

Auto report May 2024

The noise!

Bewildering!

These were the emotions on entering the huge Nissan car manufacturing plant in Sunderland, with things happening all around you, and above too.

12 members of the Automotive Group were given a tour of just part of this enormous facility. Basically, we saw a painted bodyshell on a constantly moving production line, be transformed into a fully working motor car. In this section all of the operations are carried out manually.

A complete car comes off the line every 90 seconds, although the operatives are trained to get this down to 57 seconds!

The guys working on the line are young and fit - by the time they're 40 they're ready to move onto something less frenetic. They do three 2.5 hour shifts per day, working on three different parts of the line. Salaries are about £30k for new starters, rising to £40k after two years if they make the grade.

The place is immaculately clean, yet very functional. 6000 employees, making the Qashqai petrol and e - power hybrid models. 80% are left hand drive, mostly going into Europe.

Wow, what a place - we were exhausted just watching all of this going on!

David Yeadon.



