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## Media information

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## Volkswagen Group honors its best apprentices

- **Awards for 46 young talents in 16 vocations from 19 countries**
- **Diess: “In the future too, we will need a team that is motivated, competent and committed, and also welcomes change.”**

**Wolfsburg, December 7, 2018. The Volkswagen Group today presented its “Best Apprentice Awards 2018” to its best apprentices from all over the world, honoring their outstanding performance and professional competence. The prizes for the 46 young talents with 16 vocations were presented by the Chairman of the Board of Management of Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft, Dr. Herbert Diess, the Member of the Board of Management with responsibility for Human Resources, Gunnar Kilian, and the President of the Global Group Works Council, Bernd Osterloh.**

The 14 young women and 32 young men were honored at a ceremony held at the CongressPark in Wolfsburg.



“You have every reason to be proud because you are among the world’s best apprentices of the Volkswagen Group. In the future too, we will need a team that is motivated, competent and committed,

and also welcomes change. If you want to keep pace with the major challenges of our times, you must demonstrate flexibility and be ready to accept change,” said Diess at the award ceremony.

Gunnar Kilian said: “Volkswagen offers almost 20,000 young people throughout the world excellent training in about 60 vocations and 50 dual courses of study. We have successfully transferred dual vocational training to locations throughout the world and train our budding specialists at our plants across the globe on the basis of this model. The award winners have made exemplary use of this training and laid a firm foundation for a successful career. Dual vocational training also lays solid groundwork in an era of rapid technological change which calls for continuous advanced training.”

This year’s Best Apprentice Award was the 18<sup>th</sup> of its kind presented by the Volkswagen Group and a total of 523 apprentices have been honored since 2001.

Osterloh said: “I congratulate all the winners of the Best Apprentice Awards from the Volkswagen Group who have come to Wolfsburg this week. Your outstanding performance is also the result of

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the high-performance vocational training offered throughout our Group. This success clearly shows that we must not make any sacrifice in terms of vocational training despite all the current savings programs. Vocational training develops the specialists of the future. This is an essential prerequisite for shaping change together in the digital era with respect to development, production and mobility.”

18 of the award-winners had already been honored in their home countries for their commitment to their companies and for their knowledge and skills in their training vocations. 21 of the Best Apprentice Award winners will be starting a degree course to develop their knowledge and skills in greater depth. Three of the award-winners from Germany will be receiving two years of individual support in their professional family within the “talent group for young specialists”.

The apprentices honored today were:

Andrea Würzburger	AUDI AG Ingolstadt, Germany
Marvin Fütterer	AUDI AG Neckarsulm, Germany
Péter Benedek	AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft., Hungary
Mattia Cevolani	Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A., Italy
Phoebe Jay	Bentley Motors Ltd., UK
Philipp May	Dr. Ing. h.c. F. Porsche AG, Germany
Luca Padulosi	Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A., Italy
Jie Yao	FAW-Volkswagen Automotive Company, Ltd., China
Dunja Haag	MAN Energy Solutions SE, Germany
Tom Mattern	MAN Energy Solutions SE, Germany
Fabienne Brandes	MAN Truck & Bus AG, Germany
Theofilos Parcharidis	MAN Truck & Bus AG, Germany
Oliver Frühwirth Tommy Knoll	PORSCHE INTER AUTO GmbH & Co. KG, Austria
Kai Xu	Porsche Leipzig GmbH, Germany
Kim Svedberg	SAIC-Volkswagen Automotive Company Ltd., China
Albert Robles Gonzalbes	Scania AB, Sweden
Eryk Michał Bednarek	SEAT, S.A., Spain
Daniel Voce	SITECH Poland, Poland
Jan Kuchař	ŠKODA AUTO a.s., Czech Republic
Felix Frobart	ŠKODA AUTO a.s., Czech Republic
Sven Arends	Volkswagen AG Brunswick, Germany
Dominik Bleitner	Volkswagen AG Emden, Germany
Ole Borchers	Volkswagen AG Kassel, Germany
Carolina Ewers	Volkswagen AG Salzgitter, Germany
Joëlle Thums	Volkswagen AG Wolfsburg, Germany
Nadine Sievers	Volkswagen AG Wolfsburg, Germany
Adriana Alexandra	Volkswagen Argentina S. A., Argentina
Mota Duarte e Duarte	Volkswagen Autoeuropa, Lda., Portugal
Xueling Yin	Volkswagen Automatic Transmission (Tianjin) Co., Ltd., China
Xiaodong Sun	Volkswagen Automatic Transmission (Tianjin) Co., Ltd., China
María Félix Olivera Prieto	Volkswagen de México, S.A. de C.V., Mexico
Maressa Rebecca Silva de Almeida	Volkswagen do Brasil Indústria de V A Ltda., Brazil

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Nele Hesse	VOLKSWAGEN FINANCIAL SERVICES AG, Germany
Jesus Espinosa	Volkswagen Group of America, Inc, USA
Christin Bojahr	Volkswagen Group Retail Deutschland, Germany
Aleksandr Vinokurov	Volkswagen Group Rus, Russia
Rahul Barhate	Volkswagen India Pvt. Ltd., India
Dominik Król	Volkswagen Motor Polska Sp. z o.o., Poland
Rubén Arana Iriarte	Volkswagen Navarra, S. A., Spain
Steven Neuhäuser	Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, Germany
Nala Mofokeng	Volkswagen of South Africa (Pty.) Ltd., South Africa
Lukas Albermann	Volkswagen Osnabrück GmbH, Germany
Hubert Cichewicz	Volkswagen Poznań Sp. z o.o., Poland
Sophie Marx	Volkswagen Sachsen GmbH, Germany
Pascal Mehlhorn	Volkswagen Sachsen GmbH, Germany
Matej Molnosi.	VOLKSWAGEN SLOVAKIA, a.s., Slovakia

**Note:** The latest photos from the award ceremony in Wolfsburg (from 18:00 hours, CET) and information on the award-winners, sorted by countries and training locations, are available at [www.volkswagen-newsroom.com](http://www.volkswagen-newsroom.com)



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