

KAMAZ exports up by 11% at the end of the first quarter

15.05.2017 / RNS

Truck manufacturer KAMAZ has exported 1130 vehicles during the first quarter of 2017, which is equivalent to an 11.3% growth, as stated in the company report. The company has exported 941 trucks and 193 vehicle kits.

While exports to CIS countries grew by 28.9% to 544 units, a 1.7% shrinkage was observed in non-CIS exports, with 590 vehicles. There was an opposite trend in 2016: CIS exports fell by 40% and non-CIS increased by 126%.

Cuba has become the main export market amongst the non-CIS countries for KAMAZ during the first quarter. 553 trucks have been delivered to Cuba, within the frame of a major contract signed in 2016. KAMAZ had signed a contract for the supply of 2400 trucks to Cuba in November 2016. The company also exports vehicles to Angola, Liberia, Guinea, Algeria, Serbia, Lithuania and Mongolia.

More contracts are in process of formulation as to the supply of KAMAZ trucks to a number of countries in Africa and the Middle East and works continue to enter the Iranian market, as stated by the company.

The revenue of KAMAZ has risen by 53.7% year-on-year according to Russian Accounting Standards (RAS) within the January-March period to 26.385 billion rubles and the net profit has amounted to 34.4 million rubles. KAMAZ plans to increase exports by 4.8% in 2017 to 6500 units, as told by the company general director Sergei Kogogin.

Russian new passenger cars and LCV market increased by 6,9% in March

11.05.2017 / RusAutoNews.Com

In April 2017, sales of new cars and light commercial vehicles in Russia increased by 6,9% compared with April 2016 or by 8324 sold units, and amounted to 129 476 cars, according to the AEB Automobile Manufacturers Committee (AEB AMC).

This year in January—March 451 945 cars were sold.

Joerg Schreiber, Chairman of the AEB AMC commented: “Market sales in April increased on a year-on-year basis, at the same time falling short of the volume achieved in March. We are not dealing with a healthy seasonality yet, which reminds us of how fragile the current cautious recovery still is. Nevertheless, April sales result is a another step forward in the right direction.”

Among the top ten bestselling models so far, all models are locally produced. [Top ten bestselling models](#).

More than 460,000 automobiles have been equipped with ERA-GLONASS system in Russia

11.05.2017 / RusAutoNews.Com

As stated by ERA-GLONASS press office, currently more than 460,000 vehicles are registered in the ERA-GLONASS system. “The number of vehicles equipped with ERA-GLONASS system is expected to reach 1 million units by the end of the year. According to predictions, 750,000 emergency calls will be made till the end of the year” - believes the head of the GAIS ERA-GLONASS Rulev.

As one may remember, a legal requirement as to the equipment of all passenger and freight vehicles, appearing on the roads within the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union for the first time, with devices to call emergency operational services ERA-GLONASS has come into force as of the turn of the year. Over 161,000 vehicles were registered in the ERA-GLONASS system in 2016.

Avtotor has started the production of renewed Kia Picanto

10.05.2017 / RusAutoNews.Com

Kaliningrad Avtotor factory has started the production of the third generation renewed Kia Picanto city car for the first time.

Other models currently under production at the factory are as follows: KIA Sorento, Sorento Prime, Cerato, Quoris, Cee'd, Sportage, Optima, Soul and Mohave. The price of the renewed Picanto starts from 540 thousand rubles in Russia.

TOP-10 foreign cars of the Russian used car market in Q1 2017

10.05.2017 / RusAutoNews.Com

According to a Autostat data, the TOP-10 foreign cars of the Russian used car market in the first quarter of 2017:

#	Brand	Units (x 1000)	Change (YoY)	#	Brand	Units (x 1000)	Change (YoY)
1	Ford Focus	28,1	+5%	6	Renault Logan	14,9	+2%
2	Toyota Corolla	22,1	-1%	7	Daewoo Nexia	13,6	-6%
3	Toyota Camry	16,1	+7%	8	Opel Astra	13,2	+9%
4	Hyundai Solaris	15,3	+30%	9	KIA Rio	12,9	+20%
5	Chevrolet Niva	15,1	-3%	10	Volkswagen Passat	12,1	-2%
					Total	794,4	+2,9%

Russian luxury automobiles market has grown by 15% during the first quarter

08.05.2017 / Autostat

According to Autostat, the Russian market of luxury cars has reached 350 units by the end of the first quarter of 2017, following a 15.1% year-on-year growth (from 304 units).

Mercedes-Benz has remained the leader of the market, which is represented by one model only: Mercedes-Benz Maybach S-Class. 153 Maybach S-Class have been sold within the January-March period.

Maserati comes second in the rankings, with a sales figure of 111 vehicles. Almost all of the Maserati sales belongs to the new crossover Maserati Levante, with the exception of one Quattroporte.

Bentley completes the top-three in the luxury segment (59 units), 70% of sales belonging to the new Bentayga.

19 new Rolls-Royce, 3 Ferrari and Lamborghini and 2 Aston Martin vehicles have hit the Russian roads during the first quarter, on the other hand.

