Dr. Ralf Brunken is new Director of AutoUni

- Predecessor Prof. Dr. Mark Gonter assumes senior management function in Procurement at Audi AG

Wolfsburg, April 2, 2019 - Dr. Ralf Brunken, formerly CIO at ŠKODA, has taken over as Director of the AutoUni effective April 1. He succeeds Prof. Dr. Mark Gonter, who assumes responsibility for value analysis in the future fields of e-mobility, autonomous driving and connectivity in Procurement at Audi AG.

Volkswagen Board Member for Human Resources, Gunnar Kilian, said: “We are delighted to welcome Dr. Ralf Brunken as the new Director of the AutoUni. Thanks to his IT know-how, he will ensure that the AutoUni is well prepared for the future with training in the fields of software and digitalization. At the same time, we would like to thank Dr. Mark Gonter for his service to the AutoUni. “

Dr. Ralf Brunken holds a doctorate in mechanical engineering and joined the Volkswagen Group in 1986, beginning his career in Research and Development. He held various senior management posts in R&D at both Volkswagen and Audi. He was appointed CIO at Volkswagen India Private Limited in 2007. He was CIO at Continental Automotive in Frankfurt from 2009 to 2012. He returned to Volkswagen in 2012, and assumed responsibility for application development in the Volkswagen Group. Prior to his appointment as Director of the AutoUni, Brunken was CIO of ŠKODA.
Prof. Dr. Mark Gonter joined the Volkswagen Group in 1999. Having studies vehicle technologies in Hanover and been awarded a PhD from Dresden, he became Honorary Professor at TU Braunschweig. He began his professional career at Autoliv AG. Having held several senior management positions in Research and Development, he became General Manager at the AutoUni in 2013, and was subsequently appointed Director in 2018. In his new function he assumes responsibility for value analysis in the future fields of e-mobility, autonomous driving and connectivity in Procurement at Audi AG.

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 10,831 million (2017: 10,741 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 2017 amounted to €17.1 billion (2017: €11.6 billion).