

Russian vehicle market has shrunk by 12% in May

11.06.2013 / OIB Russia

According to AEB data, car and LCV sales trailed at 229,670 in Russia in May, following a 12% decline in comparison with the same period of the previous year. Thereby, the downward trend, which became apparent in Russian vehicle market three months ago has continued, gaining speed. The experts in the sector are of the opinion that the future of the market will depend on whether the Russian authorities take incentive measures or not.

AEB has revised its year-end market prediction, following May figures. Accordingly, it's estimated that 2.8 million cars and LCVs will be sold in Russia in 2013 (-5%). The number of vehicles sold within the first five months of the year is 1,092,000 (-4%).

The Russian automobile components market is worth \$20.5 billion

10.06.2013 / Avtostat

According to Avtostat's assessment, 845 million automobile components have been sold in Russia in 2012. The size of the market has been calculated as \$20.45 billion. The best-sold components are being ranked as: tyres, suspension details, oil and various liquids. These components make up 30% of the market.

The market is anticipated to reach 880 million components in 2013 (+4%). The monetary value of this amount is equivalent to \$21.2 billion (+3.8%).

The automobile imports to Russia have declined by 8.2% in four months

07.06.2013 / AutoNews.Ru

The automobile imports to Russia have declined by 8.2% in January-April 2013 period, with 297,200 vehicles. According to Russian Federal Customs Agency data, the monetary value of the imported vehicles is equivalent to \$5,921,100,000. The number of trucks imported within the four months is 26,500, on the other hand (-16.7%). The monetary value of this amount has been calculated as \$774.9 million.

Russia has exported 43,400 automobiles during the same period (+28.4%). This export is equivalent to \$436.6 million, in monetary terms. The truck exports have also risen in the same period, by 14%, reaching 5500 vehicles (\$159.5 million).

The share of KamAZ is on the rise, despite the decline in Russian truck market

07.06.2013 / Avtostat

KamAZ has manufactured 4240 trucks in May. Including May figures, the number of trucks manufactured by the company since the beginning of the year has reached 20,147. The number of exports recorded in May is just over 1000. According to KamAZ data, the market of trucks in between 14-40 tonnes of weight has fallen by 27.2% in comparison with the previous year, with 31,000 vehicles, by the end of the first five months of 2013. The market share of KamAZ has reached 44.8%, within the aforementioned period. This ratio was 37.6% last year. The company is planning to manufacture 45,000 vehicles in 2013 (+4.5%).

PSA Peugeot Citroen has given up the idea of manufacturing LCVs at ZiL

07.06.2013 / Vedomosti

PSA Peugeot Citroen has abandoned the LCV production project at ZiL factory, established in Moscow. A company representative has told Vedomosti newspaper that due to several reasons such as; Russia's admission to the WTO, the implementation of renewal tax in Customs Union countries, antidumping measures and the financial problems resulting from the recession in Europe; they had to reevaluate the situation. As is known, PSA is currently manufacturing automobiles-only in Russia.

Russian tyre manufacturer Kordiant has put up its Volgograd factory for sale

06.06.2013 / Kommersant

Russian tyre manufacturer Kordiant may sell its Voltayr-Proma factory to a consortium formed of American Titan International, Russian Direct Investment Fund, One Equity Partners and JP Morgan Chase, in near future. Titan International is currently manufacturing Titan and Goodyear Farm Tyres brands. Kordiant, on the other hand, is making production for Cordiant and TyRex brands in Russia. The tyre factories owned by Kordiant are as follows; Voltayr-Proma, Omskshina, Kordiant-Vostok and Yaroslavl Tyre Factory. Voltayr-Proma is a factory, specialised in tyre production for agricultural and industrial vehicles. The annual production capacity of the factory is around 2.3 million tyres.

According to Kordiant's own data, the Russian tyre market has reached 16.7 million units, following a 3% growth, by the end of the first quarter. 10.4 million of these tyres have been manufactured domestically (-2%). The market is formed of: 80% automobile, 10% truck and 4% agricultural and industrial vehicle tyres.

