



VOLVO CARS GENT - FACT SHEET 2012

Milestones

Sixties and seventies

Volvo Cars started assembling cars in Ghent, Belgium, in 1965 to have better access to what was then called the "European Economic Community". In 1972 a welding plant and paint shop were added to the assembly plant. The first model produced was the Volvo Amazon. Due to Volvo's expansion in the sixties, with increasing sales in the US and in Europe, Volvo's Ghent plant grew steadily in the 70ies, although volumes declined to critical levels below 30,000 units per annum due to the oil crises of the late 70ies.

Volvo Trucks started truck assembly operation in Ghent in 1974.

Eighties and nineties

While Volvo Cars in Sweden experimented with a unique teamwork approach in Kalmar and Uddevalla, Volvo Cars Gent started to develop the teamwork concept along the TPS way (Toyota Production System). Teamwork and the QCDISME policy deployment gradually grew in the late 80ies and 90ies. Lean manufacturing and Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) techniques ensured Volvo Cars Gent three major TPM awards in 1991, 1996 and 1999. Volvo's engine plant in Skövde also followed the TPM path and the QCDISME methodology was eventually implemented all over VCM when the Volvo Cars Manufacturing System was launched. Quality improved in such a way that Volvo Cars Gent won the JD Power Plant Award in 1996 and the TQM Award by the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) in 1999.

In 1991 Volvo launched the Volvo 850 in its Ghent plant – the first time a new car model was put in production outside Sweden.

2000 and onwards

When Volvo withdrew from the NedCar joint venture (Volvo-Mitsubishi) the compact range was allotted to the Ghent plant. In 2004 a third (night) shift was added as Volvo launched the current P1 range (Volvo S40, V50 and C30). Capacity increased from 150,000 to 270,000 cars annually.

In 2008 the XC60 was introduced, followed by the S60 in 2010. Currently Volvo Cars Gent is launching the new compact cars (V40 and Y556).

2011 was a record year when 266,529 cars were assembled. At the end of 2012 Volvo Cars Gent will pass the 5 million car mark.

Models produced in Volvo Cars Gent

(between brackets year of production start)

Small platform



Volvo C30 (2006)
Volvo C30 Electric (2011)



Volvo V40 (w20-2012)

Large platform



Volvo XC60 (2008)



Volvo S60 (2010)

Facts & Figures

Legal entity:

Volvo Cars NV, fully owned by Volvo Car Corporation, Gothenburg

Activities:

Welding, painting and final assembly

Organisation:

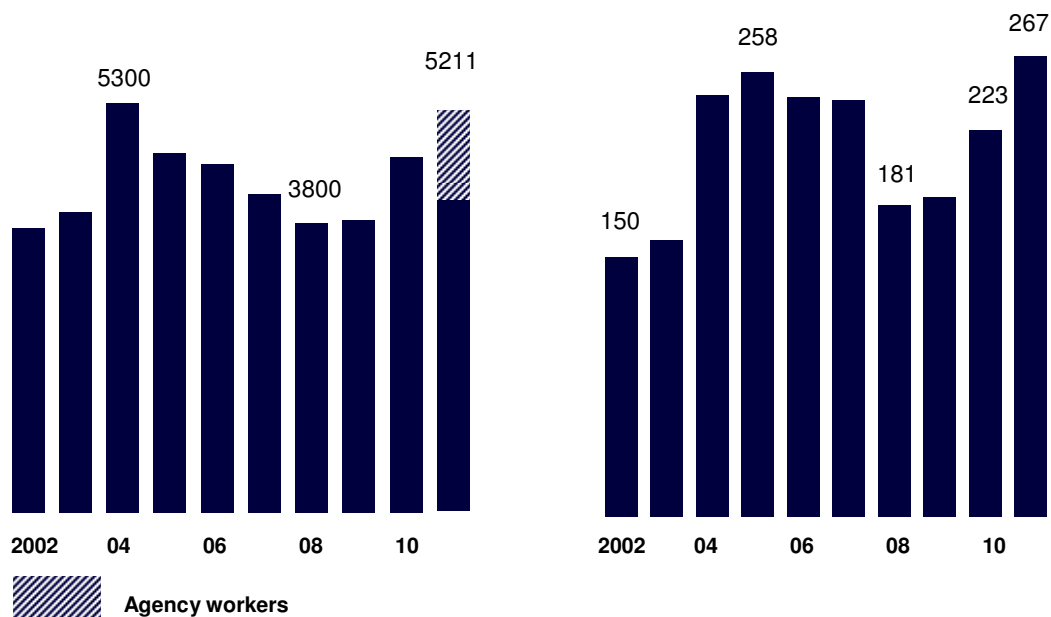
Geert Bruyneel, managing director

Magnus Hellsten, chairman of the board

Volumes:	Model	2011
	Volvo C30 (C30 Electric included)	26,258
	Volvo S40	17,354
	Volvo V50	46,085
	Project cars	8
	Volvo S60	76,118
	Volvo XC60	100,705
	TOTAL	266,529

Employment on site

Volumes (x1.000)



Major markets 2011: (Ghent plant)

Europe	51 %
Sweden	8.2 %
UK	7.1 %
Germany	6.6 %
Belgium	5 %
US/Canada	18.6 %
Far East	18.1 %
China	12.1 %
Japan	2.7 %
Others	12.3 %

Employees on site (year end 2011): 3927 blue collar, 496 white collar, 1267 agency workers

Male/Female: 88% men, 12% women

Average age: 36 years (blue collars)/44 years (white collars)

Turnover 2010 4,3 billion €

Investments 2011: 55 million €

Planned investment 2012: 52 million €

Total surface/Built up surface: 494,546 m²/264,866 m²