

Toyota Australia To Export Toyota Engines To Malaysia, Thailand
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By Neville D'Cruz

MELBOURNE, Jan 18 (Bernama) -- Toyota Australia will begin exporting engines to Malaysia and Thailand, it was announced Friday.

The best-selling car manufacturer in Australia expects that it will export 18,000 four-cylinder engines this year and will manufacture 90,000 of the machines for use in its locally-made Camry and Camry Hybrid.

"Our employees have worked incredibly hard to secure the investment for the new engine plant and ensure that we are producing the best quality engines," said the Executive Director (Manufacturing and Purchasing), Chris Harrod, in a statement.

"The fact that we were able to secure new export markets in Malaysia and Thailand is testament to the quality of our work and the positive reputation Toyota Australia has among our affiliates.

"We are now one of the only four countries to produce this particular engine and are the only Australian manufacturer to produce both petrol and hybrid engines," he said.

The demand for four cylinder cars at the expense of less-efficient six cylinders was highlighted earlier in the week when Holden's chairman Mike Devereux said its Port Melbourne engine plant could close by 2020, with a significant cost required to overhaul its operations.

"You would need to re-tool that engine plant almost fully to be able to build something other than that V6," Devereux said.

Meanwhile, research and markets have found that Toyota's HiLux was the most popular car in Australia in October last year, with 3,403 units sold.

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