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Strategy TRANSFORM 2025+: Volkswagen launches programme for key future technologies

- Semiconductor supplier Infineon is the first partner
 - Significant part of all vehicle innovations is based on electronic systems
 - Dr Volkmar Tanneberger: "We will work together to create innovations for the automobiles of the future"
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Wolfsburg – Volkswagen secures its position in the field of future vehicle innovations. The company's first partner here is Infineon Technologies, one of the world's leading semiconductor suppliers. Volkswagen will further intensify the direct dialogue with Infineon in order to define the requirements for future semiconductor solutions and thus pursue new joint development approaches.



Infineon and Volkswagen are starting strategic semiconductor program: Peter Schiefer, President of the Automotive division at Infineon Technologies AG and Dr. Volkmar Tanneberger, Head of Electrical and Electronic Development at Volkswagen (from left)

A modern automobile is equipped with as many as 100 networked electronic control units (ECUs) and thousands of electronic components. Powerful ECUs ensure outstanding driving comfort and safety. They operate and regulate everything from the air conditioning system to the interior and exterior lighting systems, the adaptive cruise control radar and a whole range of driver assistance systems. So a

significant part of all vehicle innovations is based on electronic systems.

"Future joint development tools, such as virtual prototyping systems, will make it possible to further reduce development times, despite the continual increase in system complexity," says Dr Volkmar Tanneberger, Head of Electrical and Electronic Development at Volkswagen.

The rapid advances made with electronic systems, along with ever-shorter innovation cycles, have created a situation in which all participants in the development process need to cooperate extensively in order to jointly implement technically mature and reliable systems.

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Volkswagen has launched its strategic semiconductor programme in order to ensure that all of these requirements can be met in future. The company is cooperating directly with chip manufacturers in the programme. The goal is to develop technology solutions for future vehicle generations. A key aspect here involves the precise definition of the requirements that are to be met. The first programme partner is the German semiconductor supplier Infineon Technologies.

Electronic control units will continue to become more and more complex, as future mobility at Volkswagen will be marked by complete connectivity, the best control concepts and all-electric driving. All automated and electrically driven vehicles require the use of key technologies: innovative semiconductors such as sensors that recognise surroundings, in microcontrollers that process data and enable real-time decision-making, and power electronics for the vehicle drivetrain.

"Microelectronics from Infineon make driving cleaner, safer and more convenient", says Peter Schiefer, President of the Automotive Division at Infineon Technologies AG. "We as a partner look forward to cooperating even more closely with Volkswagen. High-performance semiconductors are key to the future car. With our products, vehicles of every class will soon be fully automated and purely electric."

About Infineon

Infineon Technologies AG is a world leader in semiconductor solutions that make life easier, safer and greener. Microelectronics from Infineon is the key to a better future. In the 2016 fiscal year (ending September 30), the company reported sales of about Euro 6.5 billion with more than 36,000 employees worldwide. Infineon is listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (ticker symbol: IFX) and in the USA on the over-the-counter market OTCQX International Premier (ticker symbol: IFNNY). Further information is available at www.infineon.com

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, 218,000 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.
