

2009

April 6 The Alliance signs agreement with the Irish government to supply EVs within two years; Dublin wants EVs to account for 10% of all new-vehicle sales.

April 23 Renault announces that it will begin making a new turbocharged 1.6-litre diesel engine for the Alliance at its plant in Cleon, France, in 2011.

May 11 The Singapore government signs a MOU with the Alliance to study the development of a recharging infrastructure and ways to promote sales of electric vehicles that would be marketed by Renault and Nissan.

May 29 Formation of an Alliance dedicated team to foster deeper, broader cooperation and to maximize the contribution of synergies to the performance of both partners.

June 1 The Alliance announces plans to implement a further €1.5 billion in savings during the fiscal year ending March 2010 through greater sharing of manufacturing, logistics, powertrains, platforms and components.

July – Renault Samsung Motors launches new Renault-based SM3 model.

July 21 The UK and Portugal are chosen as two sites in Europe to produce lithium-ion batteries for the Alliance.

August 2 Nissan unveils the LEAF. Slated for launch in late 2010 in Japan, the US, and Europe, Nissan LEAF ushers in a new era of mobility - the zero-emission era. It will be manufactured at Oppama, Japan, with additional capacity planned for Smyrna, Tennessee from late 2012. Lithium-ion batteries are being produced in Zama, Japan.

October 12 A further investment by the Alliance in Russia's AvtoVAZ is announced with the aim of boosting production of cars based on the Logan platform to 300,000 units by 2015.

October 30 Construction starts of the Alliance plant in Tangiers, Morocco. The plant, which will produce B0 platform vehicles (Logan), will house stamping, welding and paint shops, a general assembly line, and a logistics shipment centre and will be operational in early 2012 with an output capacity of 170,000 vehicles a year. In the long term, capacity may be increased to 400,000 vehicles a year.

November 1 – The Alliance confirms that the Nissan LEAF will be built at the Smyrna, Tennessee plant from late 2012; lithium-ion battery packs will also be assembled there.

November 5 The Alliance signs a letter of intent with the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) and the French Strategic Investment Fund (FSI) to set-up a joint venture company to develop and manufacture batteries for electric vehicles at the Renault Flins facility from mid-2012. Production capacity is targeted at 100,000 batteries a year.

November 11 India's Bajaj Auto and the Alliance confirm plans to produce a low-cost car for India by 2012. Bajaj will design, engineer and build the car and the Alliance will take care of sales, marketing and distribution.

December 8 – Announcement in Lisbon, Portugal, that the Alliance's new lithium-ion battery production site will be at the Renault CACIA (Companhia Aveirense de Componentes para a Indústria Automóvel) industrial complex in Aveiro. Construction of the plant will start in 2010 with production commencing in 2012. Projected annual capacity is 50,000 units.

December 9 AvtoVAZ purchasing and logistics will be centralised in Russia along with the activities of Renault and Nissan as part of efforts to streamline Alliance activities in the country.