Uzbekistan

Capital: Tashkent

Population: 26,593,000 (2005 estimate) GDP*: \$50.395 billion (2005 estimate)

Currency: Uzbekistan som

Language: Uzbek

Current Market Trends

Passenger trucks sub-sector has a very high probability of success for at least one US exporter – GM. In fact, very recently GM announced that it is buying 25% stake in Uzbek auto manufacturer. When it reaches its full capacity, GM Uzbekistan will be assembling and selling in Uzbekistan and nearby markets about 250,000 Chevrolet cars.

Current Demand

Aftermarket accessories and custom products are in high demand in Uzbekistan and it is expected that this demand will grow with GM entry into the market. Moreover, during recent surveys Uzbek importers showed their interest in these products and expressed their readiness to consider business opportunities with US companies.

Aftermarket chemicals and lubricants is a very attractive sub-sector and US manufacturer Chevron is already taking advantage of this opportunity. Chevron's joint venture in Uzbekistan Uz-Texaco established in 1997, consolidated the resources of two International oil companies:

- Uzbek National Corporation "Uzbekneftegaz" (through its subsidiary GPO "Uzneftepererabotka"), and - International oil corporation "TEXACO" (through its subsidiary TEXACO Overseas Holding Inc.). UZ-TEXACO imports products from Europe and manufactures high-quality motor oils for the developing industrial complex of Uzbekistan. UZ-TEXACO is the safe source of lubricant supply for the agricultural, construction and mining industry of Uzbekistan.

Aftermarket parts and components is also expected to experience increased demand for US parts and components as GM Uzbekistan expands its operations in Uzbekistan. Chevrolet cars produced by GM Uzbekistan will need aftermarket parts and components.

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