

KAMAZ and Daimler will invest € 400 million in new production

12.07.2017 / RNS

The joint venture of KAMAZ and the German car manufacturer Daimler: Daimler KAMAZ Rus (50-50% partnership) expects to apply for a special investment contract (SPIC) for the production of cabin carcasses in Tatarstan until the end of August, as told by a KAMAZ representative to RNS.

The factory with an annual production capacity of 57,000 cabins is currently being constructed in Tatarstan. The construction has started in March 2016 and is planned to be completed by 2018. The serial production is intended for 2019-2020, as stated by KAMAZ previously. KAMAZ had reported 90% readiness for first stage construction and assembly works at the end of May. Full-cycle cabin carcass production will be made in the facility, which will be delivered to the assembly line of KAMAZ. The carcasses will also be used in the assembly production of Mercedes-Benz trucks. The plant will consist of four workshops - painting, welding, logistics and energy centre, on a total area of 67,900 m².

Approximately €400 million will be invested in the creation of the plant, as reported by Vedomosti in June 2016, with reference to KAMAZ general director Sergei Kogogin.

KAMAZ and Daimler are currently partners, manufacturing Mercedes-Benz cars in Esipovo, Moscow region, for which a special contract has already been concluded. 80% of the under construction Mercedes-Benz Manufacturing Rus factory belongs to Daimler and the remaining 20% to KAMAZ.

A SPIC proposing the construction of an engine factory in Vladivostok has been concluded by the joint venture of Mazda Motor Corporation and Sollers: Mazda Sollers Manufacturing Rus. BMW (car production in Kaliningrad) and Hyundai (engine production) also expect to sign special investment contracts.

LADA sales up by 32% in EU during the first half of 2017

15.07.2017 / Autostat

A total number of 2,5 thousand new LADA automobiles have been sold in EU countries within the January-June 2017 period. The sales figure indicates a 31.7% year-on-year rise.

508 LADA vehicles, manufactured in AVTOVAZ, have been sold in the EU in June, which is equivalent to a 13.6% year-on-year growth.

UAZ will start the production of the new LCV: UAZ Profi

14.07.2017 / RNS

Ulyanovsk Automobile Factory (UAZ) will start the serial production of the new light commercial vehicle UAZ Profi in September 2017, with a carrying capacity of 1.5 tonnes, as stated by the company.

UAZ Profi will be available in a rear-wheel drive version with two types of platforms at the start of sales, with carrying capacities up to five euro-pallets. The vehicle will be equipped with the new generation Zavolzhsy Motor Plant (ZMZ) petrol engine with a capacity of up to 160 hp.

“The launch of the new modern model is an important step in the development a commercial product line manufactured by UAZ. UAZ Profi is a reliable professional assistant, ready to carry out the daily tasks of our clients, ensuring maximum operational efficiency. The new model meets the most important requirements of contemporary business, being an excellent solution in various industries and areas, both for transportation and as a service and support vehicle. Many years of experience allows us to create automobiles specially adapted for the needs of small and medium-size businesses, taking into account the Russian road conditions” - noted the general director of UAZ Vadim Shvetsov.

Profi will be available in two versions: Standard - at prices starting from 649,000 rubles and Comfort - starting from 699,000 rubles. The Comfort is equipped with the following additional features: air conditioning, burglar alarm with a remote control central lock, fog lights, driver's seat height adjustment and lumbar support, audio system with two speakers, winter package with electric windshield heating all around, heated seats and high-capacity battery. Rear differential lock, parking assistance system, a modern multimedia system with a 7-inch interactive system and the ability to integrate with the navigation system are amongst the additional options.

Vehicle production has increased by 20% in Russia within the January-May 2017 period

12.07.2017 / ASM Holding

According to ASM Holding data, 590,933 transport vehicles (trucks, cars, buses) have been manufactured in Russia within the January-May 2017 period, which is equivalent to a 20.2% year-on-year rise.

Car production has increased by 20.4% during the aforementioned period y/y, with 522,5 thousand units. The production of foreign brand cars in Russia went up 23.6% to 393,3 thousand vehicles.

LCV production has also grown in the same period, by 12.9% to 43,0 thousand units. Truck production, including light trucks, has risen by 19.1% by the end of the first five months of 2017, amounting to 54,3 thousand units. Bus production, including minibuses, has increased by 16.5% during the aforementioned period, with 14,3 thousand units.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce expects 7% growth in Russian automobile industry in 2017

11.07.2017 / RNS

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce forecasts 7% growth in Russian car production, as told by the minister of industry of commerce Denis Manturov to journalists on the sidelines of the Innoprom Exhibition.

“The car market is growing seriously, along with the government support which subsidises the industry. However, we are acting upon the forecasts indicated in the beginning of the year, due to the certain seasonality in the industry” - said Manturov, noting that a 7% growth is expected in car production in 2017.

The Russian automobile market is on the rise since March 2017. Until that time, the sales had been on the decline month after month since December 2014, apart from a negligible growth in November 2016. Car and LCV sales have risen by 6.9% during the first half of the year to 718,500 units, as stated by the Association of European Business.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce had predicted 8.4% growth for car industry in March 2017.