Russian car and LCV markets may shrink by 10% in 2013

03.06.2013 / Avtostat

During his speech at the 1st Nizhni-Novgorod Car Forum, the President of Russian Association of Car Dealers (ROAD): Andrei Petrenko has made the prediction that car and LCV sales in the country will not go beyond the 2.6 million vehicles mark this year. (2.93 million vehicles were sold in Russia in 2012). Petrenko has stated that the storehouses are full and there's excess supply in the market. On the other hand, Petrenko has drawn attention to the fact that the saturation ratio of the population in automobile market is 2-3 times lower than the developed countries. According to Petrenko, the current decline in demand will definitely be followed by a period of growth, sooner or later.

GAZ has started the serial production of Mercedes-Benz Sprinter

03.06.2013 / Vedomosti

GAZ factory -established in Nizhniy Novgorod has started the serial production of Mercedes-Benz Sprinter LCVs in test-mode. The General Director of Mercedes-Benz Rus: Jana Madeya has announced that the models manufactured in Nizhniy Novgorod will be put on the market in September. The production target for year the 2013 is 5000 vehicles. The annual production capacity of the project had been declared as 25,000 vehicles previously.

The Sprinters produced by GAZ are being equipped with Mercedes-Benz engines, manufactured at Yaroslavl Engine Factory with licence.

The Russian-made vehicles will be 20% cheaper than the imported version. Daimler is aiming to double -if not quadruple- its share in Russian LCV market. 870 Sprinters have been sold in Russia within the January-April period of this year. Last year's corresponding figure was 750 vehicles.

The ratio of imported components has gone over 20% at AvtoVAZ

31.05.2013 / Volga News

According to Volga News, based on company reports, the ratio of imported components used by AvtoVAZ in car production has reached 20.9%, by the end of the first quarter of 2013. No change over 10% took place in the prices of basic and raw materials during the aforementioned period, as highlighted in the report. The average imported component usage ratio was around 12.9% for the duration of year 2012. No similar change was observed in component prices, on the other hand.

Avtodizel and Westport will establish a new gas engine production line

31.05.2013 / Avtostat

Yaroslavl Avtodizel Engine Factory has signed an agreement with parts and components manufacturer for gas-fuel systems Westport, proposing the establishment of a new gas engine production line for commercial vehicles. The new investment is worth approximately 600 million rubles. The relevant statement has been made by GAZ Group press bureau, where Avtodizel is an affiliate company.

The gas engine production line, in compliance with Euro-4 and Euro-5 environmental standards, will be established based on YaMZ-530 engine family, the serial production of which started in 2013. The YaMZ-530 engines are being used in Ural trucks and PAZ, LiAZ and KAVZ buses, in addition to medium-tonnage vehicles manufactured by GAZ Group.

Yaroslavl Engine Factory will start the production of gas engines in 2014.

Derways is planning to increase production by 50% in 2013

30.05.2013 / Avtostat

Derways Car Factory, established in Cherkesk, is planning to manufacture 72,000 automobiles in 2013. The factory manufactured 47,911 vehicles last year. However, the production has fallen by 19.2%, in comparison with the previous year (6323 vehicles). The factory executives relate the decline in production to the modernisation and capacity increase works, conducted in the beginning of the year. The new annual production capacity of the factory subsequent to works has been declared as 130,000 vehicles.

Derways is currently manufacturing Lifan (Solan, Smiy, X60) and Geely (MK, MK Cross, Emgrand) brand automobiles. An agreement proposing the SUV production of Luxgen7 had been signed between the Russian distributor of Luxgen and Derways in mid-May. Derways is currently in the negotiation process with Haima Avtomobili Rus, concerning the production of Haima 3 model automobiles.

