

The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) has brought the LCV anti-dumping investigation to a conclusion

20.05.2013 / OIB Russia

The EEC is bringing anti-dumping tariffs for the light commercial vehicles imported to the Customs Union Territory, formed of Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus. The new tariffs will be valid for five years. The new regulation will be brought into force within 30 working days from the announcement date of 16.05.2013, remaining in force for 5 years.

The increased tariff rates will be implemented on the following types of LCVs, during the entry process to the country:

- minibuses within the weight scale of 2.8-3.5 tonnes (including 3.5 tonnes) and with a maximum diesel engine volume of 3000 cm³
- panel vans with load-carrying capacities up to 2 tonnes (including 2 tonnes).

In the mean time, the aforementioned tariff rates will be implemented on vehicles imported from Germany, Italy and Turkey only. The implementation of different tariffs for different companies is also part of the new regulation. Accordingly, in addition to the existing 10% rate; Ford Otosan and other Turkish manufacturers will be paying 11.1%, Peugeot Citroen affiliate: Sevel S.P.A and the Italian manufacturers: 23% and the German manufacturers: 29.6% customs duties.

As one may remember, the Russian Ministry of Industry and Commerce had launched an official anti-dumping investigation on LCVs imported to the Customs Union Territory, from Germany, Poland, Italy and Turkey, upon the appeal made by Sollers in 2011. The investigation was transferred to the Economic Commission for Europe later on. During the investigation, it was found out that the LCV imports from Poland remained below 1% of the total figure within the years 2008-2011, resulting in the exclusion of this country from the investigation.

EEC's Director of Domestic Markets Protection Department Vladimir Ilyichev has made the following statement to RIA, about the decision: "As a result of the investigation, the existence of a serious level of anti-dumping has been uncovered in the imports made from Germany, Italy and Turkey, inflicting financial damages on the countries within the Customs Union Territory."

Following the declaration of the decision, Daimler and Volkswagen have expressed their disagreement and added that they will take all the legal measures available, in order to have the decision reversed. The tariff rate for these manufacturers has quadrupled to 40% from 10%, as a result of the decision. For instance, due to the anti-dumping measures, the price of VW Crafter in Russia will go up by 500,000 rubles, after one month. The current price of the vehicle starts from 1.35 million rubles.

The sales of LCVs in Russia had increased by 7%, in comparison with the previous year, in 2012, reaching 188,095 vehicles. The market leader: GAZ sold 90,247 vehicles. VW (16,161), Ford (12,962) and Peugeot (9933) became the three most popular foreign manufacturers in 2012.

VTB has made 2.5 billion rubles credit available for Sollers

17.05.2013 / Finmarket

VTB and Sollers have signed a 3-year-term credit agreement for 2.5 billion rubles. Within the frame of the agreement, the first installment of the amount -worth 1 billion rubles- has been released following the signature of the document. Apart from that the bank is getting ready to open two additional credit lines for Sollers, with a total limit of 5 billion rubles.

Sollers manufactures UAZ, Isuzu and SsangYong brand vehicles in Russia. The company also has production facilities, in partnership with Mitsui, Mazda and Ford.

The Russian LCV market has grown by 4.8% in April

17.05.2013 / Avtostat

Russian LCV market has reached 15,017 vehicle in April, following a 4.8% increase in comparison with the previous year. The market resumed its growth, recovering from the stagnation experienced in March. The number of sales has reached 50,726 vehicles by the end of the first four months (+3.5%). 67.5% of this figure is formed of Russian vehicles.

GAZ has once more become the leader of the market amongst the brands in April (7183, -5.3%). The second place is occupied by UAZ (2134, -12.1%). This duo is being followed by Volkswagen (1295, +0.9%), Ford (1006, +52.4%) and Lada with its Largus and VIS models (686).

