

NEWSLETTER

MACHINERY & AUTOMOTIVE

27 July - 2 August 2026



China's 2026 Used Car Sales Nearly Match New Car Purchases

Jan-May 2026 China new car sales (8.148 million sets) nearly equaled used cars (8.095 million sets). Used new energy vehicle (NEV) sales surged, buyers prioritizing batteries, smart, warranty. NEV retention gap narrowed, penetration rose from 3.6% (2022) to 11.6% (April 2026). Young buyers favor used cars to cut costs. Online platforms now enable nationwide purchases. **(China Daily)**

Automakers tackle rising NEV weight

Data from the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology show that the average curb weight of China-made passenger vehicles rose 200kg (13.2%) from 1,514 Kilogram in 2021 to 1,714 Kilogram in 2025. Carmakers use integrated drives, aluminum and hot stamping for lightweighting, but each kilogram reduction costs about 1,000 yuan (\$148). **(China Daily)**

AI Infrastructure Construction Has Become The Biggest Driver Of The Equipment Cycle

This round of AI infrastructure construction has started rapidly and has a wide-ranging impact on the industrial chain and is expected to become the largest medium- to long-term boom in China's high-end equipment sector. Among these developments, the electricity demand from AI data centers has spurred demand for gas turbines, overseas gas turbine giants have production capacity booked until 2028-2030. **(China Daily)**

Robotaxi Industry Gears Up For Mass Production

China's robotaxi industry is shifting from small-scale pilots to mass-produced commercial fleets. Major automakers and ride-hailing platforms, including SAIC, XPeng and CaoCao, are rolling out custom autonomous vehicles, while Baidu Apollo, Pony.ai and WeRide expand operations. Falling costs and scale are accelerating commercialization. **(China Daily)**

China Records Sharp Expansion Of EV Charging Infrastructure

China's EV charging infrastructure expanded sharply in H1 2026. By late June, total charging facilities reached 23.057 million, up 43.2% year-on-year. Private chargers hit 18.048 million, surging 50.4%. Over 180,000 high-power charging guns were deployed, boosting EV adoption and supporting the country's green transport transition. **(China Daily)**