**UK CAR AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLE MANUFACTURING** (data for August 2025)

Strictly embargoed until 00:01, Thursday 25 September 2025

**Hi-res charts available via Dropbox:** [**https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/su456w5ari8h9cjwqrktj/ALO795yxsoyGgvO6SgPbwD8?rlkey=295ct5gl3nfv2ht5t15lvcfe7&st=q273omlv&dl=0**](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/su456w5ari8h9cjwqrktj/ALO795yxsoyGgvO6SgPbwD8?rlkey=295ct5gl3nfv2ht5t15lvcfe7&st=q273omlv&dl=0)

**Vehicle production slips back in August**

* Car manufacturing output falls -10.2% in traditionally quieter ‘summer shutdown’ month.
* Electrified car volumes rise 40.9% to 16,830 units accounting for almost half of output.
* Commercial vehicle production declines -73.2% with 1,621 units leaving factory gates.

**Thursday 25 September, 2025** UK car production fell in August, breaking a two-month growth run, according to the latest figures published today by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). 37,072 units rolled out of factories in what is traditionally the quietest month of the year, with planned summer shutdowns taking place to enable maintenance and retooling. The figures come before the cyberattack on the UK’s largest automotive employer, the effects of which will likely be evident in September’s performance.

Continuing the recent trend, commercial vehicle (CV) production also declined, by -73.2% to 1,621 units, driven by the consolidation of manufacturing operations at a major manufacturer. Combined UK vehicle production was, therefore, down -18.2% in August to a total of 38,693 units, the weakest performance since 1956 and illustrating the challenging environment facing UK automotive manufacturers, with soft conditions in the sector’s largest market, the EU, significant cost pressures, model transitions and slow economic growth.1

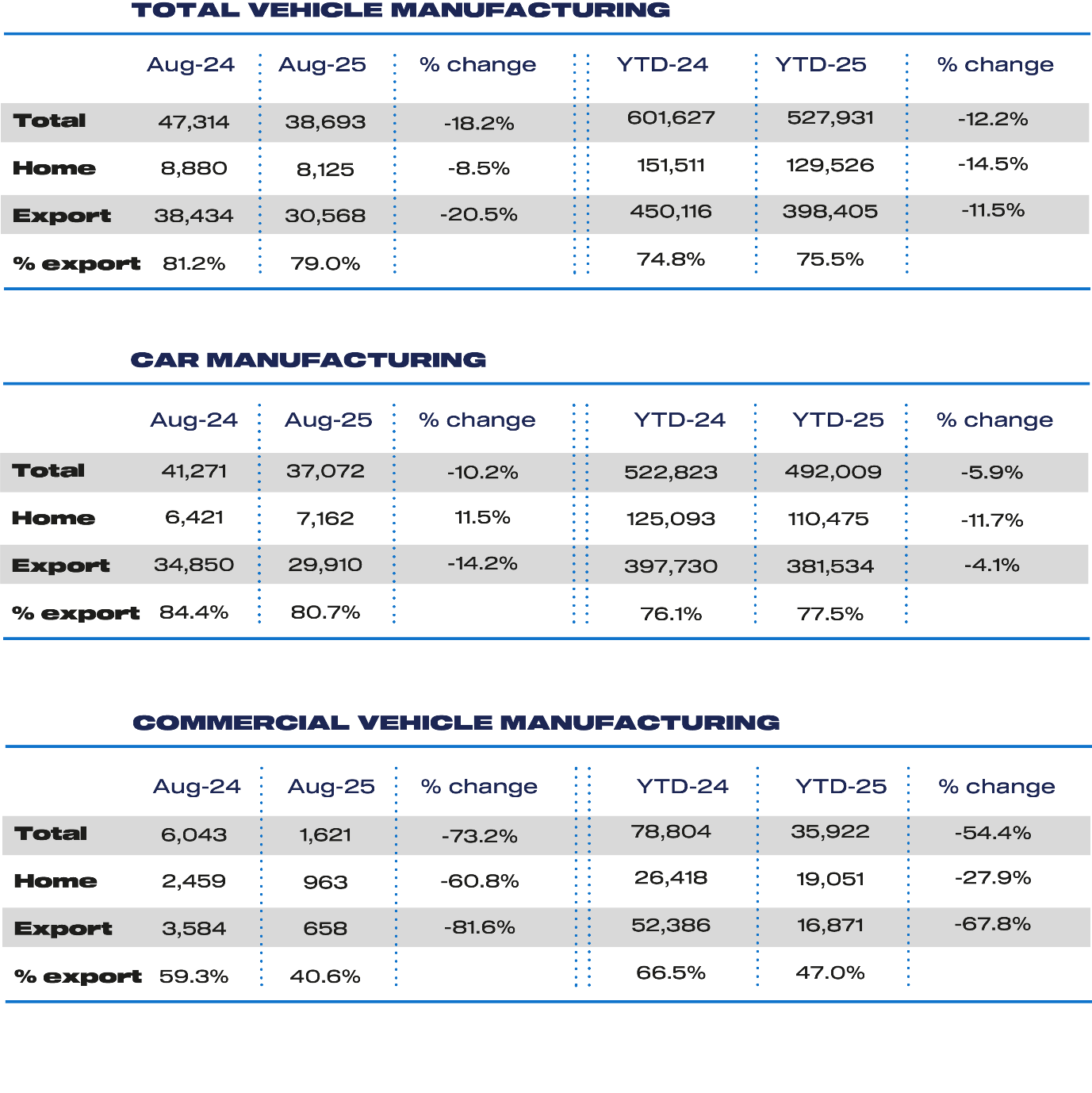
Car production for the UK market rose by 11.5% to 7,162 units but was not enough to offset a -14.2% fall in exports. 29,910 cars were made for overseas customers in August – representing 80.7% of output.

