June 23, 2011

Osservatorio Congiunturale
Global Light Vehicle Production: Japan limits global growth to 2.6% in 2011, but production rebounds +14% in 2012

- OEM production in Japan is improving post-earthquake/tsunami. Although lost volumes are expected to reach 1.6 million units in 2011 light vehicle production down 28% to 6.7 million units, most of the lost production will be recovered in 2012 as production rebounds 60% (IHS).

- North American producers will suffer lost volumes of 310,000 in units in 2011 as a result of supply chain problems stemming from the Japan disaster. US light vehicle production will be down slightly in Q2 2011 (y/y) to recover in the second half and full year production will be up 8% overall.

- West European demand trend is two-speed. Germany, Scandinavia, the Netherlands, Austria, and Switzerland are all posting positive growth, while the economies with high levels of public debt are suffering. Production has received a boost from recovering U.S. market and ongoing growth in demand for premium vehicles in emerging markets such as China and India, benefitting also from a defection from unavailable Japanese brands.
European Motor Vehicle Sector: post-incentive motor vehicle sales are flat but production is close to pre-crisis levels

Exports provide lift to auto production

Registrations to May 2011, Production to April 2011. Source: Eurostat
European Tyre Production: strong recovery in Germany, Italy and the UK in Q1 2011

Industrial Production: Tyres and Tubes

Data to April 2011. Source: Eurostat
European Tyre Production: exports are boosting Italian tyre production, but also that of Germany

Italy: Exports of Tyres by Major End Market in volumes

First Quarter Growth (y/y)

German Top Export Markets
1. France 19%
2. Italy 14%
3. Spain 10%
4. Netherlands 21%
5. UK 18%
6. Austria 21%
12. Russia 62%
17. Hungary 68%
Total 19%

UK Top Export Markets
1. France 15%
2. US 26%
3. Germany 28%
4. Ireland 1%
5. Netherlands 14%
6. Benelux 13%
9. Mexico 37%
11. Russia 44%
Total 7%

Source: Eurostat