Vladivostok

12.04.2013 / Avtostat

Mazda Sollers Manufacturing Rus has started the serial production of Mazda 6 Sedan in Vladivostok today. Mazda 6 is the second model to be manufactured serially in Vladivostok, after CX-5.

As one may remember, Japanese Mazda Motor Corp. and Russian Sollers had opened the Vladivostok factory in September 2012 and started the production of CX-5 in October. The annual production capacity is being estimated as 50,000 automobiles, at the first stage of the project. Mazda Sollers partnership has been established with an investment of 10 billion rubles.

The number of car batteries imported to Russia has declined by 13.7%

11.04.2013 / Avtostat

The number of car batteries imported to Russian components market has fallen by 13.7%, in comparison with the previous year, with 5.85 million units. This is the second decline in imported car battery numbers, observed within the course of the last decade. The most recent decline was experienced in 2009.

The experts are relating this shrinkage to the decline in the purchasing activity of the Russian car-enthusiasts. Due to this reason, the majority of foreign car battery manufacturers had to reduce their supply volumes.

Johnson Controls & Robert Bosch has become the foreign manufacturer, who supplied Russia with the most number of car batteries in 2012, with 1.26 million units (+8.8%). The second place is occupied by Ukrainian Vesta-Snepr (1.04 million, -29.7%). Turkish Mutlu Aku follows this duo (657,400, +27.4%). Almost 50% of the car battery imports in Russian components market has been carried out by these three companies.

Belarus and Kazakhstan will also be subject to Utilisation Fee

11.04.2013 / Vedomosti

The Russian Ministry of Industry and Commerce has made a proposal on extending the Utilisation Fee, in order to include the automobiles from Belarus and Kazakhstan. The aforementioned proposal has been included in the new bill prepared by the Ministry. In case the bill passes into law, the new implementation will become effective from 01.07.2013 onwards.

The automobile import into Russia is on the decline

11.04.2013 / AutoNews.Ru

According to Russian Federal Customs Service (FTS) data, 120,300 automobiles have been imported to Russia within January-February 2013 period (-6.6%). The monetary value of this import has been calculated as \$2,411,500,000.

The truck import has also declined by the end of the same period, by 24%. The monetary value of the 9500 imported trucks sums up to \$254.7 million.

The number of automobiles exported from Russia to other countries has increased by 20.1% by the end of the first two months of the year, reaching 17,900 (\$169.9 million). The number of trucks exported is 1800, on the other hand (-14.3%, \$50.2 million).

The Russian vehicle market has shrunk for the first time within the course of the last three years

10.04.2013 / OIB Russia

According to Association of European Business (AEB) data, the sales of cars and LCVs have declined by 4% in March, in comparison with the same period of the previous year. The total sales figure for March is 244,300 vehicles. Thereby, the market has shrunk for the first time since March 2010.

616,700 vehicles have been sold within the first three months of 2013, on the other hand. This figure is almost even with the first quarter of the previous year. In other words, Russian vehicle market remained stable during the first quarter of 2013, in comparison with the year before. AEB executives speculate that the recession experienced in the market might be due to the prevailing longer than expected winter conditions.

AvtoVAZ has become the leader of the Russian market once more in March (40,480 vehicles, -7%). Renault occupies the second place (17,990, +16%). KIA follows the top duo (16,571, +10%).

Sollers Group has increased its net profit by 25% in 2012

08.04.2013 / Prime

One of Russia's biggest car manufacturers: Sollers Group has announced a net profit of 5881 billion rubles in 2012. This figure is 25% more than the net profit of 2011. The 2012 turnover of the Group reached 65,549 billion rubles, on the other hand (+5.7%).

GAZ Group has started the serial production of the new generation GAZel Next

09.04.2013 / Avtostat

Gorky Car factory, established in Nizhni-Novgorod, has started the serial production of the new generation GAZel Next LCVs yesterday. The Group Chairman: Bo Anderson has stated that approximately 22,000 of these vehicles will be manufactured until the end of the year. The Group aims to manufacture a total number of 105,000 vehicles within 2013. The sales price of the new generation GAZel Next will start from 699,000 rubles.

Bo Andersson has added that an investment of 4.9 billion rubles has been planned in the research & development of the new light commercial vehicles family and it's within the aims of the Group to put the GAZel Next on the European market. GAZel Next complies with the Euro-5 standard, however it's possible to upgrade the vehicle to Euro-6 standard. Andersson has stated that due to the intense competition in the European LCV market, the Group will avoid taking overambitious steps in the beginning. The initial target of the Group is getting a foothold in the Turkish, Polish and German markets.

