

# Best MANUFACTURING practices



**M.M. SINGH,**  
Managing executive officer  
(production), Maruti Suzuki

**SUZUKI MOTORCYCLE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED** is a subsidiary of Suzuki Motor Corporation, Japan where in we are having the same manufacturing philosophy of VALUE PACKED PRODUCTS right from the inception. SMIPPL will be manufacturing two wheelers best suited for the valuable Indian customers covering all segments.

### Plant area and production capacity

We have installed our manufacturing plant in Gurgaon (Haryana) having the annual capacity of 10,00,000 Two Wheeler P.A. Total land area of the facility at Gurgaon is 37 acres out of which the present plant is constructed in an area of 10 acres of land. The remaining area is left for land development and future expansion.

We have embraced Natural light optimization system and water harvesting systems besides several other measures to create better and cleaner environment around us. All packaging material used by Suzuki is re-cyclable. A constant flow of internal communication on environment related issues not only creates awareness amongst employees but also helps in inculcating 'an environment

friendly' value system. We have safety guards/safety curtains to ensure Operator safety on machines. We have also installed robots through out the facilities to reduce the ergonomic stress on workers. There are gas detection systems installed to eliminate any gas related accident and fire detection system for immediate information about any fire related incident. We have fire fighting system (manual & automatic) for immediate handling of any fire related accident . We have a fire tender (capacity 4500 litres water, 90Kg CO<sub>2</sub>,150Kg DCP and 500 litres capacity foam).

We try to maintain zero accident record through regular safety audit, frequent training for staff, line associates and contractors. We organise different safety programs and competitions to encourage employee awareness and involvement. ●



**KEERTHI PRAKASH**  
Plant Director, Chennai,  
Renault Nissan

**Nissan Motor India Private Ltd. (NMIPL)** is a 100 percent subsidiary of Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. Japan. The company was incorporated in 2005 and offers innovative and exciting products across the hatchback, SUV and Sedan segments in India. Nissan together with its global alliance partner Renault set up a manufacturing plant and a Research & Development Centre near Chennai.

In Smartville, they build more cars per person than even Nissan's UK plant in Sunderland - but the factory, close to the French and German border at Hambach, does not even figure in the league table for productivity. Originally cars were actually completed at the Smart Centres, but we now do more work at the plant, fitting the radios etc because we and our supplier partners have refined and optimized the manufacturing process.

Body panels are produced by Dynamit Nobel where general manager Hartmut Hensel boasts that there is virtually no waste. Plastic is recycled and used on black parts which are not seen on the car while even the paint changes are used to create some of the weird and wonderful dual colours for some of Smart's unique body panels – this negates the need to completely clean out the paint tanks at the end of each colour run. Between 10 and 12 percent of all panels made are for the aftermarket or replacement – not necessarily because they are damaged, but so that people can

change the colour of their car. A complete set of panels costs €500 and can be changed within 35 minutes – all you need is a screwdriver.

Another innovation is that nothing actually belongs to Smart until the car is signed off the line. It is when the bar code is scanned that suppliers are paid. Theoretically the factory owns the car for just a few minutes before responsibility is handed to Mosolf, the distribution logistics provider. In fact the plant usually hangs on to the vehicles for a day to give it a re-work buffer. ●