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Milestones

- 1965 Volvo Cars starts assembling cars in Ghent, Belgium, to have a manufacturing presence in what was then called the “European Economic Community.
- 1972 To the final assembly plant a welding plant and paint shop are added.
- 1987 Introduction of teamwork (along a line system) as the cornerstone of the organisation.
- 1997 Volvo Cars Gent builds a new paint shop where waterborne coats are applied.
- 1999 Volvo Cars Gent wins the European Quality Award 1999, Operational Units; and is the first plant world-wide to win the Japanese TPM World Class Award, presented by the Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance.
- 2003 Volvo Cars Gent introduces a night shift when the current compact P1 range is introduced (Volvo S40, followed by V50 and C30).
- 2008 The 4,000,000th car is produced.
Production start of Volvo XC60 and DRIVe models.
- 2010 Start of production of new S60.
Three wind turbines generate green electricity on the Volvo site.

Models produced in Volvo Cars Gent

(between brackets year of production start)



Volvo C30 (2006)



Volvo S40 (2003)



Volvo V50 (2004)



Volvo XC60 (2008)



Volvo S60 (2010)

Facts & Figures

Legal entity

Volvo Cars NV, fully owned by Volvo Car Corporation

Production 2010:

223,117 cars

Cars produced since 1965: 4.47 million cars

Volumes 2010:

Volvo C30	35,248
Volvo S40	22,779
Volvo V50	53,982
Volvo S60	27,579
Volvo XC60	83,529

Production evolution:	2006:	244,036
	2007:	240,633
	2008:	181,426
	2009:	183,869
	2010:	223,117
Activities:	Welding, painting and final assembly	
Foundation:	1965	
Major markets 2010: (Ghent plant)	Europe	65.0 %
	UK	10.2 %
	Sweden	9.6 %
	Germany	7.6 %
	Belgium	6.3 %
	Italy	6.0 %
	France	4.3 %
	Netherlands	4.0 %
	Spain	3.5 %
	US/Canada	14.8 %
	Far East	10.4 %
	China	4.7 %
	Japan	2.5 %
	Others	9.8 %

Employees (year end 2010)	4,100 (Blue collar: 3.630; White collar: 470) Excluding temporary workers
Turnover 2010	4,3 billion €
Investments 2010:	40 million €
Total surface/Built up surface:	546,990 m ² /275,340 m ² (135 / 68 acres)

Organisation

Chairman of the Board: Magnus Hellsten, Senior vice president Manufacturing, Volvo Car Corporation

Plant Manager: Geert Bruyneel, Managing director

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