Volkswagen Kaluga Factory may cut production by 10-14% this year

17.05.2013 / Vedomosti

Kaluga VW factory is planning to cut the production to 150-160,000 vehicles, compared to the 2012 figure of 175,000 (-10-14%). According to a source close to the factory administration, the transfer of Skoda Octavia production to Nizhni-Novgorod is the main factor behind this decision, rather than the current situation of the market.

Volkswagen manufactured over 180,000 automobiles in Kaluga and Nizhni-Novgorod in 2012. Previously, the company had announced a production plan of 200,000 automobiles for the year 2013.

As one may remember, GM-AvtoVAZ had revised their production plan, due to the shrinkage in the market, in the past. AvtoVAZ executives are not denying the possibility of an alteration in the production plan, announced in the beginning of the year.

The custom duties implemented on electric cars in Russia may be lifted for a year

16.05.2013 / Avtostat

The Russian Ministry of Industry and Commerce has announced their readiness to support the proposal, concerning the abolishment of custom duties on the import of electric cars, imposed on importer companies, for a year. There's a consensus amongst the ministry authorities and the importer companies on the necessity to develop the infrastructure for electric car usage in the country.

According to Rolf Import data, in the event of the annulment of customs duties, the electric car imports to the country may increase by tenfold, reaching 500 vehicles.

The net loss of OAO GAZ has risen by tenfold by the end of the first quarter

16.05.2013 / Finmarket

OAO GAZ -GAZ Group's parts and components company- has declared a net loss of 835.2 million rubles loss for the first quarter of 2013. The loss for the same period of the previous year was 83 million rubles. The revenue of the company has increased by 8.4% and reached 5.1 billion rubles, on the other hand.

Russian vehicle market has shrunk by 8% in April

16.05.2013 / Avtostat

According to AEB data, 245,334 cars and LCVs have been sold in Russia in 2012 (-8%). In the report published by AEB, attention has been drawn to the fact that the sales figure of April trailed behind March this year, in contrast with the previous two years, where April sales were superior to March by 6%. In the light of these data, the experts predict that it will be unlikely to reach the record breaking sales figures observed during the first half of 2012, this year. The sales figure by the end of the first four months of the year is 862,298 (-2%).

AvtoVAZ has once again become the leader amongst the brands in April. The company has sold 44,100 automobiles during the previous month (-12%). Renault's sales figure is 19,178 (+7%). KIA occupies the third place (18,303, +6%). This trio is being followed by; Chevrolet - (16,083, -6%), Hyundai - (15,868, +1%), Toyota - (15,279, -2%), VW - (14,203, -4%), Ford - (8635, -30%), Nissan - (8272, -30%) and Skoda - (7488, -15%).

Ford Sollers has started the construction of its engine factory in Elabuga

15.05.2013 / Avtostat

Ford Sollers has started the construction of the engine factory, which will be established right next to its existing facilities in Elabuga. The factory will employ 500 people and commence operations in 2015. The planned annual production capacity for the first stage is 105,000 engines. 85, 105 and 125 hp engines with 1.6 l volumes will be manufactured in the factory. At least 30% of the automobiles to be manufactured by Ford Sollers in Russia will be equipped with these engines.

Ford production started in 2012 in Elabuga. The models manufactured currently are: Transit, new Kuga, S-MAX, Galaxy and Explorer. Ford Sollers also manufactures Focus and Mondeo in Vsevolozhsk.

Ford Sollers has also announced that the production of EcoSport model will start in one of the factories in Tatarstan in 2014. The world premier of EcoSport had been made in 2012. The model is currently being manufactured in Brazil and India.

Ford Sollers sold 130,809 automobiles in Russia in 2012 (+11%). The sales figure of the company for the first quarter of 2013 is 23,654, on the other hand (-13%).

