

Russian Automotive – Selected News

20.06 – 29.06.2012

AvtoVAZ sales have gone down by 11.4% by the end of the first 6 months of the year

29.06.2012 / RIA

The biggest Russian car manufacturer AvtoVAZ has sold approximately 280,000 vehicles during the first 6 months of the year. This amount is 11.4% less than the sales figure of 316,000 vehicles, recorded during the same period of the previous year. The relevant statement has been made by the company chairman, Igor Komarov. According to Komarov, the termination of the scrap programme has become one of the main factors causing the decline observed in the sales. The chairman has added that 250,000 of the 280,000 automobiles have been sold in the domestic market and the remaining 30,000 in the foreign markets. The sales target of the company for the year 2012 is approximately 700,000 vehicles.

The annual production capacity of AvtoVAZ is above 800,000 vehicles. The company employs 66,000 people. In 2011, the company had achieved to increase its sales by 10.6% in comparison with the previous year, reaching 578,387 vehicles and made a net profit of 6.7 billion rubles.

KamAZ has obtained cabin production licence from Daimler

29.06.2012 / Avtostat

Daimler Trucks and KamAZ have signed a new cabin production agreement. In accordance with the agreement, Mercedes-Benz will provide KamAZ with the cabin production technology of the Axor model, to be used on the production of the new generation medium-tonnage trucks. As required by the agreement, Mercedes-Benz will deliver KamAZ a number of cabin prototypes within this year. The supply of some components that will be used in the production process in KamAZ within the next few years will start and the production will be localised gradually. The strategic partnership between KamAZ and Daimler had started with the establishment of Fuso KamAZ Trucks Rus in 2010.

GAZ and Bosal have teamed up to produce exhaust systems

27.06.2012 / Avtostat

GAZ Group and Bosal have started the serial production of exhaust systems in Gorky Car Factory (GAZ). It has been announced that the new 300,000 annual capacity investment will cost 160 million rubles. The production will be made in compliance with Euro-3 and Euro-4 standards. If required, the enhancement of the norms to Euro-5 and Euro-6 levels will be possible. The manufactured systems will be used in GAZ light commercial vehicles. Volkswagen, the manufacturer of Jetta, Skoda Octavia and Skoda Yeti in Nizhni-Novgorod is amongst the potential customers of the plant.

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One-third of Renault chassis' will be manufactured in Tolyatti

28.06.2012 / Vedemosti

The General Director of Renault Russia, Bruno Anselen has announced that AvtoVAZ will start supplying Avtoframos factory in Moscow with chassis' within the next few weeks. In addition, the production of the engines to be used in the models that will be manufactured by Lada and Renault-Nissan in Russia, will be made in Tolyatti. Anselen has stated that the chassis' currently used by Avtoframos are being imported from Romania and added that despite there's no difference in the prices of chassis' manufactured in Tolyatti and the ones imported from Romania, the new system will be more profitable considering the fact that the supply time will be shortened to 36 hours from 5 days.

There are plans to supply Avtoframos with 1.6 litre engines in addition to chassis' from Tolyatti in the forthcoming years. The changes made in the licence agreement signed by Renault and Avtoframos in 2008 have been approved by AvtoVAZ shareholders during the week. The agreement proposes the promotion of the production of gearboxes and two models of petrol engines, in addition to automobiles on B0 platform in Russia. Previously, AvtoVAZ had paid €220 million for this opportunity.

Citroen will start the production of new C4L in Kaluga

25.06.2012 / OIB Russia

French manufacturer Citroen has announced that the production of C4L will start at Kaluga PSMA factory soon, to be followed by the production of C-Elysee as from the beginning of 2013. Both models have been developed for the markets of the developing countries. On the other hand, St. Petersburg Nissan factory has started the production of Infiniti FX and M using SKD method. It has been stated by the factory that the localisation of these models is not yet on the cards. According to the agreement signed between the foreign manufacturers and the Russian government, production with SKD method is restricted only to a short period of time. The daily number of Infiniti production in St. Petersburg factory has been announced as 20.

Moscow government has put its shares in Renault factory up for sale

25.06.2012 / Izvestiya

Moscow government has put its 5.9% share in Avtoframos factory up for sale within the frame of the privatisation programme. As is known, 94.1% share of the factory belongs to Renault. \$60 million have been demanded for the shares put up for sale. The analysts in the sector share the opinion that there's no expectation of any other company other than Renault showing any interest towards the shares up for sale, therefore the price demanded by the government being a little bit optimistic. On the other hand, an executive from the press bureau of Renault has confirmed the company's interest on the shares, however, refused to make any comments about the asking price. The sale is expected to be completed in November.

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Daimler and GAZ Group have started the preparations for Sprinter production

22.06.2012 / Avtostat

Daimler AG and GAZ Group have started the preparations for the production of Mercedes-Benz Sprinter at Gorky Car Factory (GAZ) in Nizhni-Novgorod. Daimler and GAZ are planning to localise the production of engines and other components, in addition to Sprinter T1N. The total investment value of the project is approximately €200 million.

The partners are planning to carry out the localised engine production at the new factory established by GAZ Group in Yaroslavl for the production of Euro-4 Standard YaMZ-530. The serial production of Sprinter and Mercedes engines will start during the first half of the next year.

St. Petersburg car manufacturers have hit the 500,000 mark

21.06.2012 / Auto-Dealer-SPb

According to Auto-Dealer-SPb data; Toyota, GM, Hyundai and Nissan factories in St. Petersburg have manufactured 157,700 automobiles in January-May period. Thereby, the total number of vehicles produced in the city since the establishment of the first car factory (Toyota) in 2008 has gone over 500,000. The number of automobiles produced in St. Petersburg in May-only is 34,300 (+81%). This figure also corresponds to the highest production level ever achieved in the city. The first five months' production in the city made up 19.8% of the total vehicle production in Russia. The models manufactured in Toyota, GM, Hyundai and Nissan factories 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. Solaris, Rio, Astra, Cruze and Camry were amongst the 25 best-sold automobiles in Russia in January-May period.

8965 automobiles have been sold in Ekaterinburg in May

20.06.2012 / Auto-Dealer-Yekaterinburg

According to Auto-Dealer-Yekaterinburg data, 8965 automobiles have been sold in the city in May. Apart from being above the sales performance of the same period of the previous year by 1234 vehicles (+16%), this figure is also the city's monthly sales record concerning the years 2011-2012. The number of new automobiles sold in Ekaterinburg in January-May period is 38,343 (+23%). The best-sold model in the city is Lada. Chevrolet and Toyota have become the leaders amongst foreign brand vehicles.

Although the new vehicles market in Ekaterinburg continues to grow, the sales figures of some brands have declined in comparison with the previous month. The brands and drop rates in their sales figures are as follows; Lada (-3%), Nissan (-5%), Daewoo (-36%), Mitsubishi (-20%), Suzuki (-11%), Chance (ZAZ) (-63%), Lexus (-11%), FIAT (-78%), Cadillac (-15%) and Mini (-28%).