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NEWS

International

Toyota to appoint Leroy as first non-Japanese Executive Vice President

The **Toyota Motor Corporation (TMC)** has announced substantial changes to its executive structure in Japan which will take effect on the 1st of April. As part of these changes, **Didier Leroy**, Senior Managing Officer, TMC, CEO Europe Region, and President and CEO **Toyota Motor Europe S.A./N.V.**, will be appointed President of **Toyota No.1** at TMC. In this responsibility, Leroy will oversee the R&D, manufacturing and sales operations for the North America, Europe and Africa regions; the Japan Sales Business Group; and the Product Planning, Design and Motorsports functions related to the Toyota No.1 regional scope. He will also become the first non-Japanese Executive Vice President of TMC, as well as member of the Board of Directors of TMC, pending formal approval at the 111th General Shareholders Meeting in June. Leroy, who also will be appointed Chairman of Toyota Motor Europe, will continue to be based in Brussels. Following this change, **Dr Johan van Zyl**, currently Managing Officer, TMC, CEO, Africa Region, and President and CEO, **Toyota South Africa Motors Ltd. (TSAM)**, will become CEO Europe Region and President and CEO, Toyota Motor Europe in addition to his current responsibilities.

Bosnia and Herzegovina/Slovenia

Cimos finalises sales of Srebrenica plant to Prevent

Slovenian supplier **Cimos d.d.** and **Prevent BH** of Bosnia and Herzegovina have signed an agreement concerning the sale of Cimos' plant **Cimos Srebrenica d.o.o.** in Srebrenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The factory in Srebrenica, which is to be taken over by Prevent, employs 101 persons. The principal activity of the company, which was established in 2005, is manufacturing of small metal and wire parts.

Czech Republic

Škoda: Vahland confirms expansion of gearbox production in Vrchlabí

Škoda Auto a.s. plans to increase production capacity for DQ 200 transmissions at its plant in Vrchlabí. **Winfried Vahland**, Škoda's Chairman of the Board of Directors, confirmed in an interview with *Aktuálně.cz* that the capacity will be increased from 1,500 to 2,000 transmissions per day „in a relatively short period of time“.

Hyundai starts pilot production of parts for new Tucson

Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Czech s.r.o. starts pilot production of parts for the new **Hyundai Tucson** this month. First two Czech-made Tucson pilot vehicles were released on the assembly line on the 2nd of February. Parts that were welded in the Czech factory were imported from South Korea.

Hyundai unveils facelifted ix20

Hyundai Motor Company shows a facelifted version of the **Hyundai ix20** at the Geneva motor show. Volume production of the facelifted ix20 begins in May at the **Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Czech s.r.o.** plant in Nošovice.



Die Welt: BMW considering Czech logistics site amid problems in Germany

BMW AG has warned that it could build a logistics centre in the Czech Republic if problems connected to its plans to erect the facility at a site near Regensburg, Germany, continue, the German daily *Die Welt* reports. BMW is not able to purchase about 50 hectares of agricultural land in Niedertraubling near Regensburg because of a battle between the **Thurn-Taxis** family, which owns the land, and a local farmer whose family has been renting the land for more than 150 years. The farmer has refused offers of other land and a long legal battle may follow. The project is expected to create up to 2,000 jobs.

Change at the top of Bosch Diesel

Dr. Stefan Hamelmann (50) has been appointed technical director at the **Bosch Diesel s.r.o.** plant in Jihlava. He replaced **Karsten Müller**, who already serves as technical director of a **Robert Bosch GmbH** plant in Feuerbach, Germany since early February. Prior to his new appointment, Hamelmann served at Bosch's department C/MP (Manufacturing Coordination) in Stuttgart-Feuerbach as head of the department C/MPS with responsibility for the further development and coordination of the Bosch Produktion System. Bosch Diesel currently employs about 4,300 people and produces components for the Common Rail diesel injection system such as for example high-pressure injection pumps, laser welded rails and pressure regulating valves.

