

Hino 500 Wide Cab trucks now in local production

The new Hino 500 Wide Cab truck range is now in local production at Hino South Africa's assembly plant in Prospecton, near Durban, which involved an investment of more than R20m by Hino SA, with several significant changes to the assembly process. The Hino 500 range is being expanded from five models to 12 in the first full model change in 14 years.



“The increased Hino 500 range, including 6x4 models, will allow us to compete in many niche segments we were not in previously,” explained Ernie Trautmann, the vice president of Hino SA, speaking at the recent line-off ceremony for the new model. “The many additional features in the new Hino 500 model range, as well as competitive pricing, and the much bigger lineup should enable us to regain our dominance in the local heavy commercial vehicle market.”



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The current plant, which has been in operation since 2013, has a production capacity of 5,000 trucks a year on a single shift, with total manning increasing recently by 10 people to a total of 113.

“Hino has been in South Africa for 45 years and Toyota South Africa Motors is one of the oldest Hino distributors in the world, so we are very pleased to be able to now offer the latest model in the local heavy truck market,” said Calvyn Hamman, senior vice president of sales, and marketing at TSAM. “The 500 is a very important model in our local Hino range as we accelerate our sales rate in all segments of the market as part of our 2020 Vision of becoming the top-selling truck brand in South Africa post 2010.”