

FPT Industrial History

Fiat (Fabbrica Italiana di Automobili Torino) was founded in Turin, Italy, in 1899 by a group of engineers and investors including Giovanni Agnelli. The firm went on to develop car, truck, bus and tractor designs, and in 1903 started producing gasoline engines for commercial vehicles. Five years later, Fiat began production of industrial diesel engines, and by 1931 was producing diesels for use in truck and marine applications.

The firm soon established a reputation for technological leadership in engine development. Direct injection diesel engine technology was patented by Fiat in 1934, and in 1938 the company became the first to use a turbocharger in a diesel truck engine.



Fiat branched out into boat and ship power in 1965, with the creation of the Aifo (Applicazioni Industriali Fiat OM) brand dedicated to marine applications. In time, the name became synonymous with success in the field of powerboat racing.

Swiss engine company Saurer and its research and development centre in Arbon, Switzerland, became part of Fiat in 1982. The company continued to lead the way in diesel engine technology into the 1990s, in 1999 becoming the first manufacturer to introduce common rail fuelling technology on industrial engines – a Fiat patent. In 2002, Fiat began production of compressed natural gas engines for light commercial vehicles.

The launch of the Iveco Motors brand in 2004 saw the new name become synonymous with the supply of industrial and marine engines and power generation equipment to third-party customers. The following year, Fiat founded FPT (Fiat Powertrain Technologies), merging its automotive and industrial powertrain activities. In 2011, the Fiat Powertrain and FPT Industrial brands were created as part of the Fiat Group demerger of non-automotive businesses, with the latter becoming a provider of engines and transmissions for on-road, off-road, marine and power generation applications. In 2013, the business was transferred to CNH Industrial, following the merger of Fiat Industrial and CNH Global N.V.

Today, FPT Industrial engines are used across CNH Industrial products ranging from tractors and combine harvesters to trucks and construction equipment. Its engines are also sold to third-party customers in those industry sectors and others. The company has 10 factories and seven research and development centres around the world, and commercial and service networks in almost 100 countries. It employs around 8,200 people and has annual production outputs of approximately half a million engines and a quarter of a million transmissions and axles.