

Days Contract Hire is one of the UK's leading fleet management companies and has been providing professional advice and services for many years. A Fleet News Magazine Top 30 company and one of the few independent Contract Hire companies in the country, Days Contract Hire is still family owned and run.



**@ Electronic updates:**

In line with our environmental policy - we'd like to send you future news electronically. If you're happy to receive occasional updates from us by e-mail in future please send your name and company details to: **contracthire@days.co.uk**

## DAYS Flexi Hire



As a part of our commitment to helping your business we have launched a new product, "Days Flexi Hire," that provides an essential short-term vehicle service to help fleets cope with the constantly changing demands of their business.

Whether you need a vehicle for one day or 12 months, we can offer you competitive prices using our negotiated rates from national rental companies.

This service was designed following extensive consultation with the fleet industry and will help companies to cover a range of challenges, ranging from cover for new employees to seasonal demands that lead to peaks in fleet requirements.

Days Flexi Hire is also a safe transport solution for employees who are awaiting the delivery of a new vehicle, instead of them relying on their own transport.

It can also be used for staff on secondment from overseas and to tackle safety concerns related to 'grey fleet' safety, where drivers are covering business mileage in private vehicles.

Rentals are as flexible as the name suggests, covering anything from one day to 12 months with various mileage options available.

Most importantly you are not tied in to a long-term commitment and there are no hidden early termination charges.

**Contact our Flexi Hire team today on 0845 184 9337 or email [flexihire@days.co.uk](mailto:flexihire@days.co.uk)**



BMW 318d

143 HP (17% ↑)

4.7 L / 123 g CO<sub>2</sub> (18% ↓)



**BMW 318D M SPORT**



Days Contract Hire **Test Drive**

The 3 series has long been BMW's bread and butter model and one of the most desirable mid range company cars. With even the 330d engine producing CO<sub>2</sub> of 152 g/km, comfortably below the 160 g/km threshold.

The M Sport has a beautiful aggressive stance on the road and is a composed and confident car to drive. The power delivery from the 2litre 143 BHP engine is smooth through the rev range and low down torque reduces need for excessive gear changing.

The ride however with sport suspension and low profile tyres can leave you feeling a little drained on a long trip, though away from the banality of motorway driving this car comes alive and is incredibly enjoyable to drive.

In brief, the competitors of the 3 Series have a long way to go to match its current level of desirability in the market, whether it be on aesthetic grounds or the economy and performance of the engines whose green credentials are obvious.

Rob Williams  
Account Executive

**BMW 3 Series Diesel Saloon 318d M Sport 4Dr**

36 months, 3+35 payments, non-maintenance, 10,000mpa, including metallic paint.

£357 per month – P11D £27850.00 – CO<sub>2</sub> 123

# Days Gazette

SUMMER 2009 ISSUE 010



## What's inside:

This issue of Days Gazette features a closer look at some of the headlines from the last Budget.

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**Flexi Hire** - an essential short-term vehicle service to help fleets cope with constantly changing demands

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We test drive the BMW 318D M Sport.

**Page 4**

  
**DAYS**  
Contract Hire

## Days Contract Hire is pleased to have gained the business of Biomet UK Ltd and the management of their ongoing fleet of over 120 vehicles.

Biomet were founded in 1977 and since then they have built the company into a global business, with operations in 70 countries around the world. With a history of innovation and entrepreneurial flair, Biomet is continuously expanding its European presence, to pursue ground-breaking concepts for the European market place. They are a global leader in the orthopaedics market and amid a tradition of exceptional engineering and development skills, Biomet works in partnership with medical professionals to develop innovative designs.

The company had historically offered company cars or a PCP company scheme and used an alternative contract hire supplier; however Days Contract Hire offered a cost effective, flexible alternative and Biomet decided to contract hire their vehicles through Days instead.

Since January 2009, Account Executive Alistair Murray, has built up an excellent working relationship with the team at Biomet. Alistair has been involved with negotiating additional support terms with two prestige vehicle manufacturers – BMW and Mercedes Benz. As a result of volume commitment, Days Contract Hire has been able to reduce certain rentals.

Biomet currently have 12 vehicles on contract hire through Days and another 7 on order with up to 20 left to replace in 2009. By giving their employees prestigious company cars (Audi, BMW and Mercedes Benz) Biomet aims to improve staff retention and employee satisfaction.

Biomet have also taken advantage of Days Contract Hire's additional service of 'Flexi-Hire'. Since they started using the short term hire solution in March 2009, the company have hired over 195 short term vehicles which have helped with one way hires, pool vehicles, visitors from overseas and pre-contract vehicles and helped to reduce their daily rental costs. By using Flexi-Hire it also keeps all of their vehicle requirements to one source resulting in ease of administration and excellent working relationships.

