

# AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENTS DEVELOPMENTS IN CEE AND SEE

Romania, Czech Republic, Hungary, Bulgaria, Serbia, Slovakia

FRD Center Newsletter

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*Sources consulted for this report: business mass media, the companies, official sources*

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**Huf Romania has recorded y/y turnover increase of approx. 24% in 2015**

Huf Romania, part of the German Group Huf, has recorded a turnover of approximately 35.5 million EUR in 2015, up by some 24% compared to 2014. Huf Romania has a plant of automotive components in Arad and a R&D center in Timisoara. In its Arad plant, Huf Romania manufactures mechanical and electrical locking systems for Dacia - Renault, BMW, Porsche, Mitsubishi, Kia, Volvo or MAN.

**Eberspächer to invest 32 million EUR in new facility in Romania**

The German producer of automotive components Eberspächer will invest 32 million EUR in a new plant in Oradea (NW Romania). The facility will produce exhaust systems and air conditioning systems for the automotive industry. The plant will cover 15,000 sqm and the construction works are expected to start in 2016.

**Continental completes 10.5 million EUR upgrade project in Romania**

At the end of 2015, the German manufacturer Continental has completed a project worth 10.5 million EUR for the installation of an olfactory emissions treatment system in its tyre facility in Timisoara (Western Romania). Since 1998, Continental has invested over 370 million EUR in the tyre facility in Timisoara and has produced more than 165 million tyres. Continental is present in Romania with all its five divisions and owns seven production units and three R&D centers.

**Schaeffler to invest over 92.5 million EUR in Czech Republic**

In November 2015, the German Group Schaeffler has started the construction of the new manufacturing plant in Svitavy, Czech Republic. The investment is estimated at over 92.5 million EUR. The manufacturing is set to begin in the third quarter of 2016 and the plant is expected to operate at full capacity by 2019. The new manufacturing facility will create 960 new jobs in a period of three to five years. The new plant will focus on manufacturing thermal management modules (TMMs) for the automotive industry.

**SMG to expand manufacturing in Hungary**

The Indian manufacturer Samvardhana Motherson Group (SMG) plans to expand the capacity of its rear-view car mirrors facility in Mosonszolnok, Hungary. Furthermore, it has a major project to construct a green field 100,000-sqm car bumper molding plant at Kecskemét, Hungary. The new Kecskemét facility is expected to begin production during the final quarter of the 2017 - 2018 fiscal year.



**Mecalit Bulgaria has invested approx. 3 million EUR in new production line**

Mecalit Bulgaria, part of the German Group Mecalit, has invested approximately 3 million EUR in a new production line for automotive plastic components. The automotive components will be supplied to Renault-Nissan, Volkswagen and Mercedes.

**Melexis Bulgaria to invest approx. 7.7 million EUR in production expansion and R&D**

Melexis Bulgaria, the subsidiary of the automotive electronic components manufacturer Melexis Belgium, plans to invest approximately 7.7 million EUR in the expansion of its production capacity and in the research and development operations. The company targets to increase the capacity for microchips testing at its Sofia site and to introduce two new lines of products.

**IGB Automotive to build new manufacturing facility in Serbia**

IGB Automotive, a subsidiary of the German producer of automotive components IG Bauertin, will build a new manufacturing facility in Indjija, Serbia. The new production facility - worth approximately 4.5 million EUR - will manufacture car seat heaters, steering wheel heaters and occupancy sensors. The plant is expected to employ 500 people over a five-year period. IGB Automotive has been operating in Serbia since 2007.

**Brose to invest in new production facility in Slovakia**

In October 2015, the German producer of automotive components Brose has laid the foundation stone of a new production facility in Prievidza, Slovakia. The company plans to invest 50 million EUR and to create 600 jobs in the first five years of operation. The facility in Prievidza will produce electric motors and drives, liftgate systems and window regulators for Volkswagen Group, Daimler, BMW, Ford and General Motors.

According to FRD Center analysis, producers of automotive interior components with facilities in Romania are:

- **Chimica:** dashboards, door panels
- **Delta Invest:** dashboards, door panels
- **Euro Auto Plastic Systems (part of Faurecia Group):** dashboards, door panels
- **Subansamble Auto (part of GIC Group):** dashboards
- **ELJ Automotive:** dashboards
- **Metaplast (part of MEN Industry Group):** dashboards, door panels
- **Martur Automotive Seating and Interiors (part of Martur Group):** dashboards, door panels, seats



- **Takata Romania (part of Takata Group):** steering wheels
- **Johnson Controls Romania (part of Johnson Controls Group):** seats
- **Autoliv Romania (part of Autoliv Group):** seatbelts

*Sources: Association of Automotive Manufacturers of Romania (ACAROM), Ziarul Financiar, Romania Insider, CIJ Journal, SeeNews, Plastic News, Daily News Hungary, Slovak Spectator, Companies' websites*

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