Nexen Tire to commence construction of plant in Žatec in fall

The **Nexen Tire Corporation** will lay the cornerstone for its new Czech plant in Žatec in the autumn of 2015, the Czech government said in conjunction with the visit of Czech Prime Minister **Bohuslav Sobotka** to Nexen's plant in Changnyeong, South Korea.

Ingenics in new premises in Prague

Ingenics s.r.o., the Czech subsidiary of German technical consultant company **Ingenics AG**, has moved to the Office Park Nové Butovice in Prague. Currently the new office offers 20 engineering workplaces. The Czech company started its activities in July 2013.

Hungary

Hungarian car makers plan higher production in 2015

All three car manufacturers based in Hungary are planning to manufacture more cars this year compared to 2014. "We plan to produce more than 160,000 cars in 2015," **Gerd Walker**, Managing Director responsible for car production at **Audi Hungaria Motor Kft**, said at an automotive conference organised by the **Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency (HIPA)** in Budapest. Last year the company produced 135,232 cars at its factory in Győr. **Dr. Lászo Urbán**, Deputy Managing Director of **Magyar Suzuki Zrt.**, declared the plan to manufacture some 165,000 cars this year, compared to about 147,000 vehicles which left the plant in Esztergom in 2014. **Mercedes-Benz Manufacturing Hungary Kft** provided no expectations for 2015. However, as the Kecskemét-based plant launched third shift in May 2014, it will make more cars when working in three shifts the whole year. According to **Ekkehard Philipp**, Chief Financial Officer of Mercedes-Benz

Manufacturing Hungary, the company produces 660 cars per day in three shifts. Production runs at 16 shifts per week.

Magyar Suzuki celebrated official production start of Suzuki Vitara

Magyar Suzuki Zrt. has celebrated the official production start of its new model **Suzuki Vitara** last week. **Suzuki Motor Corporation** Chairman and CEO **Osamu Suzuki** and the Hungarian Prime Minister **Viktor Orbán** joined the ceremony. However, real volume production started in January. The company plans to produce some 70,000 Vitaras this year and to increase the number of its export target countries to 100 in 3 years. For more information please check the interview in this issue.

Audi announced 2014 business results

Audi Motor Hungaria Kft has announced its 2014 business results. The company produced 1,973,734 engines, which is a 2 percent increase compared to 2013 production and a new record for the Győr plant. Today 235 engine variants are being produced at the factory. Output of the complete vehicle plant amounted to 135,232 units – against a capacity of 160,000 units. Total revenue reached €7,231 million.

Daimler launches Mercedes-Benz CLA 45 AMG Shooting Brake

Daimler AG have launched the **Mercedes-Benz CLA 45 AMG Shooting Brake**, a new model version powered by a 2 litre turbo engine with 360 hp. The CLA 45 AMG Shooting Brake is making its show debut at the Geneva motor show, the market launch is also due to start in March.

Rába supplies seat components for Suzuki Vitara

Mór-based **Rába Járműalkatrész Gyártó és Kereskedelmi Kft** has announced that it is now supplying seat frames, seat covers, headrests and press seat pans to the new **Suzuki Vitara**. The contract, valued at HUF 2 billion, is valid for six years. Rába is already supplying the same components to the Suzuki SX4 S-Cross which was launched in September 2013.

Michelin expands in Nyíregyháza

Michelin Hungária Kft has launched a new, €40 million development project at its Nyíregyháza plant. It will enable the company to produce 6,900 tyres a day from 2017 and hire 100 new workers. The range of products will include tyres for sports and super-sportscars and off-roaders. Production of runflat tyres will also be added to the portfolio. It is worth noting that Michelin has already launched another capacity expansion project in 2012 which will be realised before the end of this year. With the €15 million project the plant will increase production by 20 percent.

