

# South Africa Autos Report Q4 2015

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## **Abstracts**

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Over the past quarter, BMI has made further downward revisions to our alreadynegative forecasts for new vehicle sales in South Africa. We are now targeting a 14.9% fall in sales over 2015, to 547,073 units, with risks remaining very much weighted towards the downside.

There remain a number of reasons behind our increased bearishness towards South Africa's autos market. For one, rand weakness is dramatically increasing the cost of imported cars. This is affecting all automakers, including Chinese original equipment manufacturers. Second, we are now expecting the South African economy to grow by less than 2% in both 2015 and 2016, with growth being held back by power issues at state-owned utility Eskom and an uncompetitive local labour market. Moreover, inflation is also becoming a concern for the South African Reserve Bank (SARB), and we are expecting a 50 basis point increase in interest rates over H215.



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### 1. CURRENCY WEAKNESS HURTING AFRICAN GROWTH

### 2. INCREASING LOCAL CONTENT IN TROUBLE SPOTS

#### **3. SUVS ROLLING ON**

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