

January 15, 2009

GOLF SHINES IN DEPRESSED 2008 MARKET

- Volkswagen Golf is market's strongest performer in 2008
- Sales of Audi A4 continue to rise
- Volkswagen Polo sales up 3.3% in December

In a changing landscape for the European new car market, the world's leading provider of automotive data and intelligence - JATO Dynamics, today reports that Volkswagen had plenty to smile about in December 2008.

The company's Golf and Polo models were the only top 10 performers to post an increase in sales over the same month in 2007. The eternally popular Golf recorded an upturn in sales of 0.5%, whilst its stablemate, the Polo saw an improvement of 3.3%.

Elsewhere in the top ten, all other models saw a drop in sales ranging from 2.2% to 32.9% when compared to the same month in 2007.

With the introduction of the new model, now in its sixth generation, the Volkswagen Golf tops the table of European new car sales. Followed by Opel/Vauxhall Corsa, Ford Fiesta, Peugeot 207, Opel/Vauxhall Astra, Ford Focus, Volkswagen Polo, Volkswagen Passat, BMW 3-Series and Renault Clio.

Make & Model	Dec_08	Dec_07	% Change Dec	Yr_08	Yr_07	% Change Yr
VOLKSWAGEN GOLF	32,073	31,915	+0.5%	458,283	435,409	+5.3%
OPEL/VAUXHALL CORSA	26,041	29,001	-10.2%	360,274	401,777	-10.3%
FORD FIESTA	23,354	23,868	-2.2%	327,314	355,744	-8.0%
PEUGEOT 207	23,226	27,282	-14.9%	406,163	437,144	-7.1%
OPEL/VAUXHALL ASTRA	21,116	27,503	-23.2%	320,856	401,652	-20.1%
FORD FOCUS	20,758	26,785	-22.5%	364,638	398,983	-8.6%
VOLKSWAGEN POLO	20,378	19,731	+3.3%	275,921	289,382	-4.7%
VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT	18,322	21,569	-15.1%	253,853	301,436	-15.8%
BMW SERIES 3	16,992	20,240	-16.0%	251,140	294,995	-14.9%
RENAULT CLIO	16,953	25,281	-32.9%	335,548	381,777	-12.1%

The Volkswagen Golf also proved to be the market's strongest performer throughout 2008, whilst a variety of other models vied for position in the top 10.

An overview of the year sees the BMW 3-Series and Volkswagen Passat fall out of the high performers table, whilst the Fiat Punto and Audi A4/S4/RS4 steal eighth and tenth place respectively, with the latter posting an increase in sales of 15.9%

Sales of the Golf stand at 458,283 units for 2008, followed by the Peugeot 207 (406,163 units), Ford Focus (364,638 units), Opel/Vauxhall Corsa (360,247 units), Renault Clio (335,548 units), Ford Fiesta (327,314 units), Opel/Vauxhall Astra (320,856 units), Fiat Punto (278,934 units), Volkswagen Polo (275,921 units) and Audi A4/S4/RS4 (255,474 units).

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FIAT PUNTO	15,950	25,436	-37.3%	278,934	377,852	-26.2%
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AUDI A4/S4/RS4	15,524	14,859	+4.5%	255,474	220,521	+15.9%

The above data is provided by JATO Consult, the company's bespoke consulting service which offers customers access to its unique data and provides solutions and advice to meet a wide range of automotive business challenges. For more information visit www.jato.com, or email consult@jato.com.

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Editorial note: JATO Dynamics background

JATO was founded in 1984 and provides the world's most timely, accurate and up-to-date information on vehicle specifications and pricing, sales and registrations, news and incentives. The company has representation in over 40 countries, providing unique local market expertise. The JATO client base includes all of the world's volume vehicle manufacturers, giving them the ability to react to short-term market movements, plan for long-term developments and ultimately to meet consumers' needs. JATO's data has also been adapted for consumer use in motoring web portals where customers can see the advantages and disadvantages of a specified model against any other while major leasing companies use JATO data to drive the vehicle quotation process. Visit JATO at www.jato.com

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