

AUTOMOTIVE DESKTOP 2010

WORLD NEWS FROM JUST-AUTO.

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JAPAN: TOYOTA BEATS ITS BLUES TO RECORD GLOBAL SALES SURGE

[Toyota](#) appears to be overcoming its recall concerns and quality issues, announcing that its global sales surged 21.3% percent year on year in April.

The [Toyota](#) group, which includes brands [Daihatsu](#) and Hino trucks, sold 671,921 vehicles in April, up from 554,034 a year earlier – although this was down on March sales of 876,126. The company also reported that global production jumped 53.8% to 667,495 units compared to a year ago, when the industry was in the grip of the economic crisis.

The increase in sales and production comes despite having to recall around 10m vehicles worldwide since late last year over safety issues. [Toyota](#) has also paid a record US\$16.4m fine to settle claims it hid defects blamed for more than 80 deaths in the United States. US officials are refusing to rule out the possibility of more fines.

It also faces a host of lawsuits over "unintended acceleration" issues that prompted the majority of the recalls and earlier this month said it would recall 11,500 [Lexus](#) vehicles worldwide because of a steering system defect.

Despite all this, [Toyota](#) posted a return to profit in the past fiscal year, including a net profit of JPY112.2bn (US\$1.2bn) in the three months ended March, defying many expectations. Japan's second-largest maker [Honda](#) reported its 10th straight monthly increase of domestic sales, which rose 9.5% - it did not give global sales figures – while [Nissan](#) saw global production rise 57% to 319,673, an all time record for April.

[Mitsubishi](#) Motors said its global production gained 72.7% from a year ago. Output at Japan's 12 vehicle makers in April rose 51% from a year earlier to 731,794 units according to the JAMA, the country's automobile manufacturers' association. Exports surged 90%. However, 12 months ago Japanese carmakers scaled back output, temporarily halting production lines to reduce inventory amid the recession.

TRANSPORT FOR LONDON (TfL) PLANS TO REMOVE

the 'alternative fuel discount' for the London congestion charge and introduce a CO2 emissions-based 'greener vehicle discount' that, it said, would encourage a switch to much cleaner and more CO2 efficient cars.

The scheme had been criticised for exempting large and relatively fuel inefficient hybrids like while charging frugal, low-CO2 petrol and diesel models. TfL said the greener vehicle discount would provide a 100% discount to cars that emit 100g/km of CO2 or less and meet Euro V emission standards.

As with the current alternative fuel discount, owners of cars eligible for the greener vehicle discount would have to pay a £10 annual registration charge. TfL also plans to widen the eligibility criteria for the electric vehicle discount to include plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

The plans, announced on Monday, are part of a wider review that would see the western extension to the scheme, added in 2007, dropped and the charge for the remaining area hiked to £10 from £8. Simpler payment methods are also part of the changes, due for introduction on 4 January.

THE WEEK IN BRUSSELS.

<http://www.smmmt.co.uk>



1. Ministers approve EU clean and energy efficient vehicles strategy

EU industry ministers have approved the European clean and energy efficient vehicles strategy. At the latest Competitiveness Council meeting, ministers noted a number of conclusions around the strategy, highlighting the need for appropriate support frameworks to increase market uptake of low carbon vehicles, calling for the European Commission to develop draft guidelines for financial incentives that may be offered by governments or local authorities. Other conclusions addressed issues around skills in light of new technologies, the need for focused research and development funding, and the importance of including heavy good vehicles in the strategy. Particular points on electric vehicles were made, emphasising the importance of charging standardisation, urging standardisation bodies to come to a harmonised solution on charging plugs and points by mid-2011. (Source: Council of the EU)

www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/intm/114617.pdf

2. Commission adopts revised automotive Block Exemption rules

The European Commission has adopted revised Block Exemption rules for motor vehicle distribution and repair. The Commission adopted a new Block Exemption Regulation and guidelines on the application of competition rules in the automotive sector. The new rules introduce a 30% market share threshold above which agreements between car manufacturers and authorised repairers will no longer be block exempted, aligning the rules with the general framework.