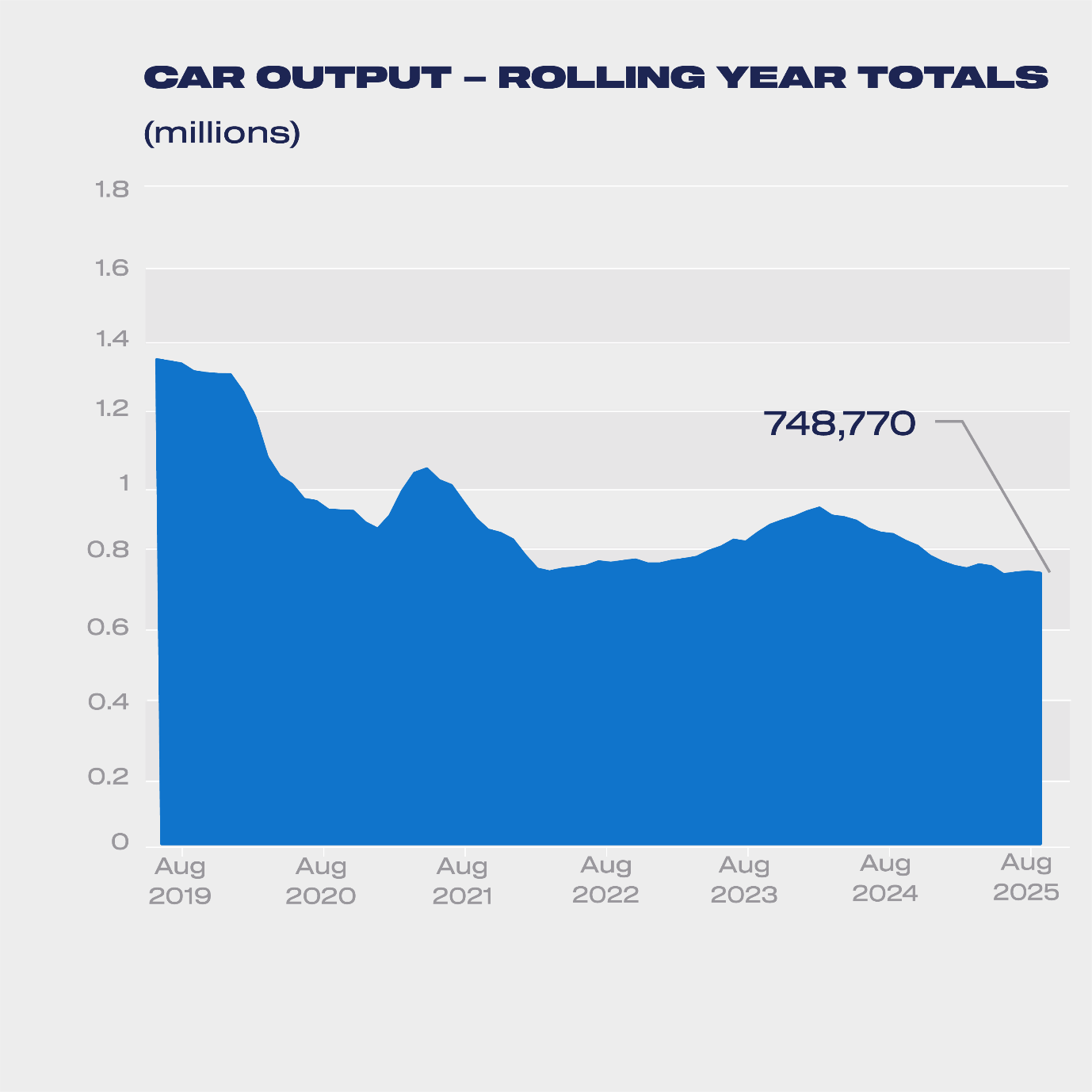
While overall car output fell, electrified car production rose by 40.9% to 16,830 units, with hybrid, plug-in hybrid and battery electric vehicles accounting for almost half (45.4%) the units produced in August – the second-best share of output for any single month. In the year to date, factories have turned out more than 200,000 of these vehicles, up 3.7% on 2024, although total car output is down -5.9% to 492,009 units. CV output year-to-date, meanwhile, is down -54.4% to 35,922 units.