The tariffs on components for gas-fuelled automobiles may be annulled in Russia

14.05.2013 / auto.vesti.ru

The Russian authorities have rolled up their sleeves in order to increase the consumption of gas in automobiles. The annulment of tariffs on the import of parts and components used in gas-fuelled public transport vehicles is on the cards primarily. The Russian newspapers have reported that the Russian Prime Minister: Dmitri Medvedev has already commissioned the relevant bodies to carry out the regulations in question.

Medvedev has made the following statement: "We should consider giving support to the manufacturers of gas-fuelled automobiles, as well as the energy companies. The government is currently working on this matter. The ministries of transport and industry and commerce need to prepare an offer, proposing the reduction -or even annulment- of tariff rates implemented on the import of parts and components -which are not available in Russia- used in the production of gas fuelled automobiles and the tools and equipment required during the filling process of such fuels."

Medvedev has also signed a government order, commissioning the institutions to convert at least half of all public transport in the country to gas fuelled vehicles.

The automobile imports to Russia have declined by 8.7% since the beginning of the year

13.05.2013 / AvtoBiznesRevu

According to Russian Federal Customs Agency data, the number of automobiles imported to the country has declined by 8.7%, trailing at 208,600, by the end of the first quarter of 2013. The monetary value of these automobiles has been calculated as \$4.2 billion. The number of automobiles exported from Russia has increased by 30% during the same period, reaching 31,600 vehicles. In monetary terms, this export is equivalent to \$302.4 million.

Taiwanese Luxgen is getting ready to break into Russian market

06.05.2013 / AvtoSreda

Taiwanese car manufacturer Luxgen Motor is planning to penetrate into Russian market. Luxgen7, which was launched during Moscow Auto Show last year, will be the first model to be put on the market by the company, in August.

The Director of Luxgen Motor: Chao Uin has stated that the price tag of the automobile will be between 1-1.5 million rubles, according to the equipment it possesses. Luxgen7 vehicles are equipped with 2.2 litres, 175 hp MEFI TURBO engines. The all wheel drive automobile has a five speed automatic gear.

Taxes collected from luxury automobiles will increase in Russia

06.05.2013 / AutoNews.Ru

Russian President: Vladimir Putin has instructed the government to make amendments in tax laws regulating the luxury consumption in the country, until 01 November 2013. Russian Ministry of Finance had also previously made a proposal on taking the sales price of the automobiles into consideration during the taxing process, rather than the engine power. The regulation increasing the tax coefficients for high-price automobiles has already been approved by the commission evaluating the new legislative proposals.

According to Autonews.ru, the tax coefficient for passenger cars -less than 5-years-old with an average price tag between 5-10 million rubles- will be “2”, with the new regulation. The proposed tax coefficient for passenger cars: i) less than 10-years-old with an average price tag between 10-15 million rubles and ii) less than 20-years-old with an average price tag of more than 15 million rubles will be “3”, on the other hand.

The average prices of vehicles will be determined by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. The statistics compiled from purchase and sale contracts will be used in the calculation process, besides the data obtained from customs.

The production of Mitsubishi Pajero Sport will start in Russia in July

06.05.2013 / Avtostat

PSMA Rus factory, established in Kaluga, will start manufacturing Mitsubishi Pajero Sport in July. The relevant statement has been made by Rolf Import Press Bureau. As one may remember, the new generation Mitsubishi Outlander is being manufactured in Kaluga since last November.

According to the statement made by Rolf Import, 5568 Mitsubishi Outlanders have been sold in the country during the first quarter of 2013, 391 of which were manufactured in Kaluga. At this point, the general trend to melt the stock from the previous year with reasonable prices during the first quarter of every year, should be taken into account. In addition, because the production of Outlander started in Kaluga only in November, the majority of vehicles sold in the country were the ones manufactured in Japan.

Previously, the Russian distributors of Mitsubishi had announced that 8101 SUV vehicles were sold in March 2013. This is the highest monthly sales figure achieved by the company in Russia so far. 2575 of this figure belongs to Outlander model and the remaining 3096 to ASX.