

UK COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PRODUCTION UP ALMOST A QUARTER IN 2015

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- UK commercial vehicle manufacturing rose 36.8% in April with 8,629 vans, trucks and buses built.
- 32,064 CVs produced so far in 2015 – an increase of 23.6%.
- Exports surge 50.1% in April as EU market recovery continues.

28 May 2015 Figures released today by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) show an uplift in UK commercial vehicle production in April, with output up 36.8% on the same month last year. Following restructuring in the market, productivity has returned to form, with year-to-date growth of almost a quarter at 23.6%. Volumes have also been driven by rising demand from operators in the UK – and increasingly across Europe too.

While the production increase in the first quarter was built mainly on growth in the UK market, April saw a 50.1% surge in manufacture for export. This is evidence that the UK is taking advantage of a rallying European market, with CV registrations across the EU having risen 13% so far this year*.

"These figures are further evidence that commercial vehicle manufacturing in the UK has turned a corner after a period of restructuring," said **Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive**. "April's significant rise in exports is particularly encouraging, as the industry capitalises on increasing demand for vans, trucks and buses across Europe."

*ACEA statistics

CV manufact	Apr-14	Apr-15	% Change	YTD-14	YTD-15	% Change
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Total	6,307	8,629	36.8%	25,948	32,064	23.6%
Home	2,932	3,563	21.5%	12,570	16,604	32.1%
Export	3,375	5,066	50.1%	13,378	15,460	15.6%
% export	53.5%	58.7%		51.2%	48.2%	
CV output – rolling year total			CV output year-to-date			

About SMMT and the UK automotive industry

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) is one of the largest and most influential trade associations in the UK. It supports the interests of the UK automotive industry at home and abroad, promoting a united position to government, stakeholders and the media.

The automotive industry is a vital part of the UK economy accounting for more than **£64 billion turnover** and **£12 billion value added**. With more than **160,000** people employed directly in manufacturing and in excess of **770,000** across the wider automotive industry, it accounts for **11% of total UK export of goods** and invests **£1.9 billion** each year in automotive R&D. More than **30 manufacturers** build in excess of **70 models** of vehicle in the UK supported by around **2,500 component providers** and some of the world's most **skilled engineers**.

More detail on UK automotive available in SMMT's Motor Industry Facts 2015 publication at www.smmt.co.uk/facts15.

Broadcasters: SMMT has an ISDN studio and access to expert spokespeople, case studies and regional representatives.

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