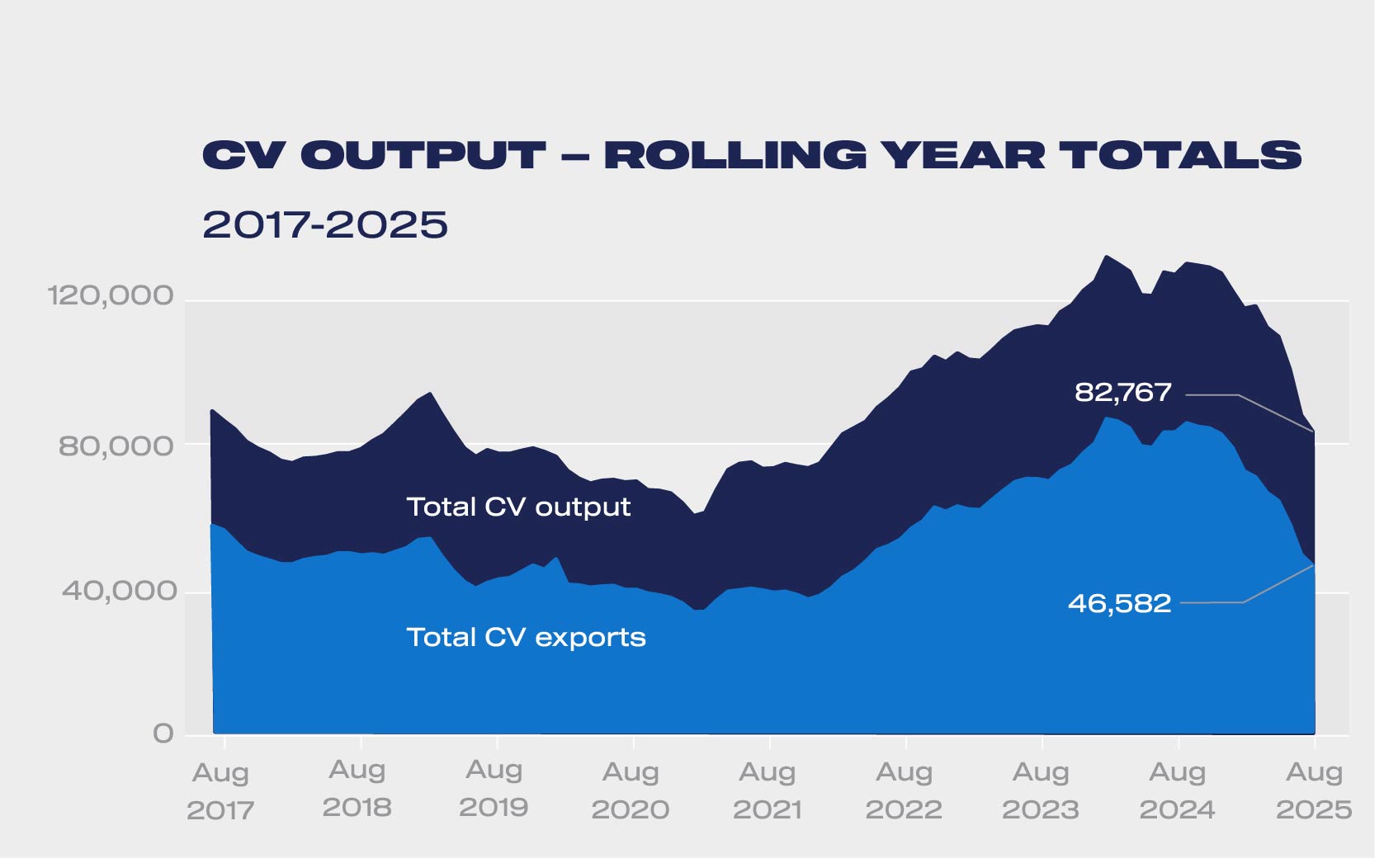
**Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive, said,** “August is always a low volume month due to planned summer maintenance, but the focus is now on September's performance, and the likely impact of the cyberattack at Britain’s biggest automotive employer. Given this incident and the industry’s importance to jobs, growth and trade, rapid delivery of the Industrial Strategy and Drive35 is now critical. The sector is resilient, but SMMT is engaged with members and the government to understand what additional supportive measures may be needed.”