Commission vice-president and competition commissioner Joaquin Almunia said: "I strongly believe the new framework will bring tangible benefits for consumers by bringing down the cost of repairs and maintenance that represent an excessive share of the total cost of a car over its lifetime. It will also reduce the cost of distribution by doing away with overly restrictive rules." The new regulation will apply from 1 June 2010. (Source: European Commission)

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/619&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

3. Commission presents analysis on 30% by 2020 emissions target

The European Commission has published analysis on the impacts of moving to a 30% emissions reduction target by 2020. At present the EU-wide target stands at a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 from a 1990 base level. A 30% target has been previously agreed by EU leaders if similar commitments by international governments were made. The European Council instructed the Commission to put forward an assessment of the effects of such a move. The Commission says that the cost of reaching the 30% target is now estimated at €81 billion per year by 2020, with the 30% target costing €33 billion (0.2% of EU GDP) more than the 20% target is estimated to cost today. The Commission also set out options for meeting the 30% target, including: reducing the number of auctioned allowances under the EU ETS; regulation to promote greater energy efficiency; smart use of fiscal instruments; directing EU cohesion policy funding towards low carbon investments; and improving the environmental integrity of the international carbon credits recognised in the EU ETS. Connie Hedegaard, EU commissioner for climate action, said: "Whether to increase our reduction target for 2020 from 20% to 30% is a political decision for the EU leaders to take when the timing and the conditions are right. Obviously the immediate political priority is to handle the crisis. But as we exit the crisis, the Commission has now provided input for a fact-based discussion. The decision is not for now, but I hope that our analysis will inspire the debate in the member states on the way forward."

(Source: European Commission)

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/618&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

THE WEEK IN WESTMINSTER.

<http://www.smmmt.co.uk>



1. Queen's Speech details coalition's legislative programme

The coalition government's legislative programme has been set out in the Queen's Speech. The programme of legislation outlined in the speech is based upon the coalition's initial agreement and its programme for government document. Freedom, fairness and responsibility were the key principles government used to set out its legislative programme, with the overarching priority of reducing the deficit and restoring economic growth. 23 Bills were outlined, putting forward key coalition policies, including the establishment of the

Office for Budget Responsibility, school reforms, plans on National Insurance Contributions, parliamentary reform, and plans to decentralise decision making. The Energy Security and Green Economy Bill puts forward government plans to institute a Green Investment Bank to support low carbon projects, introduce energy efficiency incentives, and enable a smart electricity grid. (Source: Number 10) www.number10.gov.uk/news/latest-news/2010/05/queens-speech-2010-3-50297

2. Prime minister sets out strategy for re-balanced economy

Prime minister David Cameron has set out the coalition government's strategy for economic growth. In a speech in Yorkshire, Mr Cameron said government's strategy would be based on keeping tax rates low, providing modern support for businesses and creating growth by rebalancing the economy. The prime minister said: "An economy with such a narrow foundation for growth is fundamentally unstable and wasteful [...] We are determined that should change. That doesn't mean picking winners but it does mean supporting growing industries - aerospace, pharmaceuticals, high-value manufacturing, hi-tech engineering, low carbon technology." Questioned on issues related to low carbon and renewable energy, the prime minister said that renewables and electric vehicles were part of "the basis for an exciting green economy". Mr Cameron also said that his government had begun conversations with banks to increase the flow of credit to businesses, and that employers' National Insurance Contributions would be abolished on the first ten jobs created by new businesses for the next two years. (Source: Number 10) www.number10.gov.uk/

3. Chancellor and chief secretary outline departmental spending cuts

Chancellor George Osborne and chief secretary to the Treasury David Laws have outlined government departmental spending cuts. The reductions in spending total £6.2 billion over the current financial year. The Department for Transport will institute £683 million of savings, while the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) will reduce spending by £836 million. Savings at BIS represent 3.9% of the department's total budget, with BIS stating that spending on research, innovation, business and enterprise will be protected, as well as plans to increase student numbers in higher education. Cuts will be made through dropping plans for an SME credit adjudicator, efficiency savings, and refocusing the Train to Gain budget on increasing apprenticeships and college buildings. £270 million of spending for Regional Development agencies will be cut across BIS, the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Department of Energy and Climate Change and the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. (Source: HM Treasury/BIS) www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/press_04_10.pdf

LATEST UK CBI DATA.

<http://www.cbi.org.uk>



HIGH STREET SUFFERS FROM SURPRISE FALL IN SALES VOLUMES

The volume of sales on the high street during the last month were lower than a year ago, surprising retailers, according to the latest CBI Quarterly Distributive Trades Survey. Orders placed by retailers with suppliers also fell, as did employment. Although 30% of retailers said that the volume of sales rose during the first two weeks in May, 48% said they fell, giving a balance of -18%. This was a much weaker result than expected by respondents (+17%), and was the lowest balance since March 2009 (-44%).