Isuzu buses will be manufactured in Ulyanovsk

10.07.2017 / RusAutoNews.Com

The government of Ulyanovsk region, Isuzu Rus and Simaz have signed a memorandum of understanding, proposing bus production on Isuzu chassis.

According to the conditions of the memorandum, the production of class 2 and 3 M3 category buses will start in the region (small class urban and intercity buses), on the chassis of Isuzu NQR90LK vehicles.

The buses will be assembled at the production facilities of Simaz in Ulyanovsk, using the components of the enterprise.

500 buses are planned to be manufactured within the first 12 months and the start of sales is planned for the end of 2017 or the beginning of 2018. The buses will be distributed to the dealer networks of both companies.

74% of Isuzu Rus belongs to Japanese Isuzu Motors Limited and the remaining 26% to Sojitz Corporation, which manufactures Isuzu commercial vehicles with gross weights between 3.5 and 33 tonnes in Ulyanovsk.

Russian car market up by 15% in June 2017

10.07.2017 / RusAutoNews.Com

According to the AEB Automobile Manufacturers Committee (AEB AMC), in June 2017, sales of new cars and light commercial vehicles in Russia increased by 15% compared with June 2016 or by 18,405 sold units, and amounted to 141,084 cars.

This year in January—June period 718,529 cars were sold.

Joerg Schreiber, Chairman of the AEB AMC commented: “Russian car market sales continue to recover at a robust pace. Growth rates of 15% in the month of June, and 12% in the second quarter almost make us forget the slow start into the year. Cumulative sales in the period from January to June exceed last year’s result by 6%, very close to our initial forecast for the full year 2017 which we are maintaining for the time being”.

The sanctions have spurred the Russian industry according to the Minister of Industry and Commerce

03.07.2017 / RNS

The sanctions imposed against Russia by the West and the counter-sanctions implemented by Moscow have geared up the agricultural, engineering and pharmaceutical industries in the country, as stated by the Russian minister of Industry and Commerce Denis Manturov at an interview with the French newspaper Les Echos. The share of oil and gas in Russian exports is currently below 50%, as noted by Manturov.

“The sanctions have helped the development of our industry. To be honest, we are very much interested in their extension” - said the minister. According to Manturov, thanks to the embargo imposed by Russia on the import of products from European countries, the Russian agricultural sector has grown by 4-5% annually and the production of agricultural machinery has increased by 20% since 2014. The producers of oil and gas equipment have become the biggest beneficiaries of the mutual sanctions: the imports in the segment have fallen to 50% from 70%. “Western sanctions had positive effects on many industries: engineering, chemical, pharmaceutical, aircraft-building” - said Manturov.

“We have done a lot for diversification during the 2008 and 2015 crises. The share of oil and other natural resources, which used to form more than half of our exports previously, is currently below 50%” - as highlighted by the minister.

Manturov sees the weak mobility of the work force as one of the obstacles hindering the process of diversification in Russia. “In connection with the economic growth in the Far East region, there’s a staff shortage of 7000 people in Vladivostok and its surrounding areas, which we’re trying hard to compensate with work force from the western regions of the country” - he stated.

Tesla sales have grown by a quarter in Russia

04.07.2017 / Autostat

According to Autostat data, 15 Tesla electric cars have been sold in Russia within the first five months of 2017, which is equivalent to a 25% year-on-year rise (up from 12 units).

Russian clients have purchased 11 Tesla Model X crossovers and 4 Model S sedans during the aforementioned period. The American electric cars have been sold mostly in the city of Moscow and the capital region, with a total share of approximately 75% (11 units). The remaining four vehicles have found buyers in St. Petersburg, Kazan, Rostov-on-Don and Khabarovsk.

Tesla currently remains the most popular electric car in the Russia, according to Autostat analysts. The model has more than 70% share of the market in the country.

Tesla may start the production of Model 3 electric vehicle on 7 July. The relevant statement has been made by the head of the company Elon Musk on Twitter. The price of the model is expected to start from \$35,000 and the first party formed of 30 vehicles will be delivered to the suppliers at the end of July.

Skoda Yeti – The most exported model from Russia to Europe

01.07.2017 / Autostat

Autostat – According to Autostat data, Russian car exports (excluding the countries in the Customs Union) have amounted to approximately 19,000 units within the first five months of 2017. The figure indicates a 55% year-on-year rise.

More than half of the export figure (54%) belongs to Skoda, with 10,100 units. Yeti crossover was the only exported model of the brand. LADA is the second most exported brand, with 24% share of the market, which is equivalent to 4500 units. Korean Hyundai completes the top-three, following an export figure of more than 1000 vehicles in five months. Two LADA models – 4x4 crossover (2300) and Vesta sedan (1100) are the remaining models in the top-three, behind Skoda Yeti.

In terms of main export destinations, the Czech Republic leads the way, with more than half of Russian exports heading for this country during the aforementioned period (10,100 units). Ukraine comes second in the rankings (1600 units) and Latvia completes the top-three (1500). In addition to those countries, Lebanon should be mentioned, where 1000 vehicles have been delivered.

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