The news follows the recent publication of SMMT’s latest Trade Report*,* [*Unmarked Routes: Britain’s Pathway to Stronger Automotive Trade*](https://smmtweb.lon1.cdn.digitaloceanspaces.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/2025-SMMT-Trade-Report-Unmarked-Routes.pdf), which shows that, despite an onslaught of challenges, the UK sector remains a global trading powerhouse on course to generate more than £110 billion in trade for the third year running, supporting 796,000 jobs and turning over £92 billion.

British manufacturers produce not only cars, vans, taxis, trucks, buses and coaches, but also specialist and off-highway vehicles. They are supported by more than 2,500 component providers and some of the world's most skilled engineers, and invest around £5 billion each year in R&D. With notable footprints in the West Midlands, North East and North West, the sector also supports thousands of jobs in adjacent industries – including advertising, chemicals, finance, logistics and steel.



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**Notes to editors**

August’s data contains provisional figures from one manufacturer and may therefore be subject to future revision

The next release will be published on Friday 24 October 2025

1: 25,736 vehicles made August 1956

**About SMMT and the UK automotive industry**

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) is one of the largest and most influential trade associations, representing the automotive industry in the UK.

The automotive industry is a vital part of the UK economy, integral to growth, the delivery of net zero and the UK as a global trade hub. It contributes £92 billion turnover and £25 billion value added to the UK economy and invested £5 billion in R&D, with 183,000 people employed directly in manufacturing and some 796,000 in total across the wider automotive industry. Many of these automotive manufacturing jobs are outside London and the South-East, with wages that are 8% higher than the UK average. The sector accounts for 13.4% of total UK exports of goods with more than 140 countries importing UK produced vehicles, generating £108 billion of trade in total automotive imports and exports.

The UK manufactures almost every type of vehicle, from cars, to vans, taxis, trucks, buses and coaches, as well as specialist and off-highway vehicles, supported by more than 2,500 component providers and some of the world's most skilled engineers. In addition, the sector has vibrant aftermarket and remanufacturing industries. The automotive industry also supports jobs in other key sectors – including advertising, chemicals, finance, logistics and steel.

More detail on UK Automotive available in SMMT's Motor Industry Facts publication at [www.smmt.co.uk/reports/smmt-motor-industry-facts/](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fclick.agilitypr.delivery%2fls%2fclick%3fupn%3dq-2FLDa0hDiW76FMqhIH6mp5-2FMTGpUEJbaCvc6DuDo36VcR8RSJY3Bb5j6PbOH1m-2BGBroLVjN0i37n2XGzfuZqWeJIleDttsiCosv-2FDCrC6xU-3DNJg9_FQC2LT8GxayrM161hhHVAu067ZxSQQmW4GgEbtFUHlnhSWpWCBkdzj4Kj3fTDj3UcGAZVk99-2Bu1tfX9z9RQO-2B9fp1S7-2Fexh6yUV9D8RBopPF9ftQfnPc7Oo8dF-2F33tfJjdydmYFo-2B3-2FZ4S3f9yiwFBWbAH2cHJTjoEr5feTUeIMrD8UWKTM1I1WBxqo-2BXD3fbqrVstjQgJpCVUtkuS44mATwZi-2FbDS0RLy4Kc-2Fak9mJlNrH2Nah4rxWcpFJUTjG3RiewRLsY-2FAZI6U0gEwzyg9f9kMfDtIVBFWqvytbp6QcWQj2PeXkpCxvRodUjf3F1bU-2FxLse2gxEG9OKOYYxtS1tA2LYKxhRnFj9q53jyGZweydKCFcHXXvlm-2BEtwQKouRDkalUMxcmwIMiSFD018yHvLjhh-2FC8go6WJBD0qJAAoMxe6pRcHATJUuLQLxwba6pecZLrra-2Fg4iylWC-2FWgmiA-3D-3D&c=E,1,shIdwDxv4DuE5O9ruDV8SOnjRMbYMUMBvtuJxpEKqrl46ScL8uWK0I3vTeCBbKaz6ApDgOsYVpzNo1oLsNWSiqoAg1rNS4OJq8sxq_-Rh3TtLukLbc6Kt-UlbkI,&typo=1)

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