The major sub-sectors which saw the sharpest year-on-year fall in sales were: chemists, durable household goods and hardware, china and DIY; while clothing sales were also down after three months of continuous growth. The balance for the underlying trend, the three-month moving average of sales volumes, was +3%, indicating little movement in sales and reflecting the positive figures in the previous two months. Retailers are also negative about next month, with a balance of -15% indicating that another fall in volume of sales is expected.

Employment in the retail sector, which features in the longer, quarterly CBI survey, continued to fall in May compared with a year ago (balance of -20%).

The survey also showed that price inflation continued to rise. 54% of retailers said average selling prices rose, and 5% said they fell giving a balance of +49%.

In a sign that conditions in the retail sector remain challenging, a net 5% of firms expect the overall business situation to deteriorate over the next three months.

The survey was conducted between 27th April and 12th May, and also covers wholesaling, where sales volumes continued to grow. 41% of wholesalers said that sales rose, while 22% said they fell, giving a rounded balance of +20 per cent, which was not quite as strong as expected (+42%). Wholesalers predict volumes next month will be broadly unchanged on last year (a balance of +3%). However, employment in wholesaling fell sharply, with a balance of -53% reporting a year-on-year decline in May.

NEWS FROM "AFTERMARKET".
<http://www.aftermarketnetwork.com>





The Telegraph's motoring columnist Honest John congratulates Top Technician 2010 winner Stuart White of Complete Car Maintenance

NEWS FROM BODYSHOP MAGAZINE.

<http://www.bodyshopmag.com>



STATUS SYMBOLS

Many bodyshops are looking to Vehicle Manufacturer (VM) approvals to ensure their future. But what are VMs looking for in return? bodyshop asked the VMs to find out.

Robert Dewe, Bodyshop Inspection Manager, GM UK & I Bodyshop Programme

What does the process involve? All bodyshops on the Vauxhall network need to be part of the same legal entity as the retailer ie a franchised site.

How long does approval take? Dependent on audit performance and any action plan requirements.

How many audits are needed? At least one per year.

How much does it cost? Dependent on audit and any changes in criteria ie access to VM repair methods, equipment etc. In addition, a minimal quarterly marketing fee (circa £100) is necessary to contribute towards producing marketing materials

Who should bodyshops contact when trying to seek approval? Applicants need to apply in writing to the Accident Repair Channel Manager, Mailpoint UK 1-103-303 Griffin House, Osborne Road, Luton, Beds, LU1 3YT. Independent applications will be declined at this point as we do not have the ability to approve them at present.

Wayne Dye, General Manager – Parts & Accessories

What is the process involved? All bodyshops need to be nominated by a Suzuki dealer. A self assessment is then completed to look at compliance with our standards, and then they are assessed by one of our program representatives.

How long does it take? Around three months.

How much does it cost? Dependant on how many upgrades that may be required, but assuming they meet them straight away, there is a signage cost of around £400 and any training courses that we ask them to attend. Presently we do not ask bodyshops to attend mandatory training courses.

How many audits have to be undertaken? One initially and then one every two years.

Who should bodyshops contact when trying to seek approval? Their local dealer.

Kevern Thompson, Body & Paint Program Manager

What does the process involve? The process of a repairer joining the approved network can only stem through a dealership nomination as this secures a genuine parts supply chain route and ensures our customers benefit from the corporate brand identity.

Once a nomination has been received via a dealership, we make sure that this dealer has only one nomination and that the dealer has no existing repairer relationships. We use the rule of one dealer per one nominated repairer.

The repairer is then contacted and the costs and processes are explained. Trademark licence fees apply per brand, but these are discounted if the dealership is dual branded ie Jaguar and Land Rover.

What are the minimum criteria that bodyshops have to have in order to achieve approval? The contract is then setup between the dealer and the repairer and the repairer undergoes an initial assessment for suitability. This contains; assessment against Jaguar Land Rover standards, equipment, commercial legislation and health and safety conformity, the use of VM approved paint brands. As well as this, if a repairer has requested to become a category A repairer (required to repair aluminium) they have to achieve a 100% audit. Category B repairers must achieve a pass rate of 85% as the additional 15% of the audit carries aluminium specific questions.

How long does it take? The assessment, carried out by a regional Technical Commercial Development Manager (TCDM) can take up to three months to complete, subject to the entry level of the bodyshop. If the bodyshop fails the audit or the remedial work required to achieve the assessment via support of the TCDM, then the dealership may be asked to nominate another repairer.