Zoltek signs strategic agreement

Zoltek Zrt, a member of the Japanese **Toray Group** which operates the world's biggest carbon fibre plant in Nyergesújfalu, has signed a strategic agreement with the Hungarian government. At the event it was mentioned that the company is planning to increase capacity in the near future and create around 100 new jobs.

Schäfer-Oesterle transfers more production to Hungary

Schäfer-Oesterle GmbH, which specialises in leather finishes for vehicle interiors is transforming its Hungarian operations. Previously **Schäfer-Oesterle Kft** used leased properties in Bonyhád. Now it has added more capacity by setting up production in a 4,000 square metre hall at the same industrial park. Last year it hired 25 new workers and this year it plans to add another 25. In a few years the company expects to employ 250 people – said **István Frei**, Managing Director of the Hungarian company, to MTI, the Hungarian newswire. Previously the Bonyhád plants were doing sub-contracting work for the German plant, but now more and more production lines are being transferred to Hungary which enables them to become Tier 1 suppliers on their own.

Borsodi grows in Szombathely

Borsodi Fémmegmunkáló Kft has decided to apply for the Government's "Funding for Growth Scheme" as communicated by **Mónika Horváthné Borsodi**, one of the four directors of the company to autopro.hu "We will ask for HUF 300 million in addition to HUF 100 million from our own resources" – she added. The money will be used to build a new hall in Szombathely and quadruple the existing headcount from 25 to 100.

Poland

Alumetal reports new contracts

Polish company **Alumetal Poland Sp. z o.o.** has reported that new contracts for aluminium casting alloys were received in recent months. The company signed agreements with **Volkswagen AG** and its subsidiaries **Volkswagen Poznań Sp. z o.o.**, **Volkswagen Motor Polska Sp. z o.o.** and **Škoda Auto a.s.** about shipments worth some PLN 139.3 million. Another agreement worth PLN 50.8 million was signed between Alumetal Poland and **Nemak Exterior S.L.** Alumetal also signed a frame agreement with the companies **Federal-Mogul Nürnberg GmbH** (Germany), **OOO Federal-Mogul Naberezhnye Chelny** (Russia) and **Federal-Mogul Gorzyce Sp. z o.o.** (Poland) on cooperation in 2015 with an expected total value of PLN 206.45 million.

Oerlikon Balzers installs new coating system in Kędzierzyn-Koźle

Oerlikon Balzers Coating Poland Sp. z o.o. is increasing production possibilities at its site in Kędzierzyn-Koźle with the installation of the **Ingenia** coating systems. Kędzierzyn-Koźle is one of three coating sites of Oerlikon Balzers in Poland.

Romania

Renault to make Logan and Sandero in Argentina

Production of the **Dacia/Renault** Logan and Sandero model range will be extended to another country. **Renault Argentina** will manufacture the **Renault** Logan, Sandero and Sandero Stepway models at its Santa Isabel plant. The investment for the project will be €92 million. The investment plan covers the development of a local supplier network, as well as the modernisation of the factory's equipment and tooling. Production

of these models is scheduled to begin mid-2016. Over a period of 20 months, Renault will deploy its investment in five key areas, namely the development of its network of local suppliers including the production of new parts (seats, bumpers, exhaust and brake systems, etc.), the conversion and modernisation of the equipment, research and development, staff training and modernisation of the paint shop.

Ford to cut less jobs than initially envisioned

Ford Romania S.A. will lay off about 500 workers at its plant in Craiova this year, less than originally planned. In November, the company said it planned to cut about 20 percent of its staff or about 680 people. "Today we are able to confirm that we have reached an understanding with unions to implement a reduced work schedule at the Craiova plant, which will allow the company to avoid laying off approximately 170 people" the company said in a statement. Some 490 employees had joined a voluntary redundancy plan, the company said.

