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The Audi Fleet Manager's Guide to the Web

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Introduction

The internet has become integral to all our working lives and it provides a wealth of information for the fleet manager. But its scope can also be a hindrance; just where exactly is all the information you need?

We've put this Guide to the Web together with that very problem in mind, compiling a list of more than 50 key websites that provide easy access to important information, advice, services and news.

Although not exhaustive, the Guide acts as a starting point for many issues concerning the fleet industry and the fleet operator's role within it.

By downloading this interactive pdf to your desktop, you will have access to a comprehensive gateway to the fleet industry, with weblinks to key areas affecting the role of the fleet manager, from leasing companies to Government departments and duty of care advice to weather information and live traffic news.

We hope you find the guide a useful reference work. If you feel the guide is incomplete or could be enhanced, please email us at by clicking on the following link: audifleetsales@audi.co.uk

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Association of Car Fleet Operators
www.acfo.org

The website of the fleet managers' association offers news, fleet management advice, contact information for key personnel and details of resources for members.

British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association
www.bvrla.co.uk

The BVRLA website carries a vast amount of useful information on all aspects of rental, leasing and fleet management for passenger and commercial vehicles.

Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders
www.smmt.co.uk

The SMMT represents the UK motor industry, and the website includes information such as vehicle sales data, consumer advice, recall details and a supplier directory.

Retail Motor Industry Federation
www.rmif.co.uk

A resource for fleet operators offering information on accredited dealers, servicing, fuel and codes of practice, as well as an arbitration service for disputes.

Financial Ombudsman Service
www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

A wholly independent service set up by Parliament to act as an arbitrator in financial disputes including insurance and credit/leasing agreements.

Vehicle Licensing Online
www.vehiclelicence.gov.uk

The site answers commonly-asked questions and enables you to apply for a Vehicle Excise Duty disc online or find out what DVLA records are held for individual vehicles.

Department for Transport
www.dft.gov.uk

News, speeches and information from the Department for Transport and its ministers, as well as consultations and campaigns currently being undertaken.

Finance & Leasing Association
www.fla.org.uk

The body which represents organisations offering credit and leasing. The site also gives customers impartial advice and sets out financial codes of practice.

Vehicle Certification Agency
www.vca.gov.uk

The website of the agency that gives type approval for new vehicles also contains a database of official CO₂ and MPG figures for all cars on sale in the UK.

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CAP Motor Research

www.cap.co.uk

Independent provider of vehicle operating costs, residual values and industry opinion, as well as new and used vehicle price and specification information.

KwikCarcost

www.kwikcarcost.com

Independent provider of vehicle operating costs, residual values and industry opinion, as well as new and used vehicle price and specification information.

TopCalc

www.topcalc.co.uk

Independent provider of vehicle operating costs, residual values and industry opinion, as well as new and used vehicle price and specification information.

EurotaxGlass's

www.eurotaxglass.co.uk

Independent provider of vehicle operating costs, residual values and industry opinion, as well as new and used vehicle price and specification information.

Vehicle cost information

www.vipdata.co.uk

A database of used vehicle values for more than 30,000 vehicles, fully downloadable to a PC, as well as future residual value data for fleets, dealers and manufacturers.

Fuel prices

www.petrolprices.com

Search for the cheapest fuel in your area, find out where your money goes in every litre of fuel bought and find out about biofuels and other 'green' alternatives.

Vehicle recalls

www.vosa.gov.uk/vosa/apps/recalls/default.asp

A useful search engine for all the latest and historical manufacturer recalls, enabling you to check your vehicles' records for mechanical or safety-related recalls.

Fleet News

www.fleetnews.co.uk/FleetData/RunningCosts/

The leading weekly fleet publication offering news, views, insight and research reporting on all aspects of the industry. Vehicle running cost data is provided free of charge.

Motorconsult

www.motorconsult.co.uk

Providing SMR (service maintenance and repairs), predictive cost data, support services and business consultancy to the automotive, fleet and leasing industries.

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Transport Direct
www.transportdirect.info

Department for Transport website that lets you plan journeys by car, rail, air and coach. Also offers live transport information and compares the 'carbon footprint' for each method.

Energy Saving Trust
www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/business/Business/Transport-in-business

An extensive resource for fleet managers needing advice and guidance on running a more efficient fleet. Includes a travel planning facility, fleet consultancy and savings calculator.

Vehicle Excise Duty
http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/OwningAVehicle/HowToTaxYourVehicle/DG_172916

Full details of applicable Vehicle Excise Duty rates.

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
www.hmrc.gov.uk

Advice on the latest tax legislation, news and advice from the Government department.

Transport for London Congestion Charge
www.cclondon.com

If you need to travel in London by car, this website provides news and information on the London Congestion Charge and online payment and allows you to register for payment by SMS text message.

Traffic information
www.traffic-england.com
www.trafficscotland.org
www.traffic-wales.com
www.trafficwatchni.com

Live traffic and roadworks information supplied by the Highways Agency in England, Scotland and Wales, and by the Northern Ireland Roads Service.

Vehicle Certification Agency car fuel data
www.vcacarfueldata.org.uk

The official resource allowing you to search for specific vehicles by type, CO₂ emissions, VED liability, fuel type, fuel consumption, running costs and company car Benefit in Kind tax banding.

