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Live at Techno Classica 2019: apprentices Fábio and Marvin to complete Volkswagen Type 3 restoration

→ Volkswagen Classic presents three theme worlds at the world's largest classic car trade fair from 10 to 14 April 2019: records, 70 years Käfer Cabriolet and the VW 1600 TL project

Wolfsburg/Osnabrück/Eszen - Exceptional training station: Fábio Lopes and Marvin Wiethölter will complete their restoration project this week at the Techno Classica classic car fair in Essen. Since December 2018, the apprentices at Volkswagen in Osnabrück have been rebuilding a classic Volkswagen Type 3. They have also given the hatchback sedan VW 1600 TL a more powerful Type 4 engine. The final is now scheduled for April 10th until 14th, when the future automotive mechatronics engineers for system and high-voltage technology will complete the 1968 classic at the Volkswagen Classic stand - live in front of ten thousands of visitors to the world's largest trade fair for classic cars.



Apprentices Marvin Wiethölter (left) and Fábio Lopes restore the 1968 Volkswagen Type 3 in Osnabrück

The VW 1600 TL will be finished live in front of ten thousands of visitors at Techno Classica in Essen

The vehicle is from Volkswagen Classic's car collection and will be restored from scratch by the two apprentices from Osnabrück. "We got the body, freshly painted and with a new underbody, but that was it. And then we learned the ropes little by little," says Fábio Lopes, 20.

This Wednesday, April 10, when the Techno Classica 2019 begins in Essen, Lopes and Wiethölter will be there. They will carry out the finishing touches. Eighteen-year-old Marvin Wiethölter has no doubt that they will bring the Type 3 completely back to life. He has already conducted a few initial, short test-drives on the Osnabrück plant's grounds with the Type 3. "It runs. And it runs beautifully too," says Wiethölter.

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The two apprentices and their project are being supervised by Marcel Leifer (28), the person responsible for supervising apprentices at the Automobile Collection Osnabrück, and his colleague Klaus-Dieter Ulrich (63). Ulrich is the Coordinator of the Automobile Collection. Since 1973, he has worked at the former Karmann plant in Osnabrück, which became part of Volkswagen in 2009. The collection of around 140 historic vehicles also figures in the training of new employees at the Osnabrück plant. The apprentices learn the basics of car construction here – before they start building the cars of the future.

Fábio Lopes and Marvin Wiethölter are both undergoing vocational training to become motor vehicle mechatronics technicians for systems and high-voltage technology. They are already being trained specifically to work on electric cars during their apprenticeship, thereby acquiring important qualifications for the future. "As soon as we get e-cars, we can be directly assigned to them," says Marvin Wiethölter.

However, it's worth taking a look back: "Motor vehicle mechatronics technicians first learn the basics of how a car is put together," explains Leifer. "It's all a bit simpler here. When they get to the assembly later, everything in production is naturally more complex and modern." Not every apprentice from the generation that grew up with smartphones can get really get into it right from the start, says Leifer. "But we also very often have apprentices who once they are here don't ever want to leave the department."

While restoring the car, the future motor vehicle mechatronics technicians have experienced the need to improvise. "Lots of parts can still be ordered on the Internet. But some just don't exist anymore, and we had to reconstruct those painstakingly, from the seal to the screw," Marvin Wiethölter explains. "When we put in the engine, we had to build completely new mountings," Lopes remembers.

In Essen, the apprentices will finally presented their Type 3. "We had to improvise a little in regard to the engine," says Dieter Landenberger, Head of Volkswagen Heritage. "It's not an original engine on board, but rather a slightly modified Type 4 engine. We expect around 110 hp from it, and I'm sure that this car will provide our guests at the classic car rally with a lot of driving enjoyment."

Vehicle profile VW 1600 TL (manufacture year: 1968)

Engine: 4-cylinder boxer; displacement: 1,584 ccm*; performance: 40 kW/54 hp*; empty weight: 880 kg*, wheelbase: 2,400 mm, maximum speed: 135 km/h*; color: diamond blue (color code: L50B).

* Original values. Actual values after retrofitting with a higher performing Type 4 engine (from a Volkswagen 412 S with 1,957 ccm displacement) will be determined on a test bench after completion at the Techno Classica.



Volkswagen at Techno Classica 2019

Volkswagen Classic presents three theme worlds at the world's largest trade fair for classic automobiles. Six "record breakers" and a 68-page booklet tell of superlatives from the Volkswagen world. "Forever Summer" pays tribute to 70 years of Käfer Cabriolet with two rare exhibits and "Jugend schraubt", the Type 3 TL restoration project with the two apprentices from Osnabrück.

Volkswagen Classic is showing nine exhibits from its own collection, the Volkswagen AutoMuseum Foundation and the Autostadt Wolfsburg in Essen. In Hall 4.0, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles will also be presenting classic cars: 40 years of T3 and 60 years of radar measurement. Information on original spare parts is available at the Volkswagen Classic Parts stand.

More than 1,250 exhibitors from more than 30 nations and over 200 clubs and trade unions are expected to attend the 31st Techno Classica in Essen on 120,000 m²; 2,700 collectors' cars will be on sale. In 2018, 188,000 visitors from 41 nations came to the world's leading trade fair for the classic industry.

Note to editors:

A [report](#) on the restoration project with interviews, [film material](#), a [time-lapse clip](#) as well as [footage](#) and photos (Techno Classica pictures from 10th April) are available for download at www.volkswagen-newsroom.com.

About the Volkswagen brand:

The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand is present in more than 150 markets throughout the world and produces vehicles at over 50 locations in 14 countries. In 2018, Volkswagen delivered 6.24 million vehicles including bestselling models such as the Golf, Tiguan, Jetta or Passat. Currently, 195,878 people work for Volkswagen across the globe. The brand also has 10,000 dealerships with 86,000 employees. Volkswagen is forging ahead consistently with the further development of automobile production. E-mobility, smart mobility and the digital transformation of the brand are the key strategic topics for the future.
