



## Production begins of the new Nissan LEAF in Europe

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- *Icon of Nissan Intelligent Mobility goes into production*
- *Deliveries to begin to European customers in February*

Production of the all-new Nissan LEAF, the next generation of the world's best-selling electric vehicle, is officially underway for European customers.

With the first new LEAFs now rolling off the line at Nissan's plant in Sunderland, UK, the countdown has now started to the first customers receiving their vehicles in February.

Embodying Nissan's Intelligent Mobility vision and already winning international awards for innovation and technology, this new model has been reinvented to offer greater range, dynamic design, advanced driver assistance technologies and enhanced connectivity.

Kevin Fitzpatrick, Nissan Europe Divisional Vice President for Manufacturing, said: "Nissan led the way in introducing electric vehicles to Europe in 2011, and every year since then it's been clear that more and more customers share our vision for the future of driving.

"We're excited to start production in Sunderland and to bring the new Nissan LEAF to European markets from February."

The new Nissan LEAF offers an improved range of 378km\* on a single charge, allowing drivers to enjoy longer journeys, interconnected by the extended European CHAdeMO Quick Charging network.

Cutting-edge technology in the new Nissan LEAF includes:

- The new e-Pedal which allows drivers to start, accelerate, decelerate and stop the car by simply increasing or decreasing the pressure applied to the accelerator, providing more control and taking the stress out of driving. E-pedal can hold the stop even downhill, and is made accessible as standard from entry grade.
- ProPILOT advanced driving assistance automatically controls the distance to the vehicle in front and steers the vehicle to help the driver keep LEAF centered in the lane. These functions can significantly improve driving experience when driving on the highway in both heavy and flowing traffic.
- ProPILOT Park is the technology that parks the new LEAF with the touch of a button. This full auto-parking feature combines advanced image processing technology using four high-resolution cameras and information from 12 ultrasonic sensors around the car to guide the vehicle into a space.

The Nissan LEAF has been in production in the UK since 2013 for European markets, with more than 85,000 units sold in Europe since 2011, when the first deliveries began from Nissan's Oppama plant in Japan. Following an initial investment of £420m, the introduction of the new Nissan LEAF has been supported by a further £36m investment in Nissan Sunderland Plant, supporting more than 2,000 jobs at Nissan and in the UK supply chain.

The start of production follows the new Nissan LEAF's first major international awards last month, at the CES (Consumer Electronics Show) annual CES Unveiled ceremony in New York, presented by the Consumer Technology Association. LEAF was awarded:

- CES Best of Innovation award winner for Vehicle Intelligence and Self-Driving Technology, and
- CES honoree for Tech for a Better World

In addition to the new LEAF, Nissan Sunderland Plant also manufactures the market-leading crossovers Qashqai and Juke and the Infiniti brand's Q30 and QX30 models. Last year the plant celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and this year total volume surpassed 9m vehicles, cementing its position as the biggest UK car plant of all time.

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\*NEDC: Subject to final homologation process

### ABOUT NISSAN IN THE UK

- Nissan Sunderland Plant produces the Nissan Qashqai, Juke, Infiniti Q30 and the 100% electric Nissan LEAF
- Production of lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles began in 2012
- Total plant volume since 1986 stands at more than 9 million units with 80 per cent of production exported to over 100 markets worldwide
- Total investment made and announced since then is over £4.0 billion
- 507,436 units were produced at Sunderland plant in 2016
- Employment in Nissan's UK design studio (Paddington, London), technical centre (Cranfield Bedfordshire), manufacturing plant (Sunderland, Tyne and Wear) and sales and marketing operations (Maple Cross, Hertfordshire) now totals more than 8,000.
- A further 28,000 jobs in Nissan's UK supply chain and 4,000 in its UK dealer network takes the total British jobs supported by Nissan to more than 40,000

### ABOUT NISSAN IN EUROPE

Nissan has one of the most comprehensive European presences of any overseas manufacturer, employing more than 17,000 staff across locally-based design, research & development, manufacturing, logistics and sales & marketing operations. Last year Nissan plants in the UK, Spain and Russia produced more than 640,000 vehicles including award-winning crossovers, commercial vehicles and the Nissan LEAF, the world's most popular electric vehicle. Nissan's Intelligent Mobility vision is designed to guide Nissan's product and technology pipeline and this 360 degree approach to the future of mobility will anchor critical company decisions around how cars are powered, how cars are driven, and how cars integrate into society. Nissan is positioned to become the most desirable Asian brand in Europe.

<http://www.newsroom.nissan-europe.com>

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