



August 24, 2017

## Production anniversary: 150 millionth Volkswagen leaves assembly line at main plant in Wolfsburg today

- The anniversary vehicle, a Golf GTE<sup>1</sup>, gives an insight into the future of the automobile
- CEO Dr. Herbert Diess:  
"I see the 150 millionth Volkswagen as an incentive to do everything to ensure a good future for Volkswagen. This brand means a lot to me."
- Group Works Council Chairman, Bernd Osterloh: "Our colleagues have done a splendid job for generations."

Wolfsburg – A milestone production anniversary: over eighty years ago Volkswagen was founded. Since then, 150 million vehicles, including icons such as the Golf or the Beetle, have been built around the world at over 50 production sites in 14 countries. The brand's current product portfolio includes over 60 models worldwide. Volkswagen moves people – across the globe. Today the anniversary car, a blue Golf GTE, rolled off the assembly line in Wolfsburg. The plug-in hybrid is a symbol of the future of mobility at Volkswagen - and at the same time, it is testimony to a powerful team performance.



The anniversary car rolled off the production line in Assembly Hall 12 today. CEO Herbert Diess, Plant Manager Stefan Loth, Works Council Chairman Bernd Osterloh and international vocational trainees were there to greet the car at the end of the assembly line.



Volkswagen in 60 seconds: the making of the Golf GTE anniversary car.

Dr. Herbert Diess, CEO of the Volkswagen brand, addressed the team in Assembly Hall 12: "150 million vehicles – that means we have made the dream of owning a car come true 150 million times for customers all over the world. You and your day-to-day work are the basis for this success. My

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colleagues on the Board of Management join me in thanking all Volkswagen employees – at all our sites. This anniversary would not have been possible without your commitment.”

In 2017 alone, Volkswagen is launching over 10 new models worldwide. There will be 19 new SUVs in total by 2020. The I.D. family with the new electric architecture (MEB) then marks the start of the Volkswagen brand's electric offensive from 2020. One million electric Volkswagens are to hit the road by 2025. Technological digitalization, increasing connectivity and sensor technology bring entirely new perspectives. “In the present phase, it is vital that Volkswagen continues to develop successfully. Because we are a strong team, we get the job done, and we have a good plan for the future. We must consistently work on our performance in order to remain successful. Past success is no guarantee for the future”, Diess went on to say.

Chairman of the Volkswagen Group and General Works Council, Bernd Osterloh, commented: “150 million vehicles – that is a truly incredible number. It is 150 million Volkswagens that have taken their drivers hundreds of thousands of kilometers, commuting to work, enjoying leisure time, going on vacation, or traveling on business. This anniversary proves our colleagues have done a splendid job for generations. Here at Volkswagen, we build top-quality cars. And we will continue to do so in future. Our workforce has every reason to be proud of that.”

The series production of the Volkswagen brand began on December 27, 1945 with the Type 1 Käfer. In the post-war era, it was the Volkswagen Beetle that initially shaped the automobile industry. All in all, 21.5 million of this much-loved small car were built before production finally came to an end in Mexico in 2003.

The Volkswagen Golf topped the Beetle record. The 25 millionth Volkswagen Golf left the assembly line in Wolfsburg in 2007, by 2013 the number had already risen to 30 million. Today, Volkswagen produces the bestselling Golf in the seventh generation and has already built more than 34 million worldwide. For decades, the Golf has been the yardstick in the compact segment.

The Volkswagen brand's product portfolio currently includes more than 60 models worldwide. Apart from the Beetle and the Golf, more than 20 million Passat, some 19.5 million Jetta and almost 17 million Polo have been produced.



The workforce at the main plant in Wolfsburg in particular has made a key contribution to today's anniversary, building over 44 million vehicles since production began some 72 years ago.

**Note:** Further material on the chronicle and history of the Volkswagen brand as well as images are available from 11.00 a.m., Thursday, August 24 at [www.volkswagen-media-services.com/](http://www.volkswagen-media-services.com/)

<sup>1)</sup> *Golf GTE fuel consumption in l/100 km combined from 1.8 to 1.6; energy consumption in kWh/100 km combined from 12.0 to 11.4; CO2 emissions in g/km combined from 40 to 36. Efficiency class A+.*

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**About the Volkswagen brand: "We make the future real"**

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 2016, Volkswagen produced about 5.99 million vehicles including bestselling models such as the Golf, Tiguan, Jetta or Passat. Currently, 196,000 people work for Volkswagen across the globe. The brand also has 7,700 dealerships with 74,000 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.

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