Clare Jones, HR Assistant, at Biomet has been pleased with the service and relationship so far; "Working with Days Contract Hire has enabled us to minimise our administration costs and keep to a straightforward, one point of contact whilst meeting all of Biomet's vehicle requirements".

Paul Grange, Corporate Sales Manager at BMW UK has also commented;

"BMW (UK) Ltd is pleased to be a partner with Days Contract Hire in the supply of company cars to Biomet. It was a pleasure to work with a company who wanted to offer their employees a highly desirable product while at the same time considering the real costs of the company car to the employee, as well as the costs to the environment.

BMW Group have recently taken two honours at What Car? Green Car Awards 2009, with the BMW 318d being voted Executive Car of the Year while the MINI Cooper S retained the title of Green Sports Car.

These award winning benefits are achieved through BMW's 'EfficientDynamics' which was first offered as standard in 2007 and now feature through the BMW range, for example the 318d will deliver 60.1 MPG with Co2 emissions of 123gm/km.

Days Contract Hire looks forward to a long working relationship with Biomet in the future.

**Tel: 0845 296 4423**  
[contracthire@days.co.uk](mailto:contracthire@days.co.uk)



## SPECIAL OFFERS FOR THIS ISSUE



**£155** PM Ford Fiesta Hatchback 1.25 Studio 3Dr



**£236** PM Honda Civic Diesel Hatchback 2.2 I-ctdi SE 5Dr



**£251** PM Renault Megane Diesel Hatchback 1.5 dCi 86 Expression 5Dr

**Call us Today**  
**0845 296 4423**  
- or visit  
[www.dayscontracthire.co.uk](http://www.dayscontracthire.co.uk)

Business Users only.  
All figures are subject to VAT,  
36 months, 10,000 mpa, non  
maintenance, inc metallic paint.

# Budget Round-up

## Scrappage Scheme

Motorists are being offered £2,000 of which £1,000 will be funded by the motor industry, towards the purchase of a new car or van if they trade in their 10 year old, or older, vehicle for scrap. The UK scheme will run from mid May 2009 to March 2010 or sooner if the £300 million Government funding is used up.

The dealer will be required to complete all the paperwork for motorists participating in the scheme and arrange for the old vehicle to be scrapped. The dealer will check that the vehicle being traded in and the new one being bought qualify under the scheme:-

### Which older vehicles are eligible?

- Passenger car or vans up to 3.5 tonnes
- First registered in United Kingdom on or before 31 July 1999
- Currently registered with DVLA to the registered keeper making the application, or currently on Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN)
- Current MOT test certificate
- Registered keeper must have a UK address
- The registered keeper has been the registered keeper of the vehicle continuously for the preceding 12 calendar months before the order date on the new vehicle.

### Which new vehicles are eligible?

- Passenger car or small van up to 3.5 tonnes
- First registered in the UK or after the date the scrappage scheme is introduced and declared new at registration in the UK with no former keepers
- UK specification vehicle
- Registered to the same registered keeper as the registered keeper of the eligible vehicle to be scrapped.



## Vehicle Excise Duty

Budget 2009 confirms the following announcement made last year:-

- From 1 May 2009, there will be an increase in the number of VED bands from seven to thirteen and all rates increase by £5 only;
- From April 2010. All of the 13 VED rates will change again; and
- From April 2010, First-Year Rates of VED (the so called 'showroom tax') for new vehicles will be introduced.

The table right provides the bands and rates.

VED Band	CO2 emissions g/km	2009-10 standard rate	2010-11	
			First year rate	Standard rate <sup>4</sup>
A	Up to 100	0	0	0
B	101-110	35	0	20
C	111-120	35	0	30
D	121-130	120	0	90
E	131-140	120	110	110
F	141-150	125	125	125
G	151-165	150	155	155
H	166-175	175	250	180
I	176-185	175	300	200
J	186-200	215	425	235
K4	201-225	215	550	245
L	226-255	405	750	425
M	Over 255	405	950	435

### Heavy goods vehicles

VED rates for heavy goods vehicles will be frozen in 2009-10.

The Euro V vehicles emissions standard for new heavy goods vehicles will become mandatory on 1 October 2009. As a result, Reduced Pollution Certificates (RPCs) for vehicles achieving early compliance with this standard will no longer be available for new vehicles from that date.

The Government will introduce measures to incentivise the choice of Euro V1 vehicles, once the full details of the standard have been established by the European Commission.

