



For Immediate Release

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ALABAMA AUTOMAKERS BUILT NEARLY ONE MILLION VEHICLES IN 2014 **Companies combine to establish new records for vehicle and engine production**

Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 27-Alabama automakers Honda, Hyundai and Mercedes-Benz combined to build 997,270 vehicles in 2014, setting a new annual auto production record for the state. The 2014 total is 80,000 units greater than the previous year, which was also a record for Alabama's automotive industry.

And, with Toyota's engine plant setting a new production record, Alabama also reached an all-time high for annual engine production in 2014, manufacturing 1.67 million units.

Hyundai Motor Manufacturing of Alabama (HMMA) produced 398,851 Sonata and Elantra sedans at its Montgomery plant in 2014. That number was just a few hundred vehicles shy of the record mark HMMA had set in 2013. Hyundai has built more than 2.8 million vehicles since it started production in 2006.

Honda Manufacturing of Alabama (HMA) built a record 363,419 vehicles during the year. HMA builds the Odyssey minivan, Pilot SUV and Acura MDX at its Lincoln plant. Honda has built 3.38 million vehicles in Alabama since start of production in 2001.

Mercedes-Benz U.S. International (MBUSI) has announced that it produced more than 235,000 vehicles at its Tuscaloosa plant, an all-time high for the company. MBUSI built four models: M-Class and GL SUVs, the R-Class and the C-Class sedan. MBUSI will begin producing a new vehicle, the ML Coupe, in 2015. Since the start of production in 2007, Mercedes has built 2.1 million vehicles in Alabama.

Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Alabama (TMMAL) built 610,000 engines at its plant in Huntsville. Toyota has built more than 3 million engines since it started production in Alabama in 2003 and will surpass the 4 million total this year. TMMAL, which announced its fourth expansion in 2014, has an annual production capacity of 750,000 engines.

Hyundai produced 706,378 engines at its Montgomery operation and Honda produced 363,419 engines that went into its vehicles built in Lincoln.

"This is the result of great companies, great leadership and a great Alabama workforce," said Bill Taylor, president of the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama. "These companies came to Alabama and through hard work and innovation, firmly established the state as a leader in the automotive industry. Along with their suppliers, they employ tens of thousands of Alabamians who should be applauded for this remarkable achievement."

Since the start of production in Alabama, Honda, Hyundai and Mercedes have built more than 8.2 million vehicles in the state.

“The automotive industry in Alabama is huge, and still growing,” Taylor said. “Because of these record volumes and the growth throughout the southeastern region, we have automotive suppliers that are continuing to set up operations here, creating more jobs and economic opportunity for Alabamians.”

About the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama: Now in its 25th year, the non-profit Partnership represents the private sector’s contribution to economic development in Alabama. Fully funded by 80 leading companies invested in the state’s long-term economic success, EDPA provides leadership and services that recruit new businesses to the state, retain existing businesses and renew Alabama’s economy by encouraging innovation both within existing industries and through the commercialization of new technologies. www.edpa.org

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