Russia

Avtotor to reduce capacity of new assembly plants

OOO Avtotor Holding plans to reduce capacity of new assembly factories it plans to construct as part of its automotive cluster. "While we previously planned to build a plant for the production of 150,000 cars a year in 2016 and another plant for 250,000 cars in 2018, now those plans have changed," Avtotor's CEO **Alexander Sorokin** said at a meeting of the Board of Investment in the government of the Kaliningrad region according to Russian media. "In the first stage we will build a plant for 100,000 vehicles, and in the second stage three more plants with the capacity of 50,000 each," he is quoted as saying. "As a result, the automotive cluster is designed to produce 250,000 vehicles a year. The number of workers at its factories will be more than 4,000 people". According to Sorokin, localisation is to reach 20 percent by 2020 and 30 percent by 2022.

AvtoVAZ increases prices again

OOO AvtoVAZ has announced new prices for **Lada** cars starting from the 4th of March. It is the second price increase for Lada cars following the first one from mid-January. According to AvtoVAZ, the average increase for all model range is 4.79 percent. The average increase in January was 9 percent. The Lada 4x4 saw the smallest price increase while the Largus prices registered the highest increase.

Russia's car park saw an increase by 3.9 percent in 2014

The total number of cars which are registered in Russia reached about 40.85 million units at the 1st of January 2015, up 3.9 percent from 2014, according to Avtostat. There were 284 cars per 1,000 inhabitants in Russia at the beginning of 2015, compared to 274 cars per 1,000 inhabitants a year earlier.

Hyundai launches production of facelifted Kia Rio

Production of a facelifted version of the **Kia Rio** is underway at the **OOO Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Rus** plant in St. Petersburg. The car was shown to Russian Kia dealers at a closed presentation in Sochi. Sales are expected to be launched in April.

AvtoVAZ starts to cut white collar workers

ОАО AvtoVAZ started the procedure to cut about 1,100 white collar workers, Interfax reports, quoting the company's PR department. The measure was announced in early 2015. According to Interfax, employees who will agree to leave by mutual agreement between the 10th of March and the 15th of April will receive four average months wages, those who will agree between the 16th of April and 15th of May will receive three average monthly wages.

Mazda Sollers to cut jobs

ООО Mazda Sollers Manufacturing Rus will cut jobs at its plant in Vladivostok, a company's spokeswoman told TASS, without specifying the number of workers which are to be laid off.

PCMA launches assembly of modernised Mitsubishi Outlander

Assembly of the facelifted **Mitsubishi Outlander** started at the **ООО PCMA Rus** plant in Kaluga, **Naoya Takai**, President and CEO the distribution company **ООО MMC Rus**, told ZaRulyom.RF. Sales of the modernised model are expected to start in April.

VIS-Avto to increase assembly of Lada 4x4 Urban

ОАО PSA VIS-Avto, a subsidiary of **ОАО AvtoVAZ**, will increase the assembly volumes of the **Lada 4x4 Urban** according to a report published by Lada4x4.net. Plans for March call for the assembly of about 300 units.

Change at the top of Volvo importer

Mikael Malmsten (54), who until now served as President and Managing Director at **Volvo Cars Finland**, was appointed new President of the car importer **ООО Volvo Russia**. Malmsten, who was born in Helsinki, replaces **John Stech**, who was named Executive Vice President Commercial Operations at **Volvo Cars of North America LLC** in September 2014.

Luidor builds 10,000th bus on Sprinter basis

ООО PKF Luidor, a company which converts light commercial vehicles to buses, ambulances and other special versions, has celebrated the production of the 10,000th bus based on a **Mercedes-Benz Sprinter** at its plant in Balakhna in the Nizhny Novgorod region. Cooperation between Luidor and **ZАО Mercedes-Benz Rus** started in 2010.

No more Mazda3 for Russia?

Mazda has interrupted shipments of the **Mazda3** model to the Russian market, Izvestiya reports quoting several unnamed sources from Mazda dealerships. There is no official confirmation from the distributor.