Car battery production has declined by 3% in Russia in 2012

08.04.2013 / Avtostat

Approximately 6.1 million car batteries have been produced in Russia in 2012. This is 2.9% below the level of production achieved in 2011, the year with the highest number of production, in comparison with the five preceding years. AKOM Rus has become the leader amongst the brands, following the production of 1.4 million batteries (+1.8%). The second place is occupied by Tyumen Car Battery Factory (Tyumenski Akkumulyatorny Zavod). The factory has manufactured 1.2 million batteries (-15.6%). This duo is being followed by two factories established in Kursk, who share the same production area: Akkumulyator and Istok (1 million batteries, +73.5%).

There are eight currently active car battery factories in the Russian Federation, five of which carry out 80% of the total production in the country.

Sollers-Isuzu has started the production of NQR90 trucks

08.04.2013 / Avtostat

Sollers-Isuzu partnership has started the serial production of Isuzu NQR90 trucks at UAZ factory, established in Ulyanovsk. The model, equipped with 155 hp, Euro-4 standard engines, weighs 9.5 tonnes, when loaded to maximum. There are plans to manufacture 474 NQR90 trucks within 2013. As one may remember, Isuzu truck production resumed in Ulyanovsk in May 2012. Trucks and pickups with load carrying capacities between 1.5-6.6 tonnes are being manufactured in the factory currently. 1596 N-series vehicles have been manufactured in 2012.

Russia has rejected EU's reduction proposal on the utilisation fee

04.04.2013 / Vedomosti

Russian authorities are adamant on keeping the current rates of utilisation fee. European Union's proposal on reducing the rates has been turned down. However, according to the rumours, the European Commission has not shown any objection towards the offer made by the Russian authorities on taking compensatory measures to prevent the companies manufacturing within the frame of the Industrial Assembly Regime, to suffer any further losses. The parties met for the negotiations at the end of March.

As one may remember, the Ministry of Economic Development had made an announcement on a new arrangement, concerning the regulation of the utilisation fee payments of domestic and foreign manufacturers operating in Russia.

The cost of establishing an automotive cluster in Kaliningrad is in between 120-140 billion rubles

05.04.2013 / RIA

Russia's biggest foreign brand car manufacturer: Avtotor is planning to establish an automotive cluster, formed of 21 factories, in Kaliningrad Region. The Chairman of OOO Avtotor Holding: Valery Draganov has stated that the total investment value of the project is in between 120-140 billion rubles. Draganov has added that 42% of this amount (21% Avtotor + 21% foreign partners) will be financed by private capital, 44% by loans and the rest by the state.

According to the project, the annual automobile production capacity of the region will reach 250,000 vehicles by the year 2020. 6 out of the 21 factories will be OEMs and the remaining 15 supply industry manufacturers. In case the factories operate in three shifts, it will be possible to increase this figure to 350,000. The localisation rate is anticipated to reach 30% by 2018. There are plans to export 20% of the total production. The estimated level of employment will be in between 27-30,000 people.

Draganov has stated that the current partners of Avtotor: BMW, GM, KIA and Hyundai are ready to participate in the project and the credit negotiations continue with Sberbank and VneshEkonombank.

The net profit of OAO GAZ has declined nearly by two-thirds

02.04.2013 / Finmarket

GAZ Group affiliate: OAO GAZ has made a net profit of 648.7 million rubles in 2012. This figure is 2.8 times below the net profit declared at the end of 2011. The 2012 turnover of the company, on the other hand, has increased by 2.3%, reaching 23.4 billion rubles. OAO GAZ mainly manufactures components ready to be used in the production line for GAZ Group.

Citroen has made an investment of €120 million in C4 production in Russia

03.04.2013 / Avtostat

French manufacturer Citroen has announced that €120 million has been invested in C4 Sedan production in Kaluga PSMA Rus factory. €50 million has been spent on research & development and €70 million on production. C4 Sedan is the first model manufactured by Citroen, using CKD method in Russia. The model has been specifically designed for the road and climate conditions of Russia.

The localisation rate of the C4 Sedan manufactured in Kaluga is 34%. PSMA Rus manufactures the model in cooperation with 18 Russian suppliers, majority of which are based in Kaluga.

According to the statement made by the company, with the addition of C4 Sedan to the product range, it's aimed to increase the sales in Russia by 30%, in comparison with the 2012 figures. The production plan for the year 2013 is 13,000 vehicles.

KamAZ production has declined by 20.7% in the first quarter

03.04.2013 / Avtostat

KamAZ has manufactured 4500 trucks in March (-10%). Thereby, the number of trucks manufactured by the company in the first quarter of the year has reached 10,700. This figure is 20.7% fewer than the production number of the same period of the previous year.

However, it should be taken into consideration that KamAZ operated in a time schedule below 5-days-a-week for the whole month of January and part of February, due to the periodical shrinkage in demand experienced in the Russian truck market.

KamAZ is planning to manufacture 45,000 trucks in 2013 (+4.5%).