AvtoVAZ has resumed the production of new Lada 4x4s

29.05.2013 / AutoSreda

AvtoVAZ has started the production of new model Lada 4x4 automobiles. The model has been equipped with a series of new features such as; isothermal windows and new lights functioning in daylight, placed underneath headlights.

The company had previously suspended 4x4 production, due to the modernisation of the paint shop. 4x4s will be painted with cathode method from now on. The daily production target for June is 234 vehicles.

The car production has increased by 21% in St. Petersburg in April

29.05.2013 / 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 138,500 automobiles in January-April period (+12%). The number of vehicles manufactured by the four factories in April-only is 38,200, on the other hand (+21%). This is the second highest monthly production figure after November 2012. The share of St. Petersburg factories in Russian automotive within January-April period has been calculated as 22.2%. This ratio was 21.8% by the end of the first quarter.

The Director of Auto-Director-SPb relates the increase in production to the precaution taken by factories by building up the stocks, in order to compensate for the decline in production due to May holidays. He has added that the decline in sales may reflect on St. Petersburg factories, following the declaration of May figures.

The models manufactured by Toyota, GM, Nissan and Hyundai factories are as follows; Chevrolet Cruze, Opel Astra, Chevrolet Trailblazer, Nissan Teana, Nissan X-Trail, Nissan Murano, Infiniti FX, Infiniti M, Toyota Camry, Hyundai Solaris and KIA Rio.

TagAZ will start Chery production in June

28.05.2013 / Avtostat

TagAZ press bureau has announced that the factory will start the production of Chery next month. The factory will purchase parts and components for 480 automobiles, for the first batch of production. Within the frame of the agreement signed between Sberbank and TagAZ in February 2013, the purchase of parts and components from China will be financed by Southern Automobile Group (YuAG). It has also been stated that the negotiations continue with Chrysler concerning the production of Jeep brand vehicles.

Car sales continue to fall in Yekaterinburg

27.05.2013 / Auto-Dealer-Yekaterinburg

According to data compiled by Auto-Dealer-Yekaterinburg agency, 29,469 cars and light commercial vehicles have been sold in the city in January-April period (-1%). The number of vehicles sold in April-only is 8241, on the other hand (-7%). Thereby, the city market continued to shrink, in parallel with the countrywide market.

KIA has become the best-sold foreign brand in the city, by the end of the four-month period. Lada is the sales leader as usual.

St. Petersburg vehicle market has shrunk by 7.5% in April

24.05.2013 / Auto-Dealer-SPb

According to Auto-Dealer-SPb data, 62,955 cars and light commercial vehicles have been sold in St. Petersburg, within January-April period (-1%). The number of vehicles sold in April-only is 17,198, on the other hand (-7.5%). This is the biggest drop in sales experienced within the last two years, on a monthly basis. Thereby, the downward trend, which started to be observed in March, became more apparent. April was the most successful month of the year 2012, concerning sales figures. Therefore, the 7.5% decline in sales should be interpreted in the light of this information.

VW became the best-sold brand in the city in April (1524 vehicles, -6%). The second place is occupied by Renault (1495, +14%).

The sales of Chinese brands exceeded 3% in Russia for the first time

23.05.2013 / AutoBusiness Review

The sales of Chinese brand vehicles in Russia has increased by 30.6% in comparison with the previous year, during the first quarter of 2013.

According to statistics compiled by AutoBusiness Review magazine, the total sales figure of 7 Chinese brands reached 18,043. This figure corresponds to 3.13% of the Russian market in the aforementioned period. This ratio was 2,4% last year.

Great Wall has become the best sold brand (4615 vehicles, +88%). This brand is followed by Lifan, assembled in Cherkesk (4321, -4.9%). Geely and Chery also achieved to increase their sales by 54% and 22% respectively, compared to the previous year.

Another representative of Chinese automotive: FAW sold 506 vehicles in Russia, within the first quarter.

BYD sales suffered a sharp drop in sales, due to the halt of production line in TagAZ car factory, established in Taganrog (100 vehicles, -60.9%).

