

Media information

NO. 469/2018

“Person of the Year 2018” – honor in China for former Volkswagen Chairman Prof. Dr. Carl Hahn

- “China Newsweek” magazine honors Hahn’s role in the development of the automobile and components industry in China over the past 40 years under its reform and opening-up policy
- Hahn: “I am deeply moved by this award, which I accept on behalf of Volkswagen and the hundreds of thousands of people who have helped us make our company so successful in China.”

Wolfsburg/Beijing (China), December 15, 2018 – Prof. Dr. Carl H. Hahn, Former Chairman of the Volkswagen Board of Management (1982 – 1992), today received the accolade of “Person of the Year 2018“ in Beijing. The prestigious award presented by “China Newsweek“ magazine honors the pioneering role played by Dr. Hahn in the entry of Volkswagen to the market in the People’s Republic of China.



Beijing 2018: “Person of the Year” for Dr. Carl H. Hahn, Chairman of the Board of Management of Volkswagen AG (January 1, 1982 – December 31, 1992)



Shanghai 1984: Dr. Carl Hahn, at that time Chairman of the Board of Management of Volkswagen AG, at the foundation laying ceremony for Volkswagen-Shanghai

At the award ceremony, the 92-year-old stood on the stage with three award-winners from China and represented the award-winners of all foreign companies. A total of 40 women and men from national and foreign companies in China received awards. The panel honored their outstanding significance for economic and industrial development over the past 40 years.

“Reform and opening up have brought tremendous benefits for China and its people, for the global economy and, certainly, for Volkswagen. A continuation of this reform can only bring more prosperity for all,” Dr. Hahn said. “I am proud to have played a part in China’s economic develop-

VOLKSWAGEN

AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

ment. It is one of my most enduring memories. I have had the privilege of seeing access to private mobility spread throughout Chinese society,” Hahn emphasized.

“I am deeply moved by the ‘Person of the Year 2018’ award. I am highly honored to receive this award on behalf of Volkswagen and the hundreds of thousands of employees who have helped us make our company so successful in China,” said Hahn. He remembered ground-breaking discussions with Chinese prime ministers and ministers and thanked his former colleagues, including Hans-Joachim Paul, former Technical Director of Shanghai Volkswagen, Dr. Martin Posth († September 17, 2017 in Berlin), former Member of the Volkswagen Board of Management responsible for China and later honorary citizen of Shanghai, Paul-Josef Weber, former Head of Participations, and Prof. Dr. Burkhard Welkener, former Member of the Board of Management of Shanghai-Volkswagen.

The Volkswagen Group in China

in China, the Volkswagen Group is represented by 12 brands and has delivered more than 35 million vehicles since entering the market. In 2017 alone, deliveries reached 4.18 million vehicles, corresponding to a rise of 5.1 percent over the previous year. In strategic terms, Volkswagen Group China is being transformed from a pure automaker into a provider of sustainable mobility.

The company can look back on a long history in China. Volkswagen Group established its first joint venture in China, SAIC VOLKSWAGEN, in 1984. This was followed by a second joint venture, FAW-Volkswagen in Changchun, in 1990. A third joint venture with Chinese manufacturer JAC for the development and production of electric cars was established in 2017.

Volkswagen Group China has more than 100,000 employees and produces components and vehicles at 24 locations. About 3,000 dealers with 380,000 employees sold more than 170 different models of the Volkswagen Group in the People’s Republic of China in 2017. With a market share of 17.5 percent, Volkswagen Group China was the leader in the Chinese passenger car market in 2017.

Note for editors:

Two reports “The Volkswagen Group in China” and “At home in China” provide information on the history and the future engagement of Volkswagen in China. This text, photos, the curriculum vitae of Dr. Hahn as well as the latest photos from Beijing (from 3 p.m.) are available at www.volkswagen-newsroom.com.

VOLKSWAGEN

AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT



Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft

Volkswagen Communications | Spokesperson Heritage

Contact Hans-Rüdiger Dehning

Phone +49-5361-9-984494

E-Mail hans-ruediger.dehning@volkswagen.de | www.volkswagen-newsroom.com



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, 642,292 employees around the globe produce on average 44,170 vehicles, are involved in vehicle-related services or work in other areas of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries.

In 2017, the total number of vehicles supplied to customers by the Group globally was 10,741 million (2016: 10,297 million). The passenger car global market share was 12.1 per cent. In Western Europe 22.0 per cent of all new passenger cars come from the Volkswagen Group. Group sales revenue in 2017 totaled €231 billion (2016: €217 billion). Earnings after tax in 2017 amounted to €11.6 billion (2016: €5.4 billion).
