



Turkish News

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Turkish Metal Manufacturers Partner with McKinsey to Launch MEXT Tech Hub

The Turkish Employers Association of Metal Industries (MESS) partnered with McKinsey & Company to establish MEXT, a tech center built over several years that equips manufacturers with digital transformation tools and strategies.

Turkey is rapidly positioning itself as a hub for digitally advanced and environmentally conscious manufacturing, driven by strategic initiatives and collaborations. The establishment of the Manufacturing Excellence and Transformation Center (MEXT) is the most recent move from Turkish manufacturers doing their best to stay competitive.

Recognizing the need for Turkish manufacturers to remain competitive in a rapidly evolving global landscape, MESS partnered with McKinsey & Company in 2017 to establish MEXT. This comprehensive innovation and learning hub provides tools, strategies, training programs, and access to a global technology network. Established in 1959, MESS is a major force in the Turkish economy, representing over 230,000 employees across vital industries and accounting for 40% of the nation's manufacturing exports. Membership in MESS includes big names in manufacturing like Bosch, Mercedes Benz, Ford, and Fiat, among others.

Digital and Green Transformation

MEXT empowers its over 650 member companies to strive for both digital and green transformations. AI has recently also been integrated as a core part of MEXT's overall mission – the center leads the AI European Digital Innovation Hub (EDIH).

“MESS proactively took the initiative to set up MEXT because they felt a strong sense of responsibility to prepare companies and workforces to become future-ready,” notes Bengi Korkmaz, partner at McKinsey & Company.

MEXT, which opened its 10,000-square-meter facility in 2020, operates through four key pillars: A digital factory for testing and showcasing digital and sustainable applications, capability-building programs targeting all organizational levels, a global partner ecosystem of over 100 thought leaders and technology companies, and a technical consulting and advisory arm.

“Having something very tangible and actionable definitely helps in the transformation journey,” says MEXT General Manager Efe Erdem. “Those four elements combined ensure we are giving comprehensive support to our industrial ecosystem so they can future-proof the digitization and sustainability of their operations.”

Through MEXT, members of MESS gain access to maturity assessments and a broad network of global partners, including the World Economic Forum, Harvard University, and Microsoft. The center's digital factory features over 170 digital and sustainable use cases for demonstration and testing. It also offers ESG tools to assist members, particularly those in high-emission industries like automotive, in evaluating and improving their sustainability practices. MEXT's capability-building programs have already trained over 31,000 participants, ranging from CEOs to frontline workers. These initiatives also include projects focused on diversifying industries, like empowerment program aimed at upskilling and employing women in manufacturing roles.



Türkiye's October 2025 Automotive Sector Report

In the January–October 2025 period, the total production increased by 4 percent compared to the same period of the previous year, while the passenger car production decreased by 3 percent. During this period, the total production reached 1,163,425 units, and the passenger car production amounted to 717,321 units.





In the January–October 2025 period, the total market of all vehicle types grew by 10 percent compared to the same period of 2024, reaching 1,078,527 units. In this period, the passenger car market increased by 11 percent and reached 833,382 units.

In the commercial vehicle segment, the total commercial vehicle production increased by 17 percent in the January–October 2025 period compared to the previous year, while the light commercial vehicle production increased by 20 percent and the heavy commercial vehicle production decreased by 2 percent. According to the January–October data, the commercial vehicle market grew by 5 percent, the light commercial vehicle market grew by 7 percent, while the heavy commercial vehicle market declined by 6 percent.

In the January–October 2025 period, compared to the same month of 2024, the total automotive exports increased by 5 percent in unit terms, while the passenger car exports decreased by 9 percent. During this period, the total automotive exports amounted to 864,809 units, and the passenger car exports reached 488,385 units.

In the same period, compared to the same month of 2024, the total automotive exports increased by 11 percent in USD terms. According to data from the Uludağ Automotive Industry Exporters' Association (OİB), the total automotive exports reached 33.5 billion USD in this period, while passenger car exports increased by 6 percent to 9.6 billion USD. ■



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