Chrysler goes for double

The loss-making US car maker Chrysler announced at the Detroit car show that it was setting itself the goal of doubling international sales in less than five years.

Chrysler head Robert Nardelli said there was still room for global growth.

Last year, Chrysler – the third largest US car producer – had a 15% increase of sales outside North America to around 238 000 cars. In doing so, the company sold less than 10% of its cars outside its home market.

Chrysler president Tom LaSorda said they wanted to partner with other producers to offer small cars in Europe in a "couple of years".

An extension of the co-operation with Asian partners such a Chery in China and Nissan in Japan was also possible.

The company expected a slight increase in sales in 2008, while sales of fleets was expected to drop.

In 2007, Chrysler sold 2.68 million cars worldwide – about 1% fewer than in 2006.

According to earlier reports, Nardelli was assuming a loss for 2007 of at least $1.6 billion. – Sapa-dpa

BUSINESS

Taxman asks intermediaries to join forces

36ffb