

NEWSLETTER

MACHINERY & AUTOMOTIVE

13 - 19 July 2026



Manufacturing Growth Momentum Continues

China's June manufacturing PMI rose 0.3 month-on-month to 50.3, led by domestic demand with new export orders back at 50.1. Production hit 51.4; finished-goods inventory fell to 47.7 as destocking accelerated. Business expectations reached 54.3. Non-manufacturing PMI edged up to 50.2, construction firmed, yet export volatility amid geopolitics warrants monitoring. **(China Daily)**

China Disburses 200 Billion Yuan Ultra-Long Treasury Bonds For 2026 Upgrades

China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) has fully disbursed 200 billion yuan (\$29.46) in ultra-long special treasury bonds to support 2026 equipment upgrades, covering around 11,000 projects across 22 sectors including energy, logistics and elderly care. Jan–May equipment investment rose 9.3% year-on-year, accounting for 17.5% of total investment. **(China Daily)**

Stricter Rules On Battery Safety Put Into Force

China enforced stricter new energy vehicle (NEV) and power battery national standards starting from July, raising thermal runaway to "no fire, no explosion" and adding underbody impact and 300-cycle fast-charge tests. The compliance may lift 15-20% of the battery cost. 78% of makers qualify, 14% need upgrades, 8% may fail. The rules bolster exports and shape global safety protocols. **(China Daily)**

Chip Prices Weighing Heavily On Automakers

Surging automotive-grade memory chip prices, up about 180% from March to June, are squeezing Chinese automakers already hit by softer sales. Jan–May PV retail fell 19% year-on-year. The industry profit dropped 20% with just a 3.4% margin, a five-year low. Makers are diversifying suppliers and boosting in-house chips to cut reliance. **(China Daily)**

Unlocking Business Opportunities at APIE 2026

The Asia-Pacific Intelligent Equipment Expo (APIE 2026) was held from July 16 to 19 in Qingdao, spanning an exhibition area of 110,000 square meters. Over 2,400 enterprises showcased products across the entire intelligent manufacturing supply chain, including industrial robots, power transmission systems, and precision machining equipment, and featured a dedicated zone for embodied AI and humanoid robots. **(Soufair)**