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## Media information

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## Volkswagen Group rolls out diesel swapping program throughout Germany

- **Successful environmental incentives for scrappage of Euro-1 to Euro-4 diesel vehicles again being offered throughout Germany**
- **Keepers of Euro-4 and Euro-5 diesel vehicles in 14 most heavily polluted cities to receive exchange premiums in addition to residual value of old vehicle**
- **Dr. Christian Dahlheim, Head of Group Sales: “The Volkswagen Group is making a significant contribution to improving air quality in German cities with this comprehensive package of fleet renewal measures. We are thus supporting the federal government’s efforts to prevent possible driving bans and offering our customers unrestricted individual mobility.”**

**Wolfsburg, October 18, 2018 – The Volkswagen Group today rolled out a comprehensive package of measures to improve air quality in Germany through fleet renewal. The successful environmental incentives for scrappage of Euro-1 to Euro-4 diesel vehicles of any make are again being offered by some of the Group’s brands throughout Germany. Vehicle keepers in the 14 cities classified by the federal government as having the highest levels of pollution and in the surrounding areas will be entitled to the new exchange premiums. These premiums will be paid in addition to the vehicle’s residual value when trading in a Euro-4 or Euro-5 diesel vehicle of any make. The environmental incentives and exchange premiums come into immediate effect and are valid until further notice. The Group’s Audi, SEAT, ŠKODA, Volkswagen and Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles brands will be announcing details of their brand-specific programs.**

Dr. Christian Dahlheim, Head of Group Sales: “The Volkswagen Group is making a significant contribution to improving air quality in German cities with this comprehensive package of fleet renewal measures. We are thus supporting the federal government’s efforts to prevent possible driving bans and offering our customers unrestricted individual mobility.”

The **environmental incentives** are being offered brand-specific throughout Germany for scrappage of a Euro-1 to Euro-4 diesel vehicle. The value of the incentive depends on the chosen model. Depending on the brand, the incentives are available for both new vehicles and on a varying scale for nearly-new used vehicles from the brand’s range.

The Group brands’ new **exchange premiums** apply for the 14 most heavily polluted cities and surrounding areas when trading in a Euro-4 or Euro-5 diesel vehicle and are paid in addition to the old vehicle’s residual value. The value of the premium depends on the chosen model.

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Depending on the brand, the exchange premium is available for new vehicles and on a varying scale for nearly-new used vehicles from the brand's range.

These offers from the Volkswagen Group are directed at all keepers of Euro-1 to Euro-5 diesel vehicles in the 14 cities classified by the federal government and the surrounding areas. These keepers will shortly be receiving a letter from the Kraftfahrt-Bundesamt (German Federal Motor Transport Authority) informing them that they are entitled to take advantage of these offers available from participating dealers.

Volkswagen's first environmental incentive from August 2017 to June 2018 successfully demonstrated that systematic fleet renewal is a swift and efficient way of improving air quality. Throughout the Group, over 210,000 old diesel vehicles were taken off the roads, scrapped and replaced by modern, cleaner models. In combination with the software updates for diesel vehicles, nitrogen dioxide emissions have thus been reduced by over 10,000 tonnes per year.

Independent studies (e.g. PTV Group, Center Automotive Research of the University Duisburg-Essen) indicate that fleet renewal is the most effective lever for swiftly improving air quality: in 2017 alone, 1.1 million low-emission new Euro-6 diesel vehicles took to the roads in Germany, replacing old vehicles. While the annual average limit value for nitrogen dioxide was exceeded in more than 65 cities in 2017, this is expected to be the case in only 30 cities by the end of 2018. As fleet renewal progresses, every second diesel vehicle is expected to be a Euro-6 model by 2021.

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**Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft**  
**Head of Corporate Communications**

**Contact** Dr. Marc Langendorf

**Phone** +49-53 61-9- 344 74

**E-mail** [marc.langendorf@volkswagen.de](mailto:marc.langendorf@volkswagen.de) | [www.volkswagen-newsroom.com](http://www.volkswagen-newsroom.com)



**Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft**  
**Corporate Communications | Spokesperson Sales & Marketing**

**Contact** Christoph Oemisch

**Phone** +49-5361-9-188 95

**E-mail** [christoph.oemisch@volkswagen.de](mailto:christoph.oemisch@volkswagen.de) | [www.volkswagen-newsroom.com](http://www.volkswagen-newsroom.com)



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## About the Volkswagen Group:

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 passenger car portfolio ranges from small cars all the way to luxury-class vehicles. Ducati offers motorcycles. In the light and heavy commercial vehicles sector, the products include ranges from pick-ups, buses and heavy trucks. Every weekday, 642,292 employees around the globe produce on average 44,170 vehicles, are involved in vehicle-related services or work in other areas of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries.

In 2017, the total number of vehicles supplied to customers by the Group globally was 10,741 million (2016: 10,297 million). The passenger car global market share was 12.1 per cent. In Western Europe 22.0 per cent of all new passenger cars come from the Volkswagen Group. Group sales revenue in 2017 totalled €231 billion (2016: €217 billion). Earnings after tax in 2017 amounted to €11.6 billion (2016: €5.4 billion).

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