Amanda Newport, Technical Services Field Operations Manager

What does the process involve? Following an application, we provide a full set of the FGA (Fiat Group Automobiles) standards and guidance notes and a self-assessment document that needs to be returned for validation. Compliance is assessed opposite the standards, and if necessary, a development plan will be created to bring the bodyshop in line with those standards. Once the bodyshop can demonstrate compliance, we conduct a field audit, and subject to it passing the audit, approval will be granted. Unless we seek to appoint a bodyshop directly to provide specific geographical coverage, all applications need to be accompanied by a nomination letter from the sponsoring dealer.

How long does it take? This depends on how speedily the bodyshop processes documentation and how much additional work is required to meet the standards. With a proactive, professional bodyshop, the process should be completed within six to 10 weeks.

How much does it cost? Aside from any investment a bodyshop may need to meet the standards, the only cost from auditing is for the branding materials and signage which is several hundred pounds.

How many audits have to be undertaken? There is no cost for the initial audit, but a modest charge is made for any re-audits that may be necessary. And ongoing, modest fees are then applied for the annual audits.

Who should bodyshops contact when trying to seek approval? We would always urge bodyshops to develop a relationship with their local FGA dealer who can advise them on the process, but if they wish to contact us directly, they should send an email to fga-info@fusion-ms.co.uk.

What are the minimum criteria that bodyshops have to have in order to achieve approval? The FGA standards embrace a range of compliance areas, such as; customer service, site presentation, image and branding, business process and control, regulatory compliance, equipment levels, repair quality, technician competence etc. Appropriate demands are made of bodyshops and a good standard of professionalism is expected to ensure that the needs of the FGA customers are fully met in terms of service, quality and safety. However, the FGA standards are under constant review, and will be updated as appropriate in the future.

Are there any differences between the Fiat and Alfa Romeo approvals? Fundamentally, there is little difference between the standards except for branding at this stage, largely because the technologies deployed across the brands are consistent. However, we are always mindful that should there be a divergence in those technologies, we may consider creating separate standards, certainly in respect of certain elements.

FLEET NEWS ONLINE.
NEWS FROM BAUER'S ON LINE PUBLICATION.
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fleetnews.co.uk

TEST DRIVE THE LATEST LOW EMISSION CARS AT
GREENER COMPANY CAR IN ACTION 2010



Greener Company Car in action will be the first chance to get behind the wheel of some of the latest low-emissions cars on sale in the UK. Several major manufacturers have already signed up to the event at Millbrook Proving Ground, Bedfordshire, on June 29-30, and provide you with an opportunity to try their new models in a safe, controlled environment.

The 700 acre site has a variety of different road environments designed for evaluating vehicles, and many of these routes, including a twisty hill course and a high-speed bowl, will be open to attendees. It will also be a chance to try some of the models introduced in the last 12 months you might have missed out on.

As with the most recent events visitors will still be able to drive the full model range of manufacturers which are attending the show, but as last year, there will be an emphasis on lower emission vehicles in each segment.

Fleet News research in 2009 revealed that 63% of companies have set a CO2 cap with most opting for a 160g/km limit. However, many are also looking to reduce their CO2 cap year-on-year. The Greener Company Car in Action will also include a range of displays and advice areas dedicated to helping fleets lower their running costs and reduce their emissions.

2010 will see an increased focus on light commercial vehicles, as most visitors to Greener Company Car in Action also operate vans. Several manufacturers will have their latest models to take out on the range of driving circuits. But with a growing range of low-CO2 cars arriving on the market, this is an unrivalled opportunity to sample the models on offer.

Alfa Romeo – Alfa launches the Giulietta, a new lower-medium car to replace the 147 in June. The new model comes with CO2 emissions starting at 114g/km. while the Mito gains new, more fuel-efficient MultiAir petrol engines for 2010. The 159 will also be available with the latest 1750 TB petrol engine and 2.0 JTDM 170bhp diesel.

Citroen – Citroen has had a busy year with two new small car ranges: the all new C3, and the sharp-looking DS3 – both of which offer versions with CO2 at less than 100g/km. Citroen also offers other compact and practical vehicles with CO2 at lower than 120g/km, including the C3 Picasso and Nemo Multispace. Citroen also offers a range of fuel-efficient vans.

Fiat and Fiat Professional – Fiat has adopted a range of cleaner petrol engines for 2010 called MultiAir, as well as introduced automatic stop-and-start in some models to help cut fuel consumption and reduce emissions. Fiat Professional has also launched the new Doblò Cargo for 2010.

