

## **Volkswagen Group invests in Hubeject, the leading eRoaming platform for Europe-wide charging of electric vehicles**

- **Founding shareholders BMW, Bosch, Daimler, EnBW, innogy and Siemens welcome the Volkswagen Group's participation**
- **By becoming the seventh shareholder in Hubeject, the Volkswagen Group is driving its transition to the e-mobility era**
- **Hubeject provides e-mobility customers with access to almost 40,000 charge points on three continents**

**Berlin/Wolfsburg, December 15, 2016. The Volkswagen Group is joining the eRoaming platform Hubeject GmbH as shareholder. With the strategic investment in the Berlin-based company, Europe's largest car maker will push ahead with the digital interconnection of charging stations for electric vehicles starting in early 2017 as well as the expansion and internationalization of Hubeject GmbH together with the founding shareholders.**

One of the requirements for increasing acceptance of e-mobility – apart from an attractive range of models – is a well-developed charging infrastructure with an international payment system that is as simple as possible. Hubeject, founded in 2012 by BMW, Bosch, Daimler, EnBW, innogy and Siemens, provides EV drivers with easy access to charging stations as well as payment solutions. Almost 40,000 charge points on three continents are already available on this platform.

In 2013, Hubeject launched "intercharge", a cross-provider and cross-border solution for charging electric vehicles through its own eRoaming platform in order to interconnect isolated solutions of the charging infrastructure. By investing in the eRoaming market leader Hubeject, the Volkswagen Group is emphasizing its commitment to making e-mobility available to the mass-market and to systematically expanding the infrastructure.

"We have set our sights on becoming a globally leading provider in the field of sustainable mobility. With our investment in Hubeject we are supporting the digital transformation and making an important contribution to the transition to the era of e-mobility", said Thomas Sedran, Head of Group Strategy at Volkswagen AG. As part of its "TOGETHER – Strategy 2025" program, the Volkswagen Group plans to launch 30 new electric vehicles by 2025.

Thomas Daiber, CEO of Hubeject GmbH, and the six founding shareholders look forward to the Volkswagen Group's engagement: "Charging must become more customer-friendly if electric cars are to make the breakthrough and catch on quicker. Together with our new shareholder we will be working at top speed to push forward with interconnecting the charging infrastructure."

Christian Hahn, CEO of Hubeject GmbH, added: "We now have seven strong shareholders from three sectors of industry, which gives us the ideal basis for systematically pursuing our growth course in e-mobility. We are excited about this future-oriented collaboration together with the Volkswagen Group. And we remain open to welcoming further new international shareholders in the future."

**Hubject GmbH** was founded in 2012 and traces back to the initiative of car manufacturers BMW and Daimler, energy providers EnBW and innogy as well as technology companies Bosch and Siemens. The company's eRoaming platform connects charging station operators and mobility service providers in real-time, in order to give electric vehicle drivers easy and customer-friendly access to the charging infrastructure. Hubject does not operate any charging stations itself, but enables the smooth exchange of data in the background via the "intercharge" charging network. More than 240 companies across the world use the platform, including manufacturers of electric vehicles, energy providers, mobility service providers and telecommunications companies.

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 Group operates 121 production plants in 20 European countries and a further 11 countries in the Americas, Asia and Africa. Every weekday, over 610,000 employees worldwide produce nearly 42,000 vehicles, and work in vehicle-related services or other fields of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries. With its "TOGETHER – Strategy 2025" future program, the Volkswagen Group is paving the way for the biggest change process in its history: the realignment to become a globally leading provider of sustainable mobility.

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