Met Office
www.metoffice.gov.uk

Up to the minute weather information to allow you to plan your journey. Also offers help and assistance on how to react to climate change issues and how to plan for a greener future.

Act on CO₂
www.actonco2.co.uk

Developed by the DfT, the site offers advice on acquiring lower emitting cars with a vehicle CO₂ ranking put together with What Car? magazine. Also offers a CO₂-saving calculator and tips on efficient driving.

Fleet News FN50
www.fn50.com

A comprehensive annual survey of the leasing industry, containing industry news, developments and advice. Undertaken by Fleet News, the FN50 covers the 50 largest leasing companies in the UK.

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General safety

www.safermotoring.co.uk

Offers tips and advice on safety, such as how to deal with aggressive road users, vehicle safety features and what they mean, guidance on parking and safety advice when returning to your car.

Your driving position

www.drivingergonomics.com

How to achieve the optimum driving position to avoid back pain and other discomfort at the wheel, and maintain a safe and alert driving attitude. Compiled by Loughborough University and HJ Consultancy.

Company car tax

www.direct.gov.uk/en/MoneyTaxAndBenefits/Taxes/WorkingAndPayingTax/DG_10021716

Government information on Benefit in Kind company car taxation and fuel benefit, with advice on who is liable and how the calculations are made. Includes a tax calculator and advice on vehicle CO₂ bandings.

Motorways: safety and use

www.safermotorways.co.uk

Focuses on key issues that affect safety and congestion on UK motorways and major roads, with features discussing motorway-related safety. Includes live traffic information and a journey planner.

DVLA Driver Information

www.dvla.gov.uk/drivers

The site offers guidance for drivers on medical conditions and fitness to drive, how the motoring penalty and licence endorsement system works, and offers information on taking and driving a company car abroad.

National Tyre Distributors' Association

www.ntda.co.uk

Taking care of tyres and ensuring your drivers are aware of legislation can be simplified using this site. It provides a guide to tyres, a directory of suppliers, news and advice on care and maintenance.

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Health and Safety Executive www.hse.gov.uk

News, publications, campaigns and consultation on corporate health and safety, ensuring risks in the workplace are properly controlled.

Euro NCAP crash testing www.euroncap.com

Euro NCAP provides independent assessment of the safety performance of some of the most popular cars sold in Europe.

Transport Research Laboratory www.trl.co.uk

The TRL is a scientific body providing independent views on road safety and advice on aspects of transport and driving for work.

Brake www.brake.org.uk

The road safety charity campaigns for safer driving as well as offering help and support for victims of traffic incidents.

Roadsafe www.roadsafe.com

A partnership of leading companies in the motor and transport Industries aims to increase awareness of the risks of driving for work.

Think! www.dft.gov.uk/think/

The DfT's Think! Road Safety Campaign includes resources and advice on how to deal with drugs, tiredness, speed and drink driving.

SAFED www.safed.org.uk

Safe and fuel efficient driving organisation set up by the DfT to offer advice and training to van drivers and fleets.

Drink and drugs www.drinkdrive.org.uk

Carries advice on implementing an effective drink and drug policy in the workplace, as well as guidance on training and education.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents www.rospa.org.uk

Organisation promoting workplace road safety, offering courses and free compliance assessments on managing occupational road risk.

Institution of Occupational Safety and Health www.iosh.co.uk

The body representing health and safety professional provides authoritative advice and guidance on health and safety issues.

Occupational Road Safety Alliance www.orsa.org.uk

ORSA aims to raise awareness of work related road safety by bringing together employers, trade unions, local authorities, police forces, safety organisations and professional and trade associations.

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Association of British Insurers

www.abi.org.uk

Website of the association representing British insurance companies and a useful contact point for help with insurance issues.

Motor Insurers Information Centre

www.mib.org.uk

The MIB website links to the Motor Insurance Database, allowing fleets to register their cars on the system, as well as offering help with claims against uninsured drivers.

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Institute of Car Fleet Management

www.icfm.com

Website of the independent organisation dedicated to developing the capability and enhancing the standing of fleet professionals offers advice, news and details on courses.

The Highway Code

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/TravelAndTransport/Highwaycode/index.htm>

The Highway Code has undergone its biggest rewrite for nearly a decade, and many drivers will be unaware of the changes because most haven't read the Code since passing their driving test.

Institute of Advanced Motorists

www.iam.org.uk

Road safety charity IAM runs the Advanced Driving Test and offers courses for fleets which will offer reductions in accident rate and, in some cases, reduced insurance premiums.

Driver training providers:

Rospa

www.rospa.com/drivertraining/index.htm

Organisation promoting road safety in the UK with a reputation for providing risk management and fleet safety solutions including driver and rider related training.

Drivetech

www.DriveTech.co.uk

Leading business driver training, assessment, education and driver awareness scheme provider with established plans designed for fleet.

Peak Performance

www.peakperformance.net/

Offers advanced driver training courses and advice and guidance on developing a complete driving safety management system

Drive and Survive

www.drivesurvive.co.uk

Leading training provider offering bespoke service aimed at improving fleet safety records and reducing accident rates.