Finally, Haima, who managed to sell only 83 automobiles in the first quarter (-78.7%), has announced its plans to return to the Russian market with its “3” and “7” models.

The fastest decline in the foreign brand vehicle market is experienced in the Siberian Region

23.05.2013 / AutoBusiness Review

According to the study of AutoBusiness Review magazine, the total sales figure of foreign brand, new automobiles throughout 60 big cities in Russia, has dropped by 2%, by the end of the first four months of 2013. While the figures increased in 34 of these 60 cities, the remaining 26 experienced decline in sales.

The cities with the biggest drop rates in sales figures are situated in the Siberian Region. While Kemerovo market shrunk by 17%, the drop rates were as high as 16% in Novokuznetsk and 13% in Barnaul and Tomsk. The drop rate experienced in Krasnoyarsk, the city with the highest sales figures in the region, is 11%. The drop rate in Novosibirsk is 3%, on the other hand.

The “heart” of the Russian automobile market Moscow came 15th amongst the cities with the poorest sales dynamics. The sales declined by 6% in the capital city. St. Petersburg market, on the other hand, has shrunk by 1% only.

The Volga bank and Central Russia are the regions with the most positive sales dynamics. While Cheboksary market grew by 39%, the growth rate reached 12% in Kazan. The sales of foreign brand automobiles increased in Ufa, Nizhniy Novgorod and Samara, albeit to a small extent. The sales increased by 20% in Orel, Ivanov and Smolensk.

165,000 vehicles have been manufactured in Russia in April

22.05.2013 / Rosstat

According to Russian State Institute of Statistics data, 624,000 automobiles have been manufactured in the country, by the end of the first four months of 2013 (+1.4%). The number of automobiles manufactured in April-only is 165,000, on the other hand (-4.8%).

AvtoVAZ has kept its position as the leader of Russian automotive, despite declining production. The company manufactured 30,758 vehicles in April (-37.1%). The decline in the production of AvtoVAZ is being related to the discontinuation of the production of the old-generation Kalina and the failure to complete the preparations for the production of the new-generation of the model.

The number of trucks manufactured during the first four months has been declared as 60,300 (-3.6%). The production figure recorded in April-only is 20,700 (+8.9%), on the other hand.

The bus production has declined by 3.1% in Russia within the January-April period, trailing at 15,300 vehicles. The number of buses manufactured in April-only is 5000 (+0.7%).

Kaluga Volkswagen Factory is getting ready for Skoda Rapid Production

22.05.2013 / Avtostat

Kaluga VW factory is getting ready for the production of the new Skoda Rapid Liftback model. It has been announced that the serial production of the model will start in 2014, following the completion of the preparations. The factory has also stated that due to the high demand for Skoda Octavia, the transfer of the production of this model to Nizhniy Novgorod will be scheduled to an earlier time.

The Kaluga factory, established in 2007, had become the fifth factory manufacturing Skoda, outside the home country. Fabia Hatchback and Octavia Liftback are the models currently manufactured in the facilities. The Yeti model is being manufactured in GAZ factory, established in Nizhniy Novgorod, on the other hand.

The European investors in Russia are worried about the developments in parallel imports

21.05.2013 / AutoBusiness Review

Association of European Business (AEB) has made a statement about its position against the government of Russian Federation, who launched an initiative towards liberating parallel imports, a month ago. The concerns of the Tyre Manufacturers Study Group within the Association have been included in the statement as an example, as follows: “The international tyre manufacturers have been making serious investments in Russia over the recent years, in addition to making efforts on increasing the existing production capacity in the country and continuously upgrading the infrastructure. However, in the event of the liberation of parallel imports, the foreign manufacturers will slow down their production investments in Russia and the market of products legally manufactured in Russia will shrink.”

AEB executives have warned that parallel import is a threat against the development of a fair competition environment and will trigger the entry of fake products to the country in large numbers.