



## **Honda invests £267m in UK plant**

Honda has announced a £267m investment programme at its UK plant, where hundreds of new jobs have been created to boost production.

Honda said it was the biggest single investment at its Swindon site in over a decade, supporting the introduction of a new Civic, a new CR-V model and a new 1.6l diesel engine.

Around 500 new workers have been recruited this year as part of the expansion plans, taking the total workforce to 3,500.

Business Secretary Vince Cable, who is visiting the plant today, said: "This multi-million pound investment by Honda in its 20th year of car production in the UK is great news for Swindon and the automotive sector. Having created a host of new jobs, the investment supports Government's ambition to encourage new investment and exports as a route to renewed growth and a more balanced economy."

Production at the plant is forecast to double by the end of the year to 183,000 cars compared with 2011, rising to 250,000 within the next three years.

The Swindon factory builds cars and engines for more than 60 countries across Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Australia, with 60 per cent of production going for export.

Dave Hodgetts, managing director of Honda UK, said: "This investment programme underpins Honda's commitment to manufacturing in Britain and to our UK workforce.

"It reaffirms the Swindon plant's position as the cornerstone of Honda's European operations, as it has been for the past 25 years."

Japanese car giant Honda has invested more than £1.5bn in the 370-acre Swindon site.