Serbia/Slovenia

Possible investors visit Fabrika Akumulatora Sombor

Two groups of possible investors who are interested in the battery manufacturer **Fabrika Akumulatora Sombor A.D.** located in Sombor have visited the company, Soinfo.org reports. According to the report, representatives of the Slovenian battery maker **TAB d.d.** and the businessman **Béla Pastrovics** were checking the plant. Fabrika Akumulatora Sombor has huge debts and is currently not producing. The court is expected to decide about the reorganisation plans for the company at the end of March.

Slovakia

PSA to announce new model for Trnava soon

PSA Peugeot Citroën will likely announce a new model for its Slovak plant **PCA Slovakia s.r.o.** in Trnava in the upcoming days. The announcement was expected to be made after a meeting between PSA's management and Slovak Prime Minister **Robert Fico** last week, but the meeting was cancelled because of Fico's health problems. Plans call for the production of a model codenamed B618. According to *aktuality.sk* the new model will be a SUV. PSA plans to invest some €80 million for the adaption of the plant in Trnava for the new car, *aktuality.sk* reports quoting PSA's internal documents. PSA is expected to try to have larger local content for the new model.

PSA: Mediator to find solutions in wage negotiations

The management of **PCA Slovakia s.r.o.** and the company's trade unions were not able to reach an agreement during the wage negotiations. Therefore a mediator will try to help to find a solution during the upcoming weeks.

Kia to increase engine production

Kia Motors Slovakia s.r.o. will introduce a third shift at its second engine plant in Teplička nad Váhom in the second quarter of this year. In conjunction with that decision the company plans to recruit more than 50 new employees in the upcoming weeks.

Volkswagen to add jobs

Volkswagen Slovakia a.s. plans to create about 300 new jobs by the end of 2017 according to a report published by the Slovak business weekly *Trend*.

Slovenia

Hidria reports new contract from Ducati

Hidria d.d. has signed a new sales contract for some of the key components for **Ducati** motorcycles. The products as well as components for **BMW** motorcycles from a contract announced last year were developed entirely in the **Hidria Technology Park** in Koper, on the former **Tomos** premises, where they will also be

manufactured. Hidria's motorcycle solutions, especially the frames, are developed on the basis of the knowledge that the corporation acquired from Tomos. The value of the deals mentioned above, including some other new contracts that were concluded at the beginning of this year, is about €25 million. "With these new contracts for the 2016-2022 period, its conceptual development capabilities, high quality, and punctuality of deliveries, Hidria is joining the ranks of the leading manufacturers of complex frames and other key components for premium motorcycles in Europe" the company said in a statement.

Turkey

Turkey and South Korea expand free trade agreement

Turkey and South Korea have agreed to expand their free trade agreement, which entered into effect in 2013, to cover the fields of service and investments. According to the agreement signed by Turkish Minister of Economy **Nihat Zeybekci** and South Korean Minister of Trade **Yoon Sang-jick** in Seoul, Turkish and South Korean companies will now be able to form partnerships to do business in third countries. The FTA between Turkey and South Korea that took effect in May 2013 covered products only.

NEWS FROM MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

Algeria/United Arab Emirates

Assembly of Mercedes-Benz Zetros started in Rouïba

Algerian company **Société Algérienne pour la Production de Poids Lourds de Marque Mercedes-Benz (SAPPL-MB)** launched assembly of **Mercedes-Benz Zetros 2733 A 6x6** trucks at its plant in in Rouïba. After the Actros, which was launched in April 2014, Zetros is the second Mercedes-Benz truck assembled by the company. SAPPL-MB is a joint venture owned by the Algerian commercial vehicle manufacturer **SNVI (Société Nationale de Véhicules Industriels)** (34 percent), the company **EDIV** which is controlled by the Algerian Ministry of Defence (17 percent) and **Aabar Investments PJS** from Abu Dhabi (49 percent).

