



April 27, 2020

Production at Volkswagen in Wolfsburg begins again today

- First vehicle to be produced is a Golf
- Production will start at 10 to 15 percent of capacity, increasing to around 40 percent the following week
- 100-point plan provides maximum health protection for employees
- Ralf Brandstätter, COO of the Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand: "Step-by-step resumption of production is an important signal for the workforce, dealerships, suppliers and the wider economy."
- Minister-President of Lower-Saxony, Stephan Weil, visited the first early shift at the plant: "Boost vehicle sales quickly."
- Chairman of the Works Council, Bernd Osterloh: "The health of our colleagues has absolute priority when production resumes."

Wolfsburg – The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand resumed vehicle production at its Wolfsburg plant today with the early shift beginning at 6:30 a.m. Initially, Golf production will recommence on a one-shift basis – with reduced capacity and longer cycle times. Today, some 8,000 employees are returning to the production halls. Production of the Volkswagen Tiguan and Touran models as well as the SEAT Tarraco begins on Wednesday. Multi-shift operation is to get underway again the following week. At the same time, some 2,600 suppliers, the majority of them located in Germany, have resumed production for Volkswagen's main plant. Measures to protect the health of the workforce have been significantly expanded.

"Step-by-step resumption of production is an important signal for the workforce, dealerships, suppliers and the wider economy. In terms of managing the crisis, though, this is just the first step. Additional momentum is needed to stimulate demand in Germany and throughout Europe so that production volumes can be successively increased," Ralf Brandstätter, Chief Operating Officer of the Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand, said.

Lower Saxony's Minister-President Stephan Weil commented: "I am delighted that Volkswagen is gradually ramping up production again. The priority given to protecting the health of employees is exemplary. The Works Council and Board of Management have jointly developed a concept that is in a class of its own. This Wednesday, I will be meeting with the Minister-Presidents of the automotive strongholds of Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg to discuss how we can boost vehicle sales quickly. If we succeed in creating a purchase incentive that simultaneously prioritizes ecological aspects, that would be good for employment, the economy and the climate."

Bernd Osterloh, Chairman of the Group and General Works Council, underscored: "For the Works Council, the health of our colleagues has absolute priority when production resumes. To that end, we have concluded a general works agreement with some 100 health protection measures; Volkswagen is setting a standard for German industry with this agreement. Now it is up to line managers to make sure that all employees are fully informed about the prescribed measures before they start work. All colleagues

Media contact

Volkswagen Communications
Jörn Roggenbuck
Spokesperson Production
Tel. +49-173-37607-55
joern.roggenbuck@volkswagen.de

Markus Schlesag
Spokesperson Human Resources
Tel: +49 5361 9-871 15
markus.schlesag1@volkswagen.de



Mehr unter
volkswagen-newsroom.com



must know what to do best protect themselves and others. This is another example of how we look out for each other at Volkswagen."

Some 1,400 vehicles are expected to have been built by the end of the first week of production at the Wolfsburg plant. Production is to be ramped up to more than 6,000 vehicles in the following week as multi-shift operation recommences. That represents approximately 40 percent of production prior to the start of the corona pandemic. Dealers will now be able to deliver vehicles to customers – some 70 percent of dealerships have already reopened for business. After Zwickau, Wolfsburg is the second of the Volkswagen brand's vehicle plants in Germany to resume production following the stoppage that began in mid-March. Production in Bratislava, Slovakia, already recommenced last Monday. Production ramp-up is in line with the current availability of parts given the continuing impact of the corona pandemic, government requirements in Germany and Europe, the development of sales markets and the resulting modes of operation of the plants.

Andreas Tostmann, Volkswagen brand Board member responsible for Production and Logistics, emphasized: "The team is returning to workplaces that provide the maximum level of safety. The company and the Works Council have agreed a 100-point plan to ensure that." This plan includes specific rules on distances and hygiene: Employees are called on to measure their temperature at home every morning and to go through a health checklist before they leave for work, preferably already dressed in their workwear. Walkway diversions have been set up to avoid contacts, numerous distance markers on floors act as guides for walking and for keeping distances during meetings. Mouth and nose protection must be worn in areas where minimum distances of 1.5 meters are not possible. Mobile plexiglass partitions are in use in many areas. Material is often no longer transferred from employee to employee, but is placed in containers. The teams are being given more time to clean their tools. Cleaning frequency for washrooms and team rooms is being intensified, and several hundred additional hand washing facilities are being installed throughout the plant. The company is converting conference rooms into office spaces, flextime is being extended in offices and, where possible, home office options are being continued. To maximize information and awareness, over 8,000 posters are on display at the Wolfsburg plant alone, every employee has also received a booklet containing detailed information on the precautionary measures.

Volkswagen has shared this 100-point plan with its more than 40,000 suppliers and logistics partners throughout the world. Under normal operating conditions, 2,600 suppliers from 71 countries – a large proportion of them located in Germany – deliver around 21,000 different parts to the Wolfsburg plant every day in about 2,000 trucks and 100 rail cars. Every day, around 180 double-decker rail cars and some 185 car transporters leave the plant.

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 2019, Volkswagen delivered 6,28 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 over 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.