### Other VED rates

Vehicles	Registration Date	2009-10 12 month rate	2010-11 12 month rate
Not over 1549cc	Before 1 March 2001	125	125
Over 1549cc	Before 1 March 2001	190	205
LGV (TC39)	Registered on or after 1st March 2001	180	180
Euro 4 LGV (TC36)	Registered on or after 1 March 2003 to 31 Dec 2006	120	120
Euro 5 LGV	Registered between 1 January 2009 and 31 Dec 2010	120	120

## Company Car Tax (Benefit in Kind)

### From 6 April 2011:

The basic threshold for the 15 per cent band on Company Car Tax (CCT) will be reduced by 5g CO2 per km, so that this band applies to cars emitting between 121 and 129g CO2 per km. The percentage of list price subject to tax will continue to increase by 1 percentage point with every 5g per km increase in CO2 emissions, to a maximum of 35 per cent;

The £80,000 cap on the list price of company cars will be abolished, and the full list price of all company cars will be used to calculate the level of benefit that is taxable under CCT.

The Government is also considering the case for abolishing the diesel supplement in company car tax for diesel cars that comply with the future Euro 6 emissions and air quality standards.

Discounts available for early uptake Euro 4-standard diesel cars, higher-emitting hybrid cars and alternative fuel company cars will now be abolished. Hybrid cars emitting 120g CO2 per km or less will continue to fall within the 10 per cent band of CCT and electric cars will continue to be subject to the 9 per cent band, the lowest for any type of company car.

The 10 per cent band for cars emitting 120g CO2 per km will be removed in 2012 and instead extend the system of CCT bands so that they increase by 1 percentage point with every 5g CO2 per km increase in emissions, from 10 per cent. Details of specific rates and thresholds for 2012 will be announced in future budgets.

## Temporary first year allowance

Since 1 April 2008 (corporation tax) or 6 April (income tax) most businesses, regardless of size, have been able to claim the new Annual Investment Allowance (AIA) on the first £50,000 spent on plant or machinery (excluding cars).

Today's proposals will temporarily allow businesses incurring expenditure of assets (which fall into the main rate pool) in excess of the AIA limit of £50,000 to between 1 April 2009 (CT) or 6 April 2010 (income tax) to claim a 40 per cent capital allowance relief, instead of the current main rate pool of 20 per cent).

Pence per litre (unless stated)	Duty rate pre-1 April 2009	From 1 April 2009*		From 1 September 2009	
		Change	New duty rate	Change	New duty rate
Ultra-low sulphur petrol/diesel	52.35p	+1.84p	54.19p	+2p	56.19p
Sulphur-free petrol/diesel	52.35p	+1.84p	54.19p	+2p	56.19p
Biodiesel	32.35p	+1.84p	34.19p	+2p	36.19p
Bioethanol	32.35p	+1.84p	34.19p	+2p	36.19p
Liquefied petroleum gas used as road fuel	20.77p per kg	+4.05p per kg	24.82p per kg	+2.85p per kg	27.67p per kg
Natural gas used as road fuel	16.60p per kg	+2.66p per kg	19.26p per kg	+2.9p per kg	22.16p per kg
Rebated gas oil (red diesel)	10.07p	+0.35p	10.42p	+0.38p	10.80p
Fuel oil	9.66p	+0.34p	10.00p	+0.37p	10.37p

\*As pre-announced at Budget 2007 and confirmed at the 2008 Pre-Budget Report

## Ultra low carbon vehicles

The Government has committed to support the shift to ultra-low carbon vehicles by:

- Up to £20 million will be available to support the roll-out of charging infrastructure needed to grow the market for ultra-low carbon cars. Cities and regions, in conjunction with the private sector, will be able to bid for this seed funding; and
- The majority of the £250 million will be used to reduce up-front costs of early electric and plug-in hybrid cars by between £2,000 and £5,000. The Government will begin discussions with the automotive and finance industries, as well as other key stakeholders, to explore how best to deliver this incentive from 2011.

## VAT fuel scale charges

From 1 May 2009, the VAT fuel scale charges will be revised to reflect updated fuel prices.

CO2 band g/km	VAT fuel scale charge, 1 month period £
120 or less	42.00
125	63.00
130	63.00
135	63.00
140	67.00
145	71.00
150	75.00
155	79.00
160	83.00
165	88.00
170	92.00
175	96.00
180	100.00
185	104.00
190	109.00
195	113.00
200	117.00
205	121.00
210	126.00
215	130.00
220	134.00
225	138.00
230	142.00
235 or more	147.00