As noted by Autostat, around 70% of the luxury automobiles have been sold in Moscow and the surrounding region within the first quarter of 2017 (243 units). The capital is followed by St. Petersburg - 24 units, Krasnodar - 9 and Kemerovo - 5 vehicles.

Volkswagen is carrying out negotiations with Gazprom on the promotion of vehicles to gas

07.05.2017 / Vedomosti

German car manufacturer Volkswagen is negotiating with ExxonMobil and Gazprom to promote vehicles to natural gas in a joint effort. The relevant statement has been made by the general director of Volkswagen: Matthias Müller.

As published by Vedomosti, the largest car manufacturer of Europe is trying to reduce the non-environmentally polluting emissions of its vehicles in order to overcome the consequences of the diesel-gate scandal, taking a course on electric cars and fuel economy technologies. According to Müller, the company is trying to think outside the box and find solutions that would work even during the transition period of 10-20 years.

Volkswagen intends to triple the investment in the development of hybrid and electric vehicles to €9 billion. Prior to that, Volkswagen representatives had announced plans to introduce four budget-friendly electric car models in 2019.

The conditions for export subsidies have changed

02.05.2017 / Vedomosti

The industrial assembly agreement now gives the right to claim up to 20% of the transportation costs as compensation from the budget during the exports of automotive products, as opposed to up to 80% as it was the case in 2016, according to a government decree.

Most of car manufacturers, running factories in Russia, have industrial assembly agreements. However, the validity of the agreements will run out in 2020 and the government has no intention to extend their terms. 80% compensation can now be claimed, on the other hand, by manufacturers who signed a special investment contract with the Russian authorities, as reported by Vedomosti.

“The measures are designed to encourage the manufacturers to localise their production in Russia” - said Maria Zazulinskaya, the director of Russian Export Centre (REC, the agent of the programme) for Sectoral Export Development.

According to REC, export subsidies have been used by KAMAZ, AVTOVAZ, GAZ Group enterprises, UAZ, Volkswagen Group Rus, GM-AVTOVAZ, Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Rus, PSMA Rus, NAMI, Renault Russia, Nissan Manufacturing Rus and Volgabus in 2016.

Car factories have been developing the exports of finished automobiles and components despite a market shrunk by a half since 2012. For that reason, the average revenue load of the plants is around 40%, according to officials. UAZ plans to double its exports in 2017 and AVTOVAZ aims for a 70% increase. PSMA Rus has announced plans to start its first export project beyond the borders of the CIS countries. It's planned to generate a total amount of \$1.1 billion from car exports in Russia in 2017, increasing the figure to \$1.5 million in 2018, according to the REC.

Derways has started the production of the updated Brilliance V5 crossover

05.05.2017 / Autostat

The production of the updated crossover Brilliance V5 has started at Derways factory in Cherkessk, as stated by Brilliance Motor press-office.

As published by Autostat previously, due to the new requirements of equipping the vehicles with ERA-GLONASS system, Brilliance Motors has decided to discontinue the sales of Brilliance H230 sedans and hatchbacks in Russia. As of today, these models are almost completely sold out and only single prototypes are left in the warehouses of dealers. Thereby, the model range of Brilliance will be represented by two models in Russia - V5 crossover and C-class Brilliance H530 sedan

Magna has left the joint venture with Avtotor in Kaliningrad

03.05.2017 / RNS

Car manufacturer from Kaliningrad: Avtotor has consolidated 100% of the joint venture with the Canadian automotive component producer Magna NN2. Avtotor Holding has become the sole owner of the company as of the end of February 2017. The company had 60% of the shares previously, the remaining 40% belonging to the Austrian structure: Magna - Magna Metalforming.

Magna NN2 used to own a dormant industrial assembly agreement. 40% of the company was acquired by Avtotor in 2012, in order to benefit from the customs privileges proposed by the agreement after April 2016, following the end of the special economic zone regime in Yantar, where Avtotor facility is situated.

The joint venture was established with Magna, for the purpose of the implementation of the auto-cluster project in Kaliningrad Region, on the basis of Avtotor. The estimated capacity of the project is 100,000 automobiles per year, to be increased to 250,000. German manufacturer BMW is conducting the arrangement negotiations of the auto-cluster.

Russian car battery aftermarket amounts to approximately 11 million units

03.05.2017 / Autostat

According to Autostat, the total demand in the aftermarket of car batteries will reach 10.8 million units in Russia in 2017.

Passenger car segment is the largest consumer of starter batteries with 71% share of total demand or approximately 7.7 million units. Around 1.8 million accumulator starting batteries are used for trucks, which is equivalent to one-sixth of the market in total. One in nine accumulators belongs to the LCV segment, on the other hand (approx. 1.2 million units). The smallest amount of starter batteries is used in the bus segment - 1.5% of the total demand or 175,000 units.

The capital region leads the regional rankings. Approximately 14% of the car battery aftermarket belongs to Moscow and Moscow Region. The demand for accumulators reached 860,000 units in the city of Moscow. 630,000 batteries have been used in Moscow Region, on the other hand.

The capacity of the car battery market has exceeded the six-figure mark in several regions. Krasnodar Krai market has gone over 400,000 units, for example. The figures in St. Petersburg, Rostov and Sverdlovsk markets, as well as Tatarstan, are also over 300,000 units.

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