

## **Automotive Council Supply Chain Group Update: as of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

**Prepared by Bill Parfitt**

The initial meeting of the Supply Chain Group took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> Jan. Approximately 30 people attended and an oversight and background to the discussions was provided by BIS. The Group has a very good mix between OEMs, Tier 1s and 2's, sector support bodies, trade associations, academia and independent consultancies.

A lot of discussion was had and everyone was asked to identify their top issues or concerns. Approximately 30 key issues were captured, which were then broken down into 4 main areas.

- **Need to Make Greater Use of Existing UK Supply Chain**
- **Greater Tier 1 Engagement**
- **Utilising Existing Support Available for UK Supply Chain**
- **Developing New Capabilities/Supply Chains e.g. in low carbon**

Due to the size of the main group members were asked to volunteer to form a 'strategic working group'. This group met for the first time on 25<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Strategic Work Group**

- James Davies, Calsonic Kansei
- Simon Griffiths, MAS West Midlands
- Matthias Holweg, Cambridge University
- Jon King, Corus Automotive
- Michael Tickle, PA Consulting
- Yung Tran, SMMT
- Lawrence Davies, GM
- Mark Adams, Toyota
- Dermot Sterne, Stadtco Ltd
- BIS – Automotive Council Secretariat

A fresh approach has been taken. A work plan including a clear objective and 3 key strategies have already been identified and then 14 possible areas for work have already been suggested. One of the first pieces of work that is already underway, is a questionnaire for suppliers and OEMs and later suppliers that will soon be completed and everyone who is on the Auto Council or involved in any of the streams of work will be asked to ensure it reaches the most appropriate person inside your respective organizations. The outcome of this work will be to produce a 'commodities roadmap' that will show over time and split by approximately 8 key 'supply groups' the UK's supply capabilities and also when VMs are looking to source in these areas.

The draft work plan has been circulated to the strategic working group, feedback has been asked for and then a revised draft work plan will be circulated to the wider Supply Chain Group by 14<sup>th</sup> April asking for feedback and volunteers. At the next full Supply Chain Group meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April the aim is to firm up the work-streams and ensure sufficient Group resource is allocated to these.

Close communications between the Supply Chain Group, the Auto Council and Technology Group chairs is ongoing. However a key area of overlap that needs close coordination will be

between the Supply Chain Group and the Technology Group. It is likely that a specific work stream will be dedicated to ensure all work is aligned.

The Supply Chain Group will be approaching other companies to participate in some of the work-streams, however there will be no additions to the wider Supply Chain Group. All volunteers are encouraged to approach John Marshall at BIS in the first instance.