

Japanese car giants team up on green engines

May 18 2014



Japan's eight carmakers have joined forces to develop environmentally friendly engines to stave off fierce competition from foreign rivals, press report says

Japan's eight carmakers have joined forces to develop environmentally friendly engines to stave off fierce competition from foreign rivals, a press report said Sunday.

Two of Japan's leading universities will join Toyota, Honda, Nissan, Suzuki, Mazda, Mitsubishi, Daihatsu and Fuji Heavy in the project, which is mainly aimed at slashing engine emissions to meet tougher

environmental standards, the business daily Nikkei reported.

By 2020 the group, which includes the University of Tokyo and Waseda University, plans to develop technology which can cut diesel engine carbon-dioxide emissions by 30 percent from 2010 levels.

The manufacturers plan to adapt the technology for commercial use in both diesel and gasoline-powered vehicles, the Nikkei said, hoping to gain a leg up over European carmakers as well as helping to meet tightening environmental regulations around the world.

Japanese carmakers long held the advantage in low-emission and fuel-efficient engines, but German giants BMW and Volkswagen are seen as having caught up in recent years, particularly in diesel engine development.

The project is forecast to cost about two billion yen (\$19.7 million) in its first three years from the current fiscal year which started on April 1, Nikkei said, with the Japanese government set to subsidise two-thirds of the first year costs.



Two of Japan's leading universities will join Toyota, Honda, Nissan, Suzuki, Mazda, Mitsubishi, Daihatsu and Fuji Heavy in working out ways to slash engine emissions to meet tougher environmental standards, the daily Nikkei reports

Despite growing demand for electric vehicles, [internal combustion engines](#) are expected to remain the main source of power for cars for the time being.

Conventional combustion-powered vehicles are estimated to account for 89 percent of cars produced worldwide in 2030, according to a survey by the thinktank Fuji Keizai Group.

© 2014 AFP

Citation: Japanese car giants team up on green engines (2014, May 18) retrieved 3 February 2023 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-05-japanese-car-giants-team-green.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.