Ford – With new lower-priced models joining the range in 2010 as well as upgraded diesel engines and the 99g/km Focus Econetic stop-start, Ford will have a wide choice of vehicles available for testing. Ford also has a range of vans, including low-emission Econetic versions.

Honda – The sporty new Honda CR-Z promises to be a hybrid that drivers will really enjoy, designed to feel sharp as well as deliver frugal operating costs. It joins the Insight and Civic Hybrid among the sub-120g/km range from Honda.

Kia – Kia began its introduction of fuel-saving EcoDynamics technology in 2009 in the Ceed lower-medium model range, including the five-door hatchback, the sporty three-door Proceeed and the practical Ceed SW. Kia has also increased the number of mainstream models dipping below 120g/km.

Lexus – Lexus has become a hybrid-focused manufacturer, and with the sub-100g/km compact Lexus CT200h on the horizon this will be a chance to sample other hybrid models as well as the freshly revised IS saloon.

Mazda – The Mazda6 has been revised for 2010 with subtle improvements. CO2 emissions of diesel models have been reduced, while petrol versions also offer more efficient engines.

Peugeot – The latest versatile and award-winning 3008 and seven-seat 5008 will be available for evaluation from Peugeot. But the brand also has a new sports coupé in the RCZ, offered with three engines producing less than 160g/km, including a 139g/km 163bhp diesel.

Renault – A range of the latest cars and commercial vehicles will be available, including the new Wind compact roadster and Megane Coupe Cabriolet, as well as TomTom navigation equipped versions of the Megane and Laguna. The Kangoo, Trafic and the all new Master van will also be offered for evaluation

SEAT – With a revised Leon Ecomotive model achieving 99g/km and a range of Ecomotive Tech diesels with low CO2 emissions, there will be plenty for fleet operators to sample. Meanwhile the new Ibiza FR model offers user choosers a hot hatchback with CO2 emissions of 119g/km.

Toyota – The new Auris HSD petrol electric hybrid shares its sophisticated powertrain with the Prius, and is available with CO2 emissions as low as 89g/km. Along with the iQ 1.0-litre this gives Toyota three models below 100g/km.

Vauxhall – The Astra gains a new range of ecoFLEX diesel models from April giving customers the option of a 109g/km model in a choice of equipment grades. Improvements to the Corsa also see the introduction of low-CO2 ecoFlex diesels in 2010. Vauxhall also launched the new Movano large panel van in 2010.

To book your place at this year's greener company Car in Action event go to <http://www.fleetnews.co.uk/company-car-in-action>

HIGHLIGHTS.



Convertible average values increase by 32% since January, reports Manheim

Manheim Auctions reports an increase of over 30% in overall average values of convertibles since the beginning of the year. More than 4,000 convertibles worth £36 million have been sold since the beginning of January with an average age of 5 years and average mileage of 43,500. During this time average values and the performance against CAP Clean have increased each month. The average value was £7,764 (94.55% CAP Clean) in January, £8,173 (98.25% CAP Clean) in February, £9,290 (101.35% CAP Clean) in March and £10,271 (102.71% CAP Clean) in April.

The increases in values do vary within each vehicle sector. In the Small Hatchback sector (16% of all convertibles sold) average values increased by 68% and CAP Clean performance improved from 93.2% in January to 106.8% in April. The average values in the Medium Family sector (20% of all convertibles sold) increased by 69% and CAP Clean performance moved from 91.1% to 102.2%. Meanwhile in the Compact Executive sector (18% of all convertibles sold) average values increased by 58% and CAP Clean performance increased from 96.1% to 103.7%. Finally in the Coupe/Sports Car (41% of all convertibles sold) average values increased by 12.8% and CAP Clean achieved improved from 95.3% to 101.3%.

Mike Pilkington, Managing Director, Manheim Remarketing said: "Although the convertible market is very seasonal, interest does seem to be much greater than in previous years. Demand is strong with high buyer attendances both at the auctions and online via Simulcast, especially at our recent Lex Autolease convertible sales at Bristol and Bruntingthorpe, which is reflected in the increasing values and overall performance."

CARFACTS



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- 1) Skoda Fabia vRS prices announced this week, on sale July 29th.
- 2) Seat Ibiza ST information updated this week.
- 3) Infiniti have included a diesel engine in the FX range and added a GT Premium version too, available with the petrol or new diesel engine.
- 4) Vauxhall have brought out a new price list dated 17 May and it includes a new Insignia model - the VX-Line.
- 5) Renault have included a new eco2 version in the Clio range, with a CO2 of 98 g/km and prices start from £12,690 for the 3dr and £13,290 for the 5dr.

