
Media information

New Faces of Mobility: Volkswagen Group China drives forth rapid electrification and digitalization

- Volkswagen Group China and its partners plan to invest more than 4 billion euros in 2019 to maintain the pace of transformation in terms of e-mobility, connectivity, mobility services, R&D capacity, efficient production processes and new products.
- 30 new NEV models in China, 50 percent of them locally produced, will be introduced during the next two years and plans are moved forward to set up a public fast-charging network with high-power technology.
- Mobility Asia builds highly intelligent connected services ecosystem, making cars more people-centred.
- Additional RMB 100 million committed to supporting programs that help broader Chinese society.
- Prof. Dr. Heizmann: “For over 35 years, Volkswagen Group China has been a pioneer of individual mobility here in China. This success is our obligation to continue to provide advanced mobility solutions to our customers also today and beyond tomorrow.”

Beijing/Guangzhou, November 15, 2018 – Under the headline “New Faces of Mobility”, Volkswagen Group China presented today at its Media Workshop an all-encompassing plan for e-mobility, advanced mobility solutions, autonomous driving, and a raft of exciting new products. On the eve of Guangzhou Auto Show the Group impressively demonstrated to nearly 300 media and business partners how it is shaping the new era of mobility. “When it comes to the future of mobility, Volkswagen Group China again wants to take the pioneering role as we did from the very start together with our Chinese partners,” said Prof. Dr. Jochem Heizmann, Member of the Board of Management of Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft as well as President and CEO of Volkswagen Group China.

“In the next year alone, we, together with our partners, plan to invest more than 4 billion euros in China, covering e-mobility, connectivity, mobility services, R&D capacity, efficient production processes and new products. Through this continued strong investment we will transform to meet the needs of our customers with the products they demand. Together with our joint ventures, FAW-Volkswagen, SAIC VOLKSWAGEN and JAC Volkswagen, as well as our many new partners across the broad spectrum of technologies and mobility services, we want to deliver People’s Mobility,” Heizmann added.

E-Mobility offensive rolls out

During the next two years, the Group aims to offer the largest NEV portfolio in China, with its brands introducing more than 30 new models, 50 percent of them locally produced. It expects to deliver around 400,000 NEVs in China in 2020, accelerating to 1.5 million in 2025. Also in 2020, the first pure e-cars from the company's state-of-the-art NEV production platform, the Modular Electrification Toolkit, or MEB, will roll off production lines at FAW-Volkswagen in Foshan and SAIC VOLKSWAGEN in Anting. On the infrastructure side, Volkswagen Group and its partners are exploring the option to build up a public fast-charging network with high-power technology in China from 2019.

Advancing autonomous driving

In the field of autonomous driving, Audi now holds two test drive licenses for Level 4 highly automated driving in Beijing and Wuxi, while Volkswagen Brand recently joined Apollo, Baidu's platform for autonomous driving technologies. Volkswagen is pursuing its determination to contribute to speeding up, and developing autonomous driving technology and smart city solutions in China.

Mobility Asia, Volkswagen Group's mobility services arm in China

The Group also outlined its progress in digitalization, connectivity and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) through its mobility services business, Mobility Asia. It is working with partners across a range of industries to develop an intelligent ecosystem of devices and functions that will provide customers with seamless access to a wide range of smart mobility services. Based on this work, Volkswagen Group China will soon launch its first AI-based connected car in China. It includes voice recognition, online navigation, charging, parking and payment and many other services such as online entertainment.

Volkswagen, Audi and ŠKODA brands demonstrate latest technology, functionality and design

At the workshop, the Volkswagen All New Touareg and ŠKODA KODIAQ GT demonstrated the latest in SUV functionality and design, while Audi presented its Formula E electric race car.

Volkswagen brand has successfully kicked-off its Move Forward brand initiative in 2018, and introduced 9 models into the Chinese market, including the new brand flagship, the All New Touareg. The T-ROC, Tayron and Tharu – all completely new models – have been launched, meaning Volkswagen has doubled its China SUV lineup during 2018. In addition, core sedans like the Bora, Lavalida, CC and Passat have been upgraded to new model generations, offering state-of-the-art designs, technologies and assistance systems, while local NEV production has started with the Tiguan L PHEV and Passat PHEV.

The **Audi e-tron** will be presented at the Guangzhou Auto Show after its China debut at the China International Import Expo (CIIE) on November 5th, marking the launch of Audi's electrification offensive: by 2025, Audi will offer 12 models with fully electric powertrains in key markets around the globe, and expects to generate a third of its sales with electrified models. The e-tron will be launched on the China market next year, with local production starting in 2020. Audi is also going electric on the race track: in the 2017-18 season Audi won the Formula E teams' championship.

VOLKSWAGEN

GROUP CHINA

ŠKODA is setting a new milestone in the brand's most comprehensive SUV offensive with the unveiling of the KODIAQ GT. Showcased at today's Workshop after celebrating its world premiere 10 days ago at CIIE, the KODIAQ GT will make its market launch at the Guangzhou Auto Show tomorrow. The ŠKODA KODIAQ GT is the newest flagship and image-builder of the Czech brand. As the first SUV coupé in ŠKODA's model portfolio, the KODIAQ GT combines the robustness and functionality of an SUV and the sporty elegance of a coupé.

As part of its long-term commitment to China and its people, Volkswagen Group China has actively supported a wide range of Corporate Social Responsibility programs traversing Environment Protection, Sustainable Mobility, Sports Development, Art & Culture, and Poverty Alleviation. At the event, it announced plans to substantially increase that commitment with a further RMB 100 million investment in its Volkswagen Group China ZHIXING CSR Fund for Social Responsibility Projects – double previous contributions.



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