

## About Opel history

03/03/2009 13:34 by ramas

Production volume in Germany in 2003 &ndash; 589,860 vehicles (excluding the CKD / SKD sets). Since 1886, at the company established in 1868, Adam Opel has manufactured bicycles. In January 1899, the Opel brothers took over the Lutzmann company, manufacturing cars since 1893, and that very same year showed the first Opel ever, called the Opel Patent-Motorwagen System Lutzmann, produced until 1902. In 1902, Opel bought a license from the French Darracq company, and launched the production of cars under the Opel Darracq make, which did not succeed. It was only the first Opel model &ndash; the 10/12 PS of 1902, that caught on. Established in spring 1925, the General Motors GmbH assembled Chevrolet trucks in the years 1926-1931 in Germany, and in the years 1927-31 &ndash; the passenger Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac, Oakland, Oldsmobile and Cadillac cars. In March 1929, General Motors bought 80% of Opel shares, and in 1931 the remaining 20%. Today, Opel cars are produced in Germany, Great Britain, Spain (since 1982), Portugal (since 1963), Belgium, Poland (since 1994), Italy (since 1999), France (since 2004), India (since 1996), Egypt (since 1987) and South Africa, and assembled in Ukraine (Since 2003). In Great Britain, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Italy and Poland, Opel cars are also produced under the Vauxhall brand. In Great Britain, Spain, Portugal, Italy and Thailand, they are marketed as Holden cars. In Germany, Thailand, Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Brazil, they are also produced / assembled as Chevrolets. Latest premieres: Paris 2002 &ndash; Meriva, Eco-Speedster and Combo-Eau Rouge concept cars; Essen 2002 &ndash; Corsa OPC; Geneva 2003 &ndash; Signum, Speedster Turbo and GTC Geneva hatchback concept car; Frankfurt/Main 2003 &ndash; Astra III hatchback 5-D, Corsa restyling, Agila restyling, Combo Tour restyling and Insignia concept car; Essen 2003 &ndash; Vectra GTS OPC Turbo Diesel; Geneva 2004 &ndash; Tigra Twin Top and Trixx concept car, Madrid 2004 &ndash; Astra III Caravan estate body version, Paris 2004 &ndash; Astra III GTC 3-D, Vectra sedan restyling and prototype of Astra III GTC OPC; Detroit 2005 &ndash; Astra Diesel Hybrid concept car; Geneva 2005 &ndash; Zafira II, Zafira II OPC, Astra III GTC OPC; Leipzig 2004 &ndash; Combo Trend. Plans for the future: 2005 &ndash; Vectra / Signum restyling, Astra III Cabrio (production in Belgium); 2006 &ndash; Corsa IV, GT Roadster (production in the USA), SUV (production in Korea); 2007 &ndash; Agila II, Vectra IV. In 2003, production of the following models was terminated: Omega, Omega Caravan, Astra II hatchback / sedan, Frontera and Frontera Sport, and in 2004 &ndash; of Astra II Caravan.