



Lotus hopes for blossoming sales in China

Christopher Nicoll, general manager for Asia-Pacific region at Lotus Cars, said that in its first year in the China market, which will be in 2012, Lotus hopes to sell more than 300 vehicles. The British traditional car brand opened its first showroom in Beijing and officially began selling its cars in China. According to Nicoll, Lotus will add three showrooms - in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chengdu - by the beginning of 2012, and it will have 30 dealerships nationwide by 2014.

1m units in seven to eight years. Chery, which started selling cars overseas in 2002, is now China's biggest auto exporter.

China's Wolong buys ATB Group for USD138m

China's Wolong Holding Group Co Ltd announced that its acquisition of the insolvent Austrian electric motor manufacturer ATB Group has been basically completed, with a transaction amount of EUR100.5m (USD137.83m).

Chinese firms swoop for Saab

Two Chinese companies have reached a tentative deal to take over the struggling automaker Saab Automobile AB for EUR100m (USD141m), according to Saab's owner, Swedish Automobile NV. The move by Zhejiang Youngman Lotus Automobile Co and Pang Da Automobile Trade Co marks the latest rescue attempt for cash-strapped Saab, which has been fighting for survival since General Motors Co sold it in 2010 to a small Dutch company specialising in luxury cars. Production at Saab's manufacturing plant has been suspended for most of the year while the company has struggled to pay suppliers and staff.

Daimler's luxury car unit Mercedes-Benz for commercial vehicles, adding that combined sales of two popular MPV models Viano and Vito exceeded 10,000 units last year. The JV hopes to increase its market share in the range of 7% to 8% in China with a local production rate to increase more than 40%.

Great Wall and BorgWarner sign partnership agreement

Great Wall Motor has signed a strategic partnership agreement with leading worldwide automotive industry parts supplier BorgWarner. The signing ceremony was held at Great Wall's technology centre. BorgWarner's Chairman of the Board and CEO Tim Manganello said that Great Wall has a rapid development and compared it to his company's partnerships with Toyota in the 1960s and Hyundai in the 1980s. The two parties will bring state-of-the-art, advanced technological design to Great Wall's customers both in China and across the world.

20,000 seats

The size of China Mobile's planned call centre in Huaian, Jiangsu province.

(Source: China Mobile)

Hainan Airlines says no change to Boeing order

Hainan Airlines Co Ltd, China's fourth-largest carrier, said that it will stick to its aircraft order with Boeing Co despite a growing number of cancelled or changed orders within the industry. China's third most valuable carrier China Eastern Airlines Corp Ltd said it had terminated an order for 24 Boeing 787 Dreamliners because of delivery delays and would instead spend USD3.3bn on 45 new Boeing 737 aircrafts.

Heavy helicopter industry to fly after JV

Avicopter Co Limited is in talks with its Russian counterpart to jointly develop a 33-ton heavy-lift helicopter, said Xia Qunlin, deputy general manager of Avicopter, a

JV between Aviation Industry Corp of China (AVIC) and the Tianjin municipal government. If approved by the government, this heavy-lift helicopter will be developed and put into service in five to seven years, he said, adding it will be produced at Avicopter's Tianjin production base.

Hyundai Heavy builds wheel loader factory

Hyundai Heavy Industries, South Korea's shipbuilding and construction equipment giant, said that it has completed the construction of a new factory in China to produce wheel loaders. The new plant was built in Tai'an, a city of Shandong Province, as part of efforts to raise its wheel loader sales in China, the company said in a statement.

Kia Motors to build new China plant, models

South Korea's Kia Motors said that its Chinese JV plans to build its third vehicle manufacturing facility in China by 2014. The new facility with an annual capacity of 300,000 vehicles will bring Kia's total capacity in China to 730,000 vehicles and is aimed at meeting dramatically increasing local demand and maintaining positive sales momentum in the Chinese market, Kia said in a statement.

Linde (China) expanded R&D centre in Xiamen

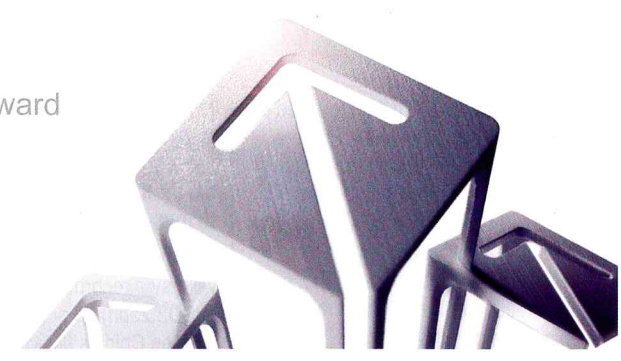
Linde (China), a fork-lift truck specialist and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the KION Group, officially moved into an expanded R&D centre at their Xiamen headquarters. The new centre provides more space for testing, prototyping and new projects. Gordon Riske, CEO of the KION Group, said that the company hopes the centre will support their further growth in China and other emerging markets.

Pirelli targets China's luxury car sector

Pirelli & C. SpA has placed China's premium car market at the heart of its industrial plan updates for the coming three years. The Italy-based company's supply of tires to luxury car manufacturers in China is expected to grow from less than 600,000 units in 2011 to about 1.4



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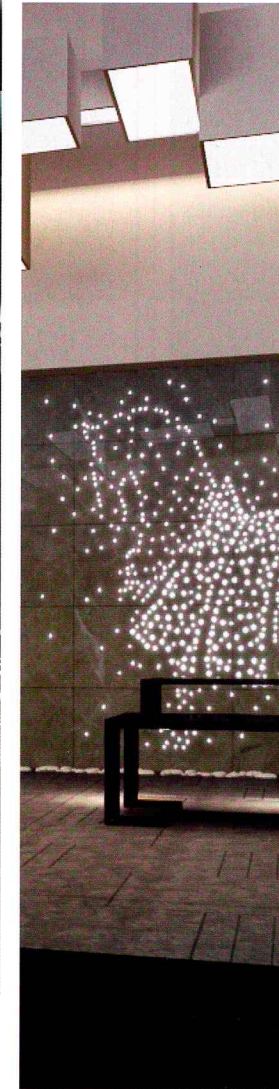
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