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## Media information

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# Chancellor Merkel visits Volkswagen at the IAA in Frankfurt

**The Volkswagen ID.3<sup>1</sup> was the center of attention on Chancellor Merkel's visit to the Volkswagen stand at the International Motor Show (IAA) in Frankfurt.**

**Dr. Herbert Diess, CEO of Volkswagen AG, reiterated the entire Group's commitment to e-mobility: "We want to continue making individual mobility accessible to everyone in future. That means harnessing innovative technologies to make the car cleaner, even safer and climate-neutral. E-mobility is the best and most efficient option for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from transport."**



**Dr. Herbert Diess, CEO of Volkswagen AG, and Ralf Brandstätter, Chief Operating Officer of Volkswagen brand, welcomed Chancellor Angela Merkel and Bernhard Mattes, President of VDA, at the Volkswagen stand at the IAA in Frankfurt**

Diess underscored: "We are facing a genuine change of system that the automotive industry cannot tackle alone. For emission-free mobility to gain broad acceptance swiftly, we need a masterplan and more commitment from all parties, above all as regards the energy transition and the nationwide development of the charging infrastructure. The task now is for the Federal government to consistently continue along its path."

Diess also emphasized the importance of making e-mobility available for low-income earners and small businesses. He said this included extending financial incentives for e-mobility to the used vehicle market, maintaining the lower rate of company car taxation or free battery charging for vehicles priced at less than €20,000.

"The use of electric vehicles must be worthwhile for the consumer, otherwise they will not decide to use this form of clean mobility. Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> even faster is only possible if e-mobility gains broad acceptance. That is the only right and necessary way to meet the ambitious climate protection requirements and the targets set out in the Paris Agreement that we are committed to fulfilling", Diess said.

# VOLKSWAGEN

AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

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Volkswagen wants to make the switch to electric vehicles as attractive as possible.

The Group will be launching almost 70 new electric models in the next ten years. The first vehicle in this new generation, the ID.3, just celebrated its world premiere at the IAA 2019. Further models from the ID. family will follow. Climate protection will become an innovation driver at Volkswagen.

<sup>1)</sup> This vehicle is not yet for sale in Europe.



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## About the Volkswagen Group:

The Volkswagen Group, with its headquarters in Wolfsburg, is one of the world's leading automobile manufacturers and the largest carmaker in Europe. The Group comprises twelve brands from seven European countries: Volkswagen Passenger Cars, Audi, SEAT, ŠKODA, Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini, Porsche, Ducati, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, Scania and MAN. The passenger car portfolio ranges from small cars all the way to luxury-class vehicles. Ducati offers motorcycles. In the light and heavy commercial vehicles sector, the products include ranges from pick-ups, buses and heavy trucks. Every weekday, 664,496 employees around the globe produce on average 44,567 vehicles, are involved in vehicle-related services or work in other areas of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries.

In 2018, the total number of vehicles supplied to customers by the Group globally was 10,8 million (2017: 10,7 million). The passenger car global market share was 12.3 per cent. In Western Europe 22.0 per cent of all new passenger cars come from the Volkswagen Group. Group sales revenue in 2018 totalled €235.8 billion (2017: €231 billion). Earnings after tax in 2018 amounted to €17.1 billion (2017: €11.6 billion).

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