Iran

Iran Khodro's CEO Yekehzare on negotiations with PSA

"**IKCO** has started a negotiation with **Peugeot** to establish a 50-50 joint venture company, with 30 percent of the products to be exported" **Hashem Yekehzare**, CEO of **Iran Khodro Industrial Group (IKCO)**, said about the cooperation plans with **PSA Peugeot Citroën**, mentioning that IKCO would no more be a CKD assembler as it was not economic. Some sources said the cooperation is already agreed. Based on the agreement, a joint research centre also will be established, Yekehzare said. IKCO'S CEO also explained that if Peugeot fails to export the mentioned figure, its share on Iran's domestic market also will be decreased proportionally.

Iran Khodro launches volume production of new pickup in Tabriz

Iran Khodro Industrial Group (IKCO) launched volume production of its new pickup at the **Iran Khodro Tabriz** plant in Tabriz. High ranking officials and IKCO managers joined the ceremony. The pickup, which is derived from the **Peugeot** 405 platform, was known under the codename PU1 for a long time. Pilot production started in fall 2014. Last October Iran Khodro unveiled the new model at a motorshow in Tabriz under the Karya model name. However, the final model name of the vehicle as presented at the production start ceremony is **Iran Khodro Arisun**. "With the production capacity of 25 cars per hour, the production volume has doubled this (Iranian) year" said **Gholamreza Sadeghian**, IKCO Tabriz CEO, at the ceremony. "IKCO Tabriz is supposed to localise this car taking advantage of the local part makers". IKCO's CEO **Hashem Yekehzare** said that Arisun engines will be produced by the company **IDEM** while gearboxes are to be sourced from the company **Charkheshgar**. A new paint shop is to be established at IKCO Tabriz. "The body will be supplied by the mother company in Tehran and will be assembled in Tabriz" the Arisun project manager said. The new Arisun pickup will replace the current Iran Khodro Bardo model, which is based on the old Paykan. IKCO Tabriz's head Gholamreza Sadeghian explained that his company has produced 562,000 units of Paykan/Bardo pickups until now.

Iran Khodro on quality

Iran Khodro Co. (IKCO) has compiled a 7-year quality strategy, the company said. "We are customer-oriented in every move that we make, putting customer's demand high on our agenda," said **Mojtaba Ostad Rahimi**, IKCO's Deputy CEO responsible for Quality. "We have focused on carrying out preventive measures before encountering quality issues, controlling quality fluctuations and compiling quality improvement projects in this Iranian year, planning on keeping up with the same process next year". According to Ostad Rahimi, the quality has experienced 10 percent growth in general and 14 percent raise in specific cases compared with the previous year. "All IKCO cars are evaluated by Quality Inspection Company and are graded as A or A+," he explained. "The **Suzuki** Grand Vitara has been always graded as the top quality car produced by IKCO," the company said.

Nigeria

Defence delegation visits car and commercial vehicle assembler Innoson

A 12-man high powered **Presidential Committee on the Review of Nigerian Defence Policy** has visited the **Innoson Vehicle Manufacturing (IVM)** company in Nnewi, Anambra State, to inspect facilities at the plant and outline ways on how the defence sector in the country could benefit from the company. The visiting Committee chaired by **Major General A. Adewuyi** had **Professor Isaac Olawale Albert** as the team leader. According to Albert IVM has the capacity to supply the Nigerian military with many of its requirements in terms of military vehicles. "We saw at the factory, pick-ups that can be used by the police, army, air force, navy, customs and immigration. We also saw buses that can be used to convey officers and men" said Albert. "So I think it is a very useful visit and when we get back to Abuja, we are going to write a report that will actually show the capacity of this company to assist the defence industry in Nigeria". According to Albert, Innoson's CEO **Dr Innocent Chukwuma** will come to Abuja to address a larger gathering of the defence policy makers on his capability and ingenuity.

INTERVIEW

with Dr. László Urbán, Deputy Managing Director, Magyar Suzuki Zrt.

