

In the Automotive Sector, the Market Grew by 24 Percent in the First Quarter of the Year

The Automotive Industry Association (OSD) of Turkey announced the data for the first quarter of 2024. Compared to the same period of the previous year, the total production increased by 3 percent and amounted to 377 thousand 70 units. Together with tractor production, the total production increased to 390,925 units. In the commercial vehicle group, the production decreased by 4 percent in the first quarter of the year, and in the light commercial vehicle group by 5 percent, while there was a 1 percent increase in the heavy commercial vehicle group. Compared to the first quarter of 2023, the commercial vehicle market increased by 2 percent, the light commercial vehicle market increased by 3 percent, while the heavy commercial vehicle market increased by 1 percent. In the first quarter of the year, compared to the same period of the previous year, the total automotive exports increased by 1 percent on a unit basis. In this period, the total exports amounted to 256,511 units. Capacity utilization rates on the basis of vehicle group were 77 percent in light vehicles (cars + light commercial vehicles), 78 percent in the truck group, 64 percent in the midibus group and 74 percent in the tractor group.

Exports Increased by 5 Percent to 9.2 Billion US Dollars!

Tractor exports, on the other hand, decreased by 13 percent compared to the same period of 2023 and amounted to 4,562 units. According to the data of the Turkish Exporters Assembly, the total automotive industry exports maintained their top position in the sectoral export ranking with 14 percent in the first quarter of 2024. According to the data of Uludağ Exporters' Associations (UIB), the total automotive exports in the first three months increased by 5 percent compared to the same period of 2023 and reached 9.2 billion US dollars. In euro terms, it increased by 3 percent to 8.5 billion euros. In this period, the main industry exports increased by 6 percent in dollar terms, while the supply industry exports increased by 3 percent.



Turkish News



The Iron and Steel Industry is Hopeful for the Second Half of the Year

In the first month of 2024, Turkey's exports increased in total, while the iron and steel sector accounted for 10.3 percent of exports. While the global decline in ferrous and non-ferrous metals also had an effect in January, there was an increase of 2.1 percent in the steel sector as a result of the increasing demand. The positive start of the year to the sector, which declined in the 12 months of last year, made the sector smile. Both sectors predict that the postponed demands will come especially in the second half of the year and that exports will increase further in this period. Stating that they started the year with an export performance in line with their expectations, Mediterranean Ferrous and Non-Ferrous Metals Exporters' Association (ADMIB) President Fuat Tosyalı stated that the increase in the steel sector gave morale to the sector. Stating that 2023 was a difficult year in the steel industry, Tosyalı said that they expect exports to be better in both ferrous and non-ferrous metals and the steel sector in 2024.

Turkey's exports made a positive start to 2024. In January, exports increased by 3.6 percent to more than US\$20 billion. In that month, Turkey's exports of ferrous and non-ferrous metals decreased by 10.5 percent to 940 million US dollars, while steel exports increased by 2.1 percent to 1.1 billion US dollars. The increase in the steel sector, which declined in the 12 months of last year, after a 1-year decline period, also increased the hopes of the sector for 2024. Ferrous and non-ferrous metals exports had a share of 4.7 percent in Turkey's total exports, while the share of steel exports was 5.6 percent. In January, the ferrous and non-ferrous metals exports of the ADMIB decreased by 8.5 percent to 63 million US dollars, while steel exports reached 121 million US dollars with a record increase of 32.3 percent.



Double-digit Increase in Export to European Countries

In January, the Turkish top steel exporter was Germany with 178 million USD, followed by Italy with 113 million USD and Romania with 105 million USD. Among the top 10 markets, the most striking increases were seen in exports to Spain with 42 percent, Romania with 32 percent and the United Kingdom with 28 percent.



In ADMIB's exports, it was seen that Algeria ranked first with an export of 16.9 million USD, followed by Iraq with 16.3 million USD and Germany with 12.3 million USD. Among the top 10 markets, increases of 465 percent were recorded in Greece, 260 percent in Algeria, 90 percent in Romania and 79 percent in the United Kingdom.