Have you seen our new CarFacts Comparator tool?

It sits on your website as an i-Frame so your customers can research the vehicle of their choice, see how it compares with competitors, and stay on your site while they do it. The comparator provides a fast and accurate way to compare every new car on sale in the UK and is invaluable to customers and showroom sales teams.

website: www.drivendata.co.uk

E-COMMENT.



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Should you ever be in Northumberland near Berwick-upon-Tweed do pop in to the Tillmouth Park Hotel www.tillmouthpark.co.uk where I found myself joining colleagues for a meal this week and it was excellent. Just being in Northumberland is good enough for me and there are of course a number of these “country house” hotels and mostly they are very good indeed.

I was most impressed when a friend said he was walking the full length of nearby Hadrian’s Wall and I fell suitably silent as I consider walking to my village shop quite a result and was anxious not to draw undue attention to yet another of my frailties. It transpired that whilst he did indeed walk the full length, their collective bags were transported from one luxury hotel to the next and were unpacked and packed for them on arrival and departure over a seven night very upmarket stroll. I take nothing away from my friend’s achievement – but next time you learn someone is on an unlikely expedition – just check out the logistics.

And another thing.

I’ve seriously got the hump about dietary requirement. I was at a House of Commons lunch recently which was beautifully organised and a joy to attend but the organiser seemed unable to get his head round the fact that I had no dietary requirements to report. “Everyone has something to make note of” he complained and from that moment I have been feeling somewhat socially excluded. In just the same way you now **MUST** have an allergy (cats, people, celebrities appear to lead the charge) it seems compulsory to have a diet drama. I’m thinking seriously of making one up to avoid feeling so socially inadequate.

Maybe E1590 Enjoyment?

Sincerely

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The logo for ODETTE, featuring the word "ODETTE" in a bold, green, sans-serif font. To the left of the text is a stylized green circular graphic consisting of two overlapping loops, resembling a lowercase 'o' or a similar symbol. The entire logo is enclosed within a double-lined black rectangular border.

Odette International is an organisation, formed by the automotive industry for the automotive industry. It sets the standards for e-business communications, engineering data exchange and logistics management, which link the 4000 plus businesses in the European motor industry and their global trading partners.

<http://www.odette.org>

AUTOMOTIVE DESKTOP is all about delivering information to you promptly and reliably and the success of the e-mail rests on the rich list of sources which is available to me – and of course to you. Here is a list of just a few of my favourites which have to be visited frequently and many of which provide an auto-email service as well. The list below is in random order and is my personal choice. I am not in any way remotely suggesting there are not many other extremely useful sites – there are!!

<http://www.aftermarketnetwork.com> Highly informative aftermarket site.
<http://www.ameinfo.com> A fabulously functionally rich site from the Middle East.
<http://www.am-online.com> BAUER's AM magazine is required reading.
<http://www.autowired.co.uk> Daily news by e-mail.
<http://just-auto.com> A huge database – has become the industry standard.
<http://www.automotivepr.com> automotivepr has a blue chip client list – visit!
<http://www.autonews.com> Run by the global automotive news provider Automotive News
<http://europe.autonews.com> Automotive News Europe – excellent European perspective.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk> Few can compete with Aunty Beeb's truly global coverage.
<http://www.bodyshopmag.com> Visit "Backchat" first - good stuff from Kelly Dalewood.
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<http://www.reuters.com> The Reuters name says it all – a brilliant site.
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<http://news.ft.com> The Financial Times. Up there with the best.
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<http://www.nobull-communications.co.uk> Clients include Peugeot, Volvo, Avis.
<http://www.nytimes.com> New York Times. Some of the best articles around are here.
<http://www.pfpr.com> Ranked Top 50 UK Consumer Consultancy by PR Week 2006/2007.
<http://www.cw360.com> Computer Weekly. Best for e-commerce and new IT trends.
<http://www.awknowledge.com> Packed with automotive data, knowledge and reports.
<http://www.mbendi.co.za> First rate automotive coverage and not at all confined only to Africa.
<http://www.smmmt.co.uk> SMMT. Top site – as you would expect it to be!
<http://www.fleetnews.co.uk> Fleet News Online - BAUER's site; stuffed with fleet info.

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