“We plan to expand the number of export markets to 100 countries in three years”

Magyar Suzuki manufactured about 147,000 cars at its plant in Esztergom last year, plans for 2015 call for 165,000 units. In addition to the Suzuki Swift and SX4 S-Cross models, volume production of the new Vitara started earlier this year.



Mr. Urbán, how many cars were manufactured at the Magyar Suzuki plant in Esztergom last year and what are the plans for 2015?

Last year we made almost 150,000 cars. Regarding last year's production number I have to mention that it is relatively low because we phased out two models - the Splash and the SX4. For this year, together with the Vitara, we are planning to produce around 10 percent more so about 165,000 cars.

Last week Magyar Suzuki celebrated the official start of production of the new Vitara but the real volume production started earlier...

Yes, sure, because our sales policy is that before the official line-off ceremony we are supplying all dealerships and distribution centres all around the world to show the new model, to make it possible that right after the line-off ceremony the consumers can buy the Vitara.

So the real volume production started in January?

Yes, we are producing the cars from the beginning of this year and 3,000 to 4,000 cars have been already made until the official line-off ceremony.

Speaking about the plan to make 165,000 vehicles this year, what would be the mix between the three models made in Esztergom?

We plan to produce about 70,000 units of the Vitara and the rest is expected to be half-half for the Swift and SX4 S-Cross models. However, it depends on the market. But this is just the plan because we can foresee the real market demand only for four months in advance.

Did you recruit additional workers because of the Vitara project?

Unfortunately not. Together with the development of the Vitara we also have modernised the production technology. There is more automatisisation, more robots. The number of robots installed at Magyar Suzuki is

now nearing 1,000 pieces. This is a quite big number, especially if you think about the fact that 22 years ago we started with 17 robots. It is also interesting that the welding is 100 percent robotised. So there is no human being who would make the welding of the bodies for the cars. This is now true for all three models manufactured in Esztergom. The Suzuki SX4 was the last model with welding which was not 100 percent robotised. In the case of the SX4, three percent of the welding jobs were made by workers.

How many people are currently working at Magyar Suzuki?

We have about 3,100 employees. We don't use contracted workforce.

How many cars are you making per hour?

We are making almost 60 cars per hour, because the so called tact time is 1 minute and 3 seconds.

How many suppliers do you have?

We have 74 suppliers located in Hungary and more than 200 foreign suppliers which are in most cases located in the European Union countries.

Suzuki plans to expand the number of export markets for the Hungarian-made cars. This policy to add new export destinations started with the SX4 S-Cross. Can you explain more about that?

Now we are exporting the SX4 S-Cross and Vitara to almost 70 markets all over the world and we plan to expand this number to 85 this year and to 100 countries in three years. The widening of the export market portfolio started mainly with the SX4 S-Cross. The S-Cross is exported to New Zealand, South Africa, Mexico or Brazil among other countries. The Vitara will follow the SX4 S-Cross. The Vitara will be exported to many Asian countries including Japan, because we are the only producer of the Vitara.

Interview conducted by Peter Homola

UPCOMING EVENTS

- » **March, 17-19:** MOSCOW, RUSSIA: RUSSIAN AUTOMOTIVE FORUM
<http://www.russianautomotive.com/>
- » **March, 24-26:** ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA: AUTOPROM RUSSIA, 2015
<http://autopromrussia.ru/>
- » **April, 9-12:** POZNAN, POLAND: MOTOR SHOW
<http://www.motorshow.pl>
- » **April, 23-24:** ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN: EURASIA BUSINESS FORUM
<http://www.ebf.kz>
- » **May, 19-21:** NOVO MESTO, SLOVENIA: STRATEGIC COOPERATION & JOINT PRODUCTION IN CAR BODY ENGINEERING
<http://www.automotive-circle.com/>
- » **June, 8-10:** GYŐR, HUNGARY: EUROPEAN AUTOMOTIVE CONGRESS
<http://eaec2015.org/>

IMPRINT

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