"Our Goal is to Contribute to Our Country's Economy at the Highest Level"

Evaluating the export data for January, ADMIB President Fuat Tosyalı made the following statements: "We had a 17 percent increase in the January exports of our iron and steel sectors on a quantity basis. It is pleasing that the number of orders we receive is increasing. Especially in our steel sector, we could not increase exports last year, and starting this year with an increase gave morale to our sector. We can compete with the whole world with our quality. If we can add the competitiveness in price to this, we think that the demand will increase more. Considering today's conditions, we anticipate that our iron and steel sectors will receive more demand, especially in the second half of the year, and therefore will reach a higher export performance compared to the first half of the year. However, instead of waiting for the demand to come, we need to create an environment that will meet the demand. On the one hand, we focus on compliance with the EU Green Deal; on the other hand, we think that we will meet every demand that may come with increases in our capacities. We believe that the investments of many of our companies in our sector last year will make a positive contribution to both production and exports this year. Our goal is to increase our share in world trade with the revival of demand and to contribute to our country's economy at the highest level."

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NORM TOOLING



Norm Tooling – Your Pioneering Solution Partner

Established in 2003 to meet the high standards of Norm Fasteners in the field of cold forging tooling, Norm Tooling took a step further in 2006 by starting special parts production through die manufacturing and machining for fasteners with its IATF 16949 and ISO 9001 quality management system certificates. With its dynamic structure, Norm Tooling rapidly expanded, and as of 2018, it began offering sheet metal forming services for the automotive and related industries, providing its customers with more comprehensive solutions. Today, operating in the fields of cold forging tooling, machining, and sheet metal forming, Norm Tooling employs a young and experienced team of 350 people in a total of 15,000 square meters of closed area in Izmir and Salihli.

Serving a wide range of industries including automotive main and sub industries, spare parts, white goods, electronics, technology, furniture, construction, aviation, defense, and machinery sectors in Turkey, Europe, America, and the Far East, Norm Tooling is a pioneering solution partner in its sector with its innovative R&D center and state-of-the-art production infrastructure. With cutting-edge equipment such as high vacuum furnaces with a capacity of 1000 kg/charge, vacuum tempering furnaces, cryogenic cabin and induction bench, Norm Tooling provides customized heat treatment services to meet customer needs, enabling the hardening of hot and cold working tool steels as well as high-speed steels.

Die Manufacturing

Norm Tooling, due to its customer oriented service philosophy, offers its solution partners high-quality services at affordable prices and on time (JIT). It manufactures cold forming dies using next-generation production technologies, a wide, modern machine park, and a team of experts in their fields.

With an annual average production capacity of 50,000 hard metal dies and 250,000 steel parts, it meets the needs of its customers through various departments such as CNC, sinker EDM, wire EDM, grinding, vertical processing, pressing, polishing, and marking, utilizing a total of 140 high-tech machines.

Machining

Norm Tooling produces cold-formed special parts used in the automotive main industry, from raw material to packaging, in robotic automated Lanbi line with automatic measurement and crack control system integration. With special cameras and sensor systems, Norm Tooling, capable of performing dimensional and crack controls of various product groups, thus ensures 100% accurate product delivery to its business partners.

In the machining area, for processing materials like aluminium, copper and brass, there are 27 single-spindle automatic lathes, 1 multi-spindle automatic lathe, 42 CNC lathes and 22 sorting machines. With the capability of rapid investment based on projects, the machining facility has the capacity to produce an average of 50,000,000 parts annually and to sort an average of 60,000,000 parts annually with automatic sorting machines.

Sheet Metal Forming

Norm Tooling is capable of processing low, medium, and high carbon steel as well as stainless steel with 20 mechanical presses with capacities from 80 tons to 400 tons, 4 deburring and 7 automatic camera sorting machines in the sheet metal forming area.

The sheet metal forming facility has the capacity to produce an annual average of 1 billion sheet metal parts with various geometries ranging from diameters of 5 to 80 and thicknesses from 0.5 mm to 8 mm, including flat, conical, shaped